

# STARBOY TOUR



**STAGE & LIGHTING DESIGN**

**BY LOUIE KAVALLARES**

# CONTENTS

**1** *CREATIVE DIRECTION*

**2** *DESIGN OVERVIEW*

**3-6** *DESIGN DETAILS*

**7-9** *LIGHTING DESIGN*

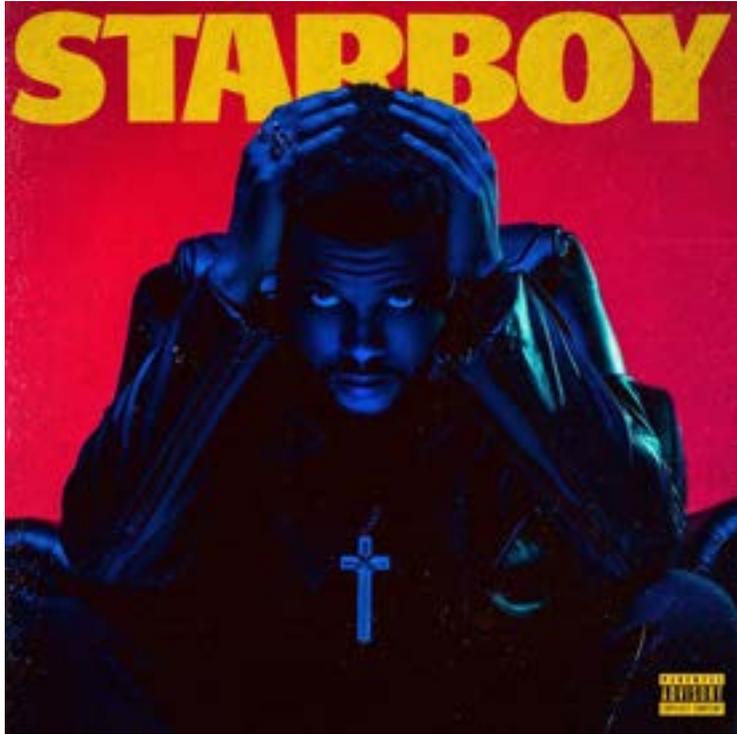
**10-12** *MECHANICAL  
ELEMENTS*

**13-14** *EXAMPLE  
CONFIGURATIONS*

**15-18** *STAGE EXTENSION*



# CREATIVE DIRECTION



ALBUM ARTWORK

VISUALLY, THE ALBUM ARTWORK DEPICTS THE WEEKND BOLD AND CENTRE WITH THE WORDS 'STARBOY' ABOVE. THE WAY ABEL IS PRESENTED HEAD IN HANDS SUPPORTS THE IDEA THAT THE FAME IS HAVING A TOLL ON HIS PERSONA. THIS IS ENHANCED BY THE USE OF THE NEON COLOURS SURROUNDING THE SHADOWED ABEL.

A CROSS IS PRESENTED ON THE ALBUM ARTWORK AND THROUGHOUT THE MUSIC VIDEOS FOR THE ALBUM'S SINGLES. THE CROSS LIKELY SYMBOLISES THE WEEKND'S EGO DEATH IN WHICH ABEL IS TRYING TO BREAK FROM HIS PAST PERSONA AND TRANSFORM HIS CURRENT LIFESTYLE.

