

# Emma Chandler

I am keen to make taking on tech for a show **less daunting** for everyone who has ever thought that theatre tech isn't for them. There can be so many **invisible barriers** in technical theatre. Whether you are a person of colour, female or non-binary, went to a school that couldn't afford a theatre and/or simply never had a techie role model (at least not one you could identify with!), there should and can be the resources available for tech to feel **approachable**. This means that the CUADC and Cambridge's other theatre societies need to support more **diverse theatre projects**, provide training in more **accessible increments**, and keep working for more **equitable processes** across the entire production process. I want to add a **dedicated welfare section** to the TD guide (welfare is currently only mentioned once for the

for Club Technical Director



breakfast budget!) TDs can often be expected to become adhoc welfare officers on the day of the get-in, which does nothing for our stress levels while also leaving those with health conditions, sensory concerns, and specific worries uncatered for and sometimes excluded entirely. I want to **standardise welfare get-in**

**forms and encourage formalised collaboration** between welfare officers and tech roles from the beginning of the production.

**I would also like to:**

- ~ Bring back a chat for each term's TD to **share ideas, advice, and resources**, aiming to **reduce unnecessary waste** by sharing set across non-consecutive shows.
- ~ Encourage TDs to use the tech mailing list to **share a laundry list** of all the non-standard parts of their team's tech (e.g. forestage conversion or unconventional lighting rigs) which might **interest new techies and curious directors** alike.
- ~ Work with the new directors rep to create a pair of guides of "questions to ask your td/director" with suggested week-by-week conversations aiming to make **communication** between tech and prod teams **functional, simple and productive** from both sides of the team.

## Theatrical Experience

Before I came to Cambridge, the extent of my technical knowledge came from drama GCSE (no one told me you could take the lights down off the ceiling!) and I started completely from scratch with the CUADC freshers show. Thanks to an amazing community of Cambridge techies including current students, alumni and opportunities like being an ETG fresher techie (*Hamlet, Dec '22*), I've now been involved in 25+ different productions in the past year and have had the opportunity to try everything from risk assessing a lake (*SM, Seagull, May '23*) to exploding a fireplace (*TD, The Welkin, Oct '23*). A year on from discovering tech, I am getting the chance to do so much this term including SM, DSM, TD, PLX, welfare and coffin building!



## Committee Experience

The Fletcher Players Society - Secretary  
2023-24

CU Menstrual Health Society - Treasurer  
2022-23

Catz HSPS Society - Anthropology Events Coordinator 2023-24