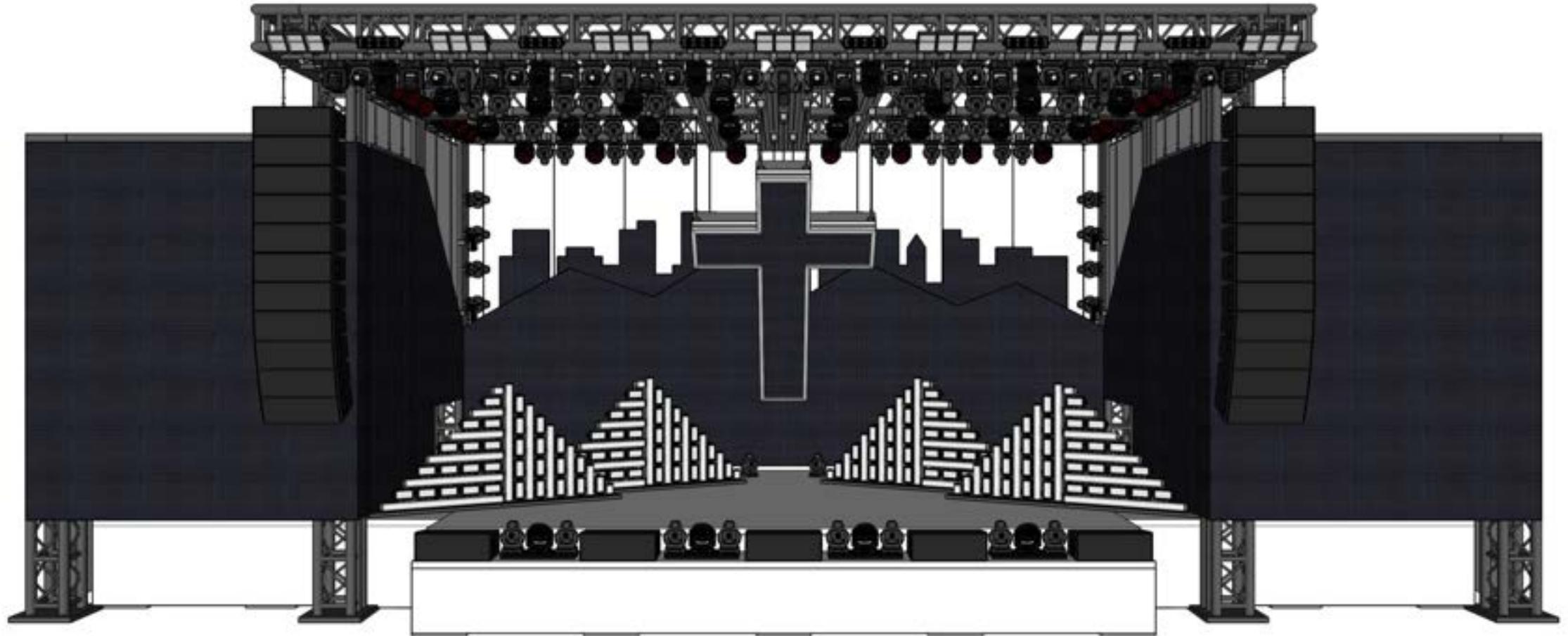
**STARBOY** (2016) IS THE THIRD STUDIO ALBUM BY ABEL TESFAYE, AKA THE WEEKND. STARBOY EXPLORES HOW ABEL DEALS WITH FAME AND THE INNER BATTLE HE FACES WITH THE MATERIALISTIC LIFESTYLE THAT ACCOMPANIES IT.

SONICALLY, THE ALBUM CONSISTS OF A VARIETY OF FUTURISTIC ELECTRO-POP SOUNDS; FROM CHILLED HIP-HOP ON "REMINDER" TO HEAVY ROCK INFLUENCES ON "FALSE ALARM". THESE GENRE STYLES ARE USED IN PARALLEL WITH LYRICS THAT EXPRESS BOTH BRAVADO AND VULNERABILITY, REFLECTING THE LIFESTYLE THAT SURROUNDS LIVING IN HOLLYWOOD.



IMAGES FROM 'STARBOY' MUSIC VIDEO

# DESIGN OVERVIEW



THE STAGE DESIGN FOR THE STARBOY TOUR COMPRISES OF TWO MAIN COMPONENTS; THE 'CROSS' RIG AND THE 'HILLS' RIGS:

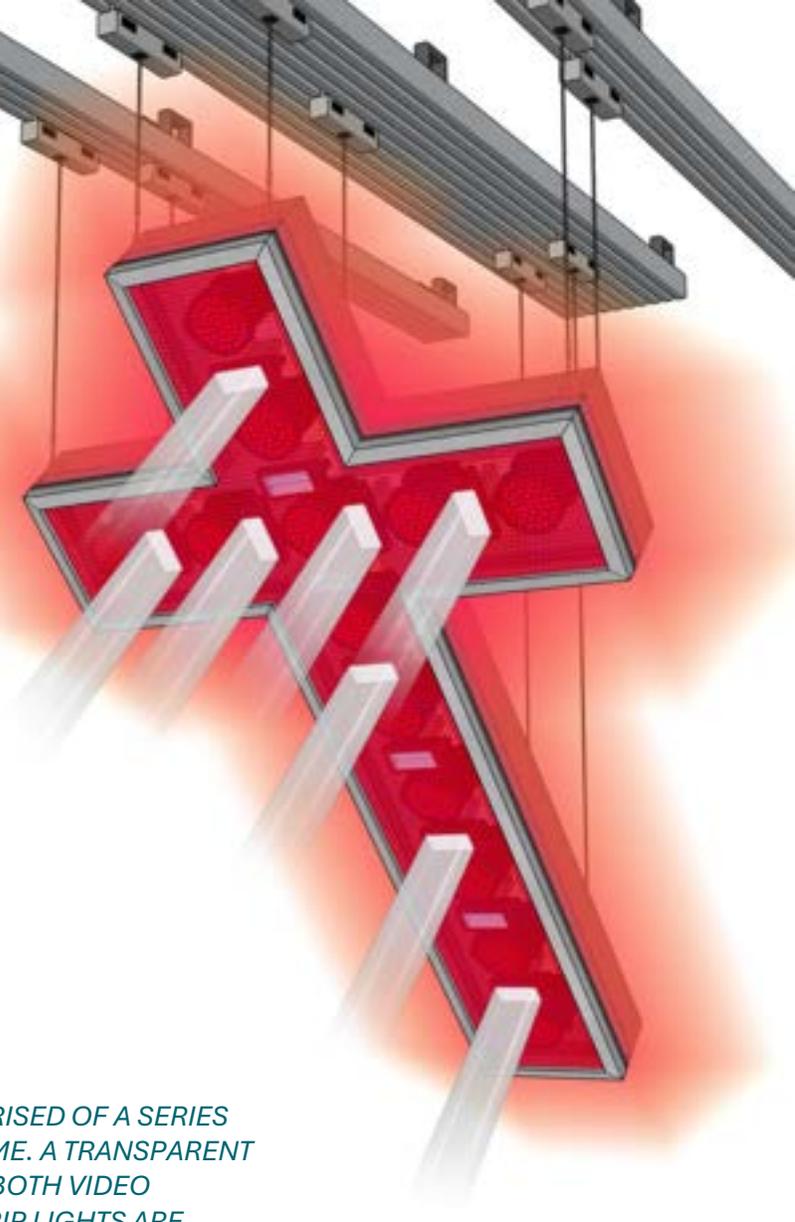
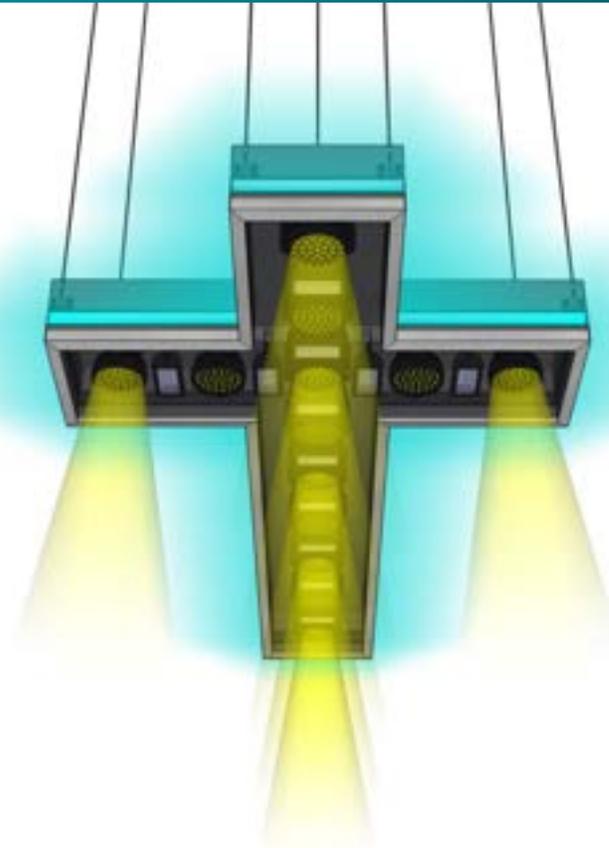


**THE 'CROSS' RIG** HANGS OVER THE STAGE, PROJECTING VIDEO PLAYBACK AND LIGHTING ONTO THE STAGE AND AUDIENCE. THE LIVE SHOW MAINTAINS THE SYMBOLISM SHOWN WITHIN THE ALBUM ARTWORK AND MUSIC VIDEOS TO ACHIEVE AESTHETIC COHESION, ALLOWING THE AUDIENCE TO GAIN VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF THE THEMES EXPLORED THROUGHOUT THE SETLIST.



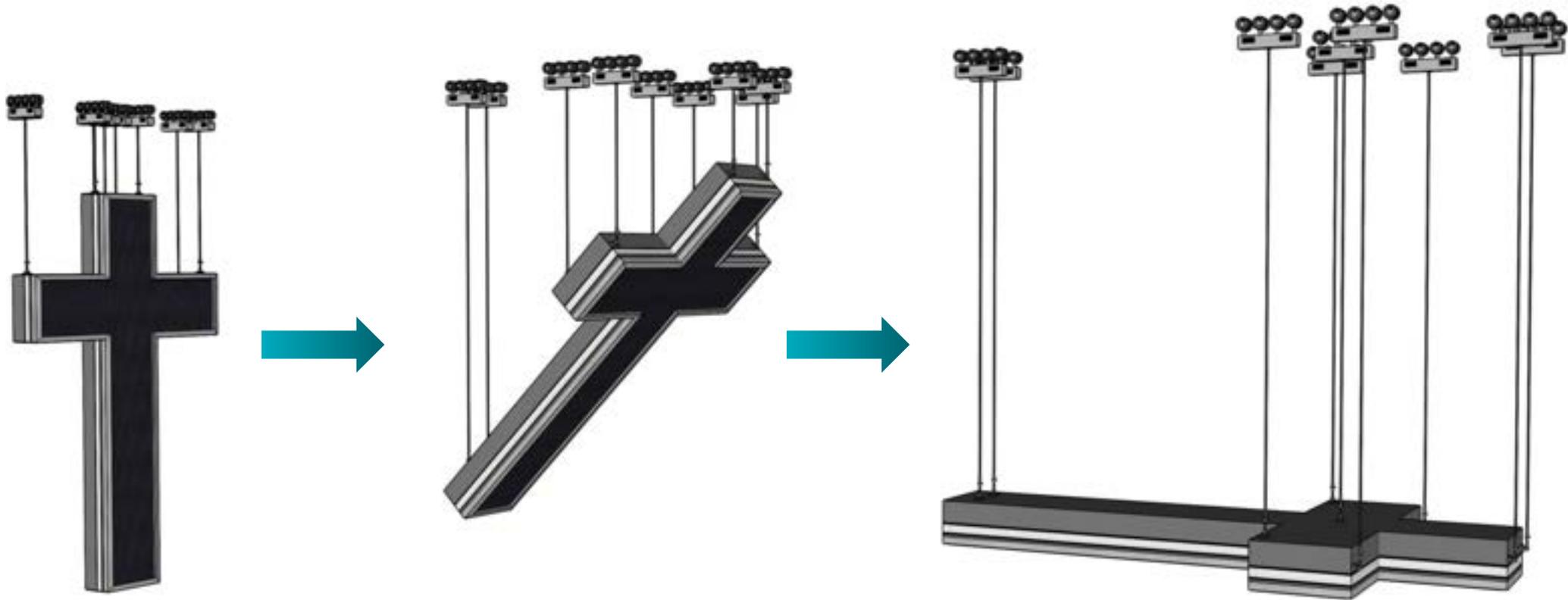
**THE 'HILLS' RIGS** ARE A SERIES OF GROUND-BASED LIGHTING RIGS, POSITIONED AT DIFFERENT DEPTHS ACROSS THE UPSTAGE TO REPRESENT THE HOLLYWOOD HILLS. BEING POSITIONED BEHIND ABEL, THEMATICALLY, THE WEEKND IS TRYING TO ESCAPE THE HILLS AND THEIR ASSOCIATED LIFESTYLE. HOWEVER, THE RIGS ARE ANGLED TO SURROUND ABEL TO EVOKE THE SENSE THAT HE HASN'T QUITE ESCAPED THEM YET.

## DESIGN DETAILS: THE 'CROSS' RIG



**THE 'CROSS' RIG** (MEASURING 7.4 METRES BY 4.2 METRES IN SPANS) IS COMPRISED OF A SERIES OF SPOT/WASH AND STROBE LIGHTS HOUSED WITHIN A "CROSS" SHAPED FRAME. A TRANSPARENT LED SCREEN COVERS THE AUDIENCE-FACING SIDE OF THE CROSS, ALLOWING BOTH VIDEO PLAYBACK AND LIGHTING TO BE PROJECTED WHEN REQUIRED. ADDITIONAL STRIP LIGHTS ARE PLACED ALONG THE SIDE PANELS OF THE STRUCTURE TO SILHOUETTE THE CROSS SHAPE.

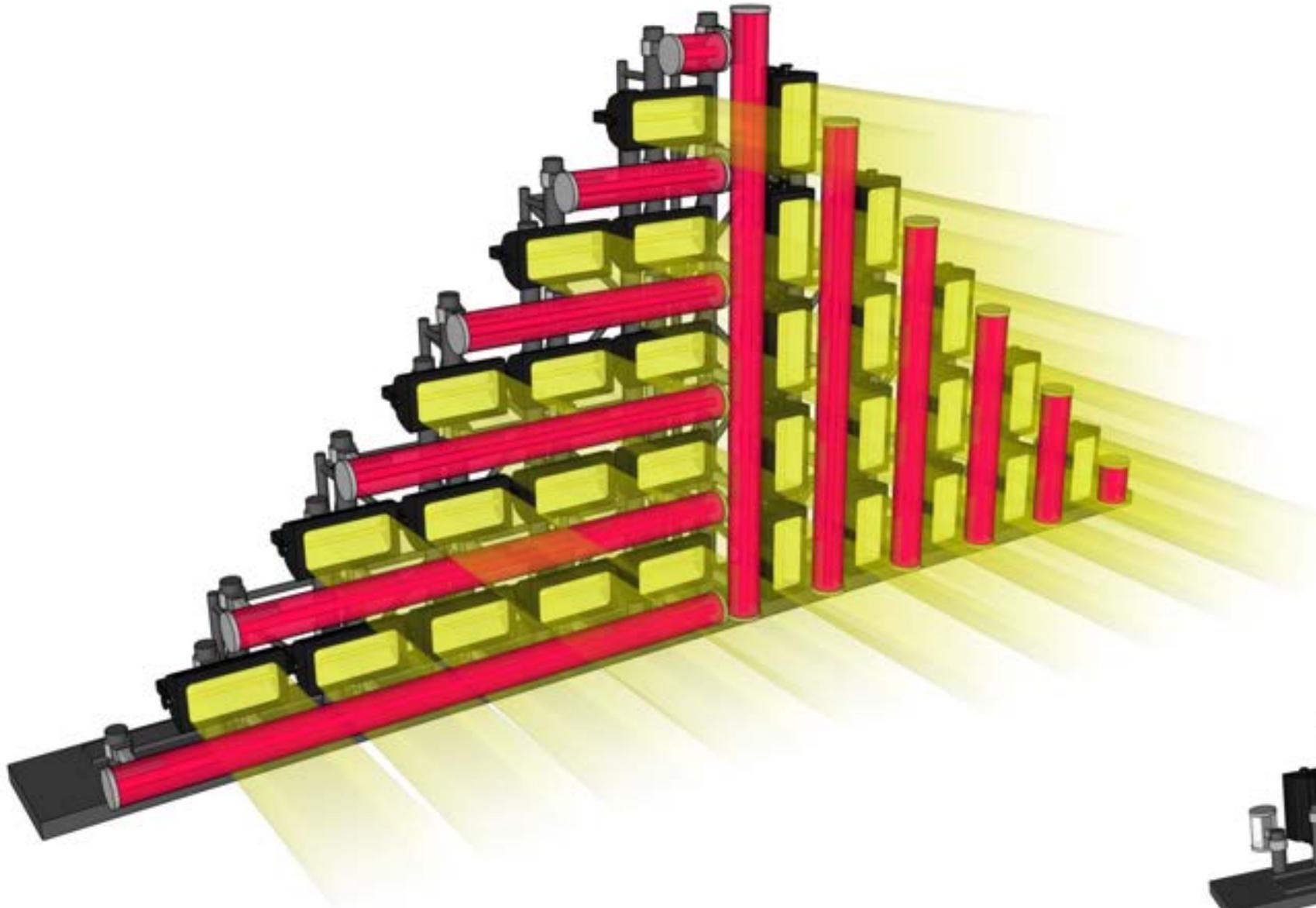
## DESIGN DETAILS: THE 'CROSS' RIG



*THE DYNAMIC NATURE OF THE RIG ALLOWS IT TO BE ORIENTED AND BE POSITIONED AT DIFFERENT POINTS ALONG THE CENTRE-STAGE DURING THE PERFORMANCE. AS A RESULT, DIFFERENT VIDEO CONTENT AND LIGHTING SETUPS CAN BE CONFIGURED TO SUIT SPECIFIC THEMES AND SONGS DURING THE PERFORMANCE.*

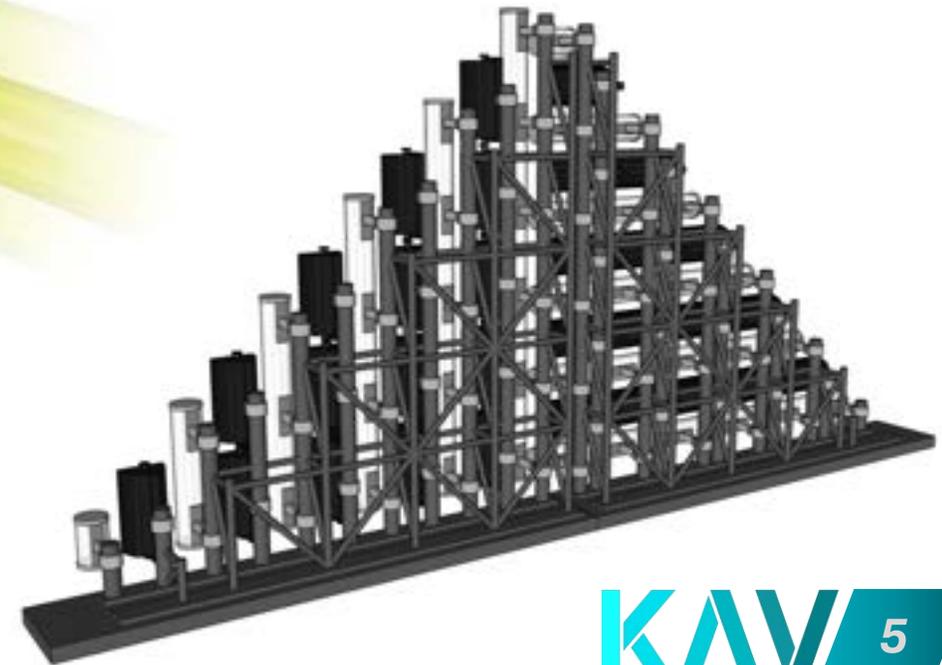
*SEE PAGE 10 FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON RIGGING THE MECHANICS OF THE 'CROSS' RIG.*

## DESIGN DETAILS: THE 'HILLS' RIGS

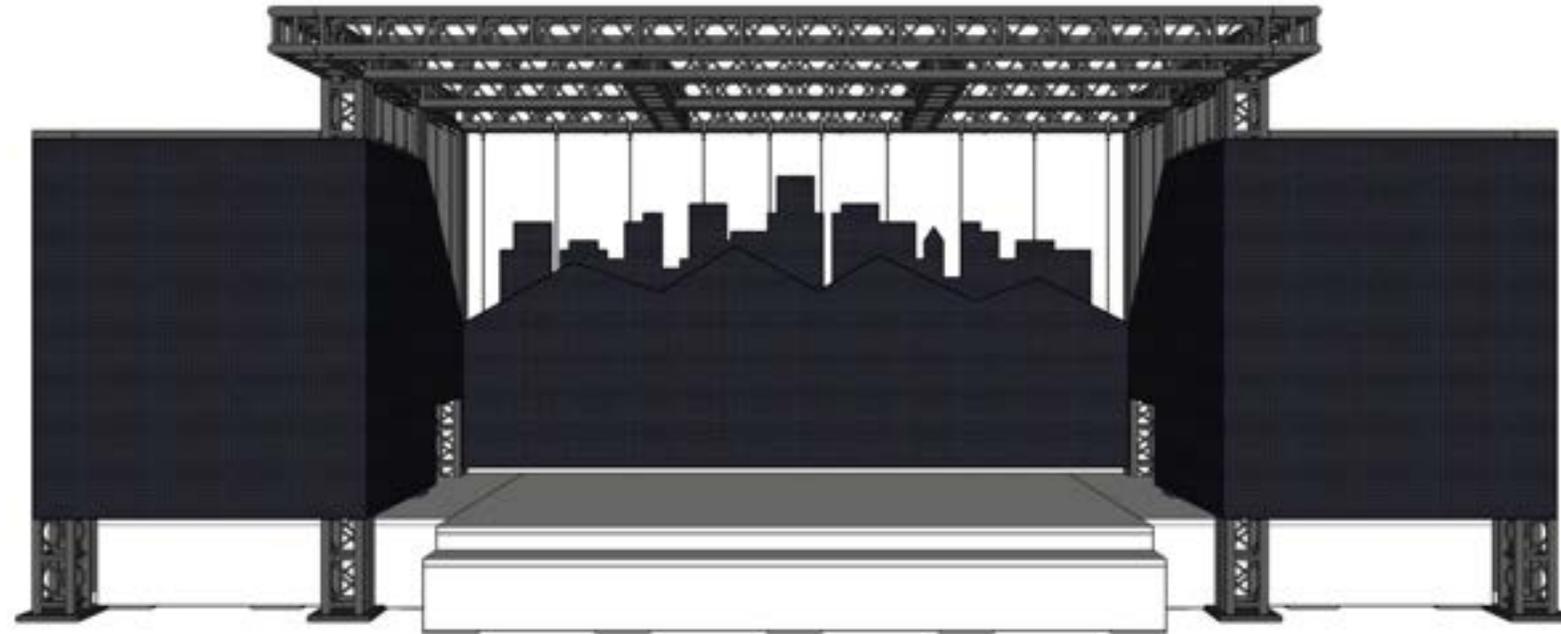


THE FOUR '**HILLS**' RIGS ARE COMPRISED OF A SERIES OF CUSTOM LIGHT BARS AND LED FLOOD LIGHTS. THE LIGHTS ARE ORIENTATED TO FORM TWO TRIANGULAR SHAPES THAT RUN PERPENDICULAR TO ONE ANOTHER ALONG THE LINE OF SYMMETRY.

THE LIGHTS ARE SUPPORTED BY A TRUSS FRAME WITH ROLLERS ON THE BASE, ALLOWING THE RIGS TO BE POSITIONED INDEPENDENTLY FROM ONE ANOTHER TO SUIT A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT STAGE SIZES.



## DESIGN DETAILS: LED WALLS

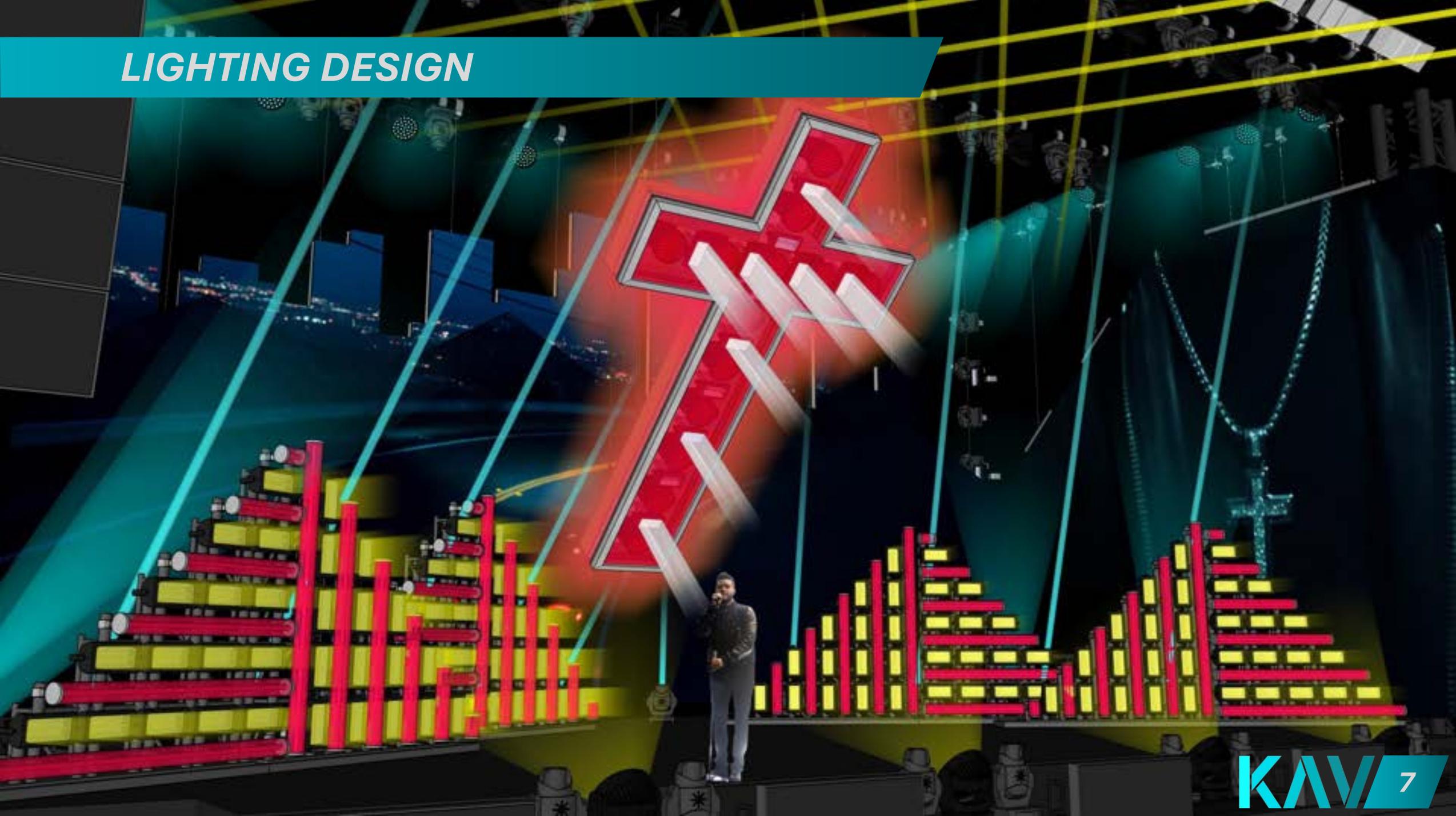


LED WALLS SURROUND THE STAGE, PROJECTING BOTH VISUALS AND LIVE VIDEO FEEDBACK TO KEEP THE AUDIENCE VISUALLY ENGAGED FROM EVERY ANGLE.

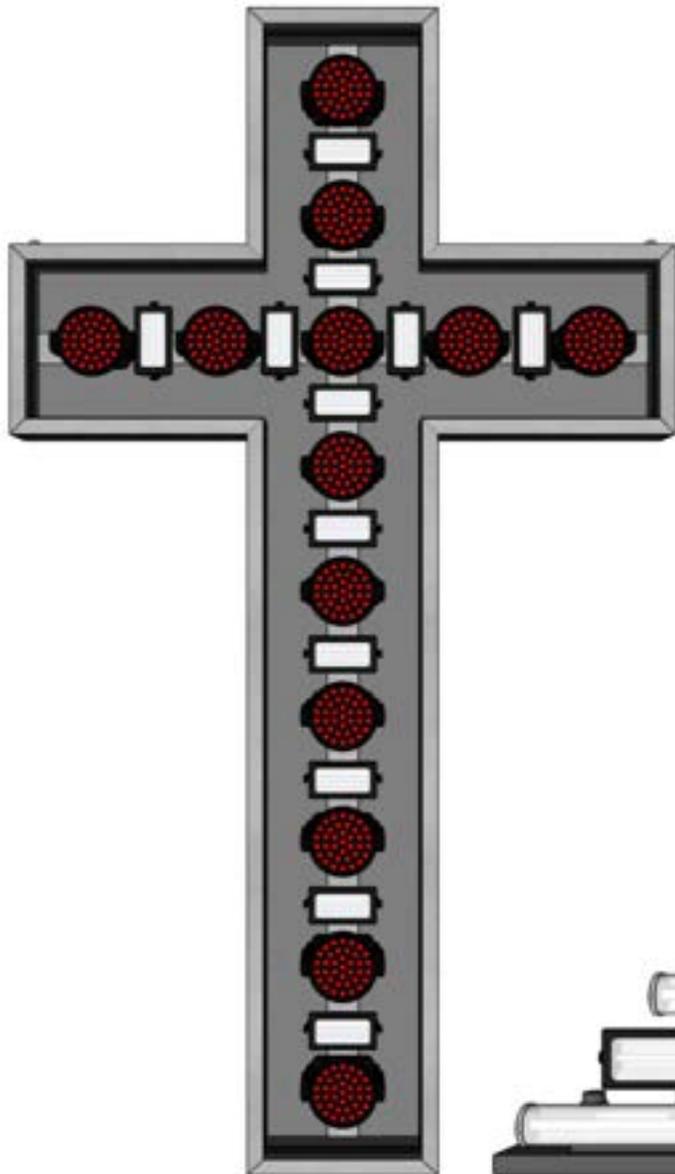
THE UPSTAGE LED WALL IS DESIGNED TO RESEMBLE A SILHOUETTE OF THE LA SKYLINE RISING BEHIND THE HOLLYWOOD HILLS, ADDING DEPTH AND THEMATIC CONTEXT TO THE VISUAL EXPERIENCE. ANGULAR FORMS ARE USED TO ALIGN THE GEOMETRY OF THE LED WALLS TO THE REST OF THE STAGE DESIGN.



# LIGHTING DESIGN

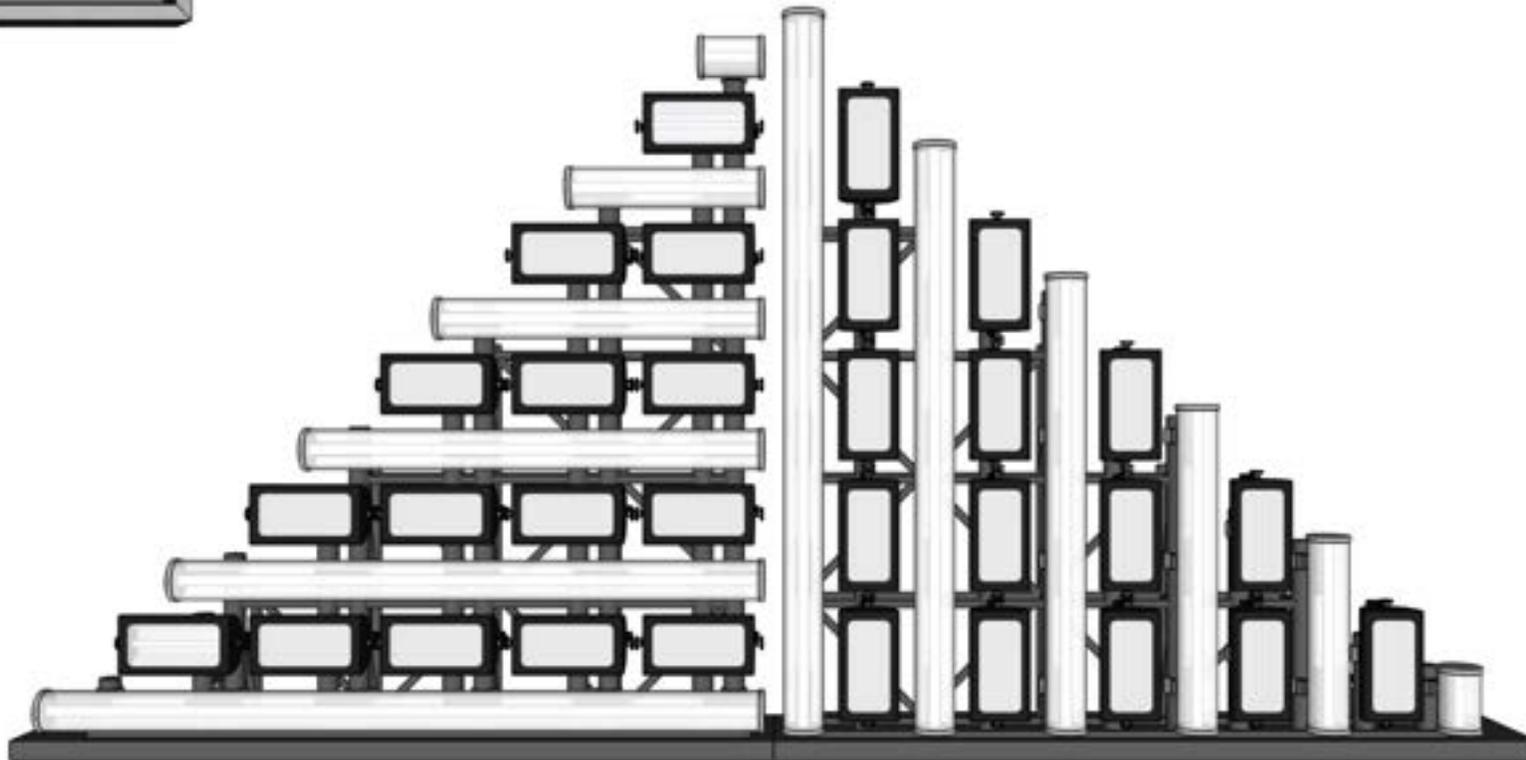


# LIGHTING DESIGN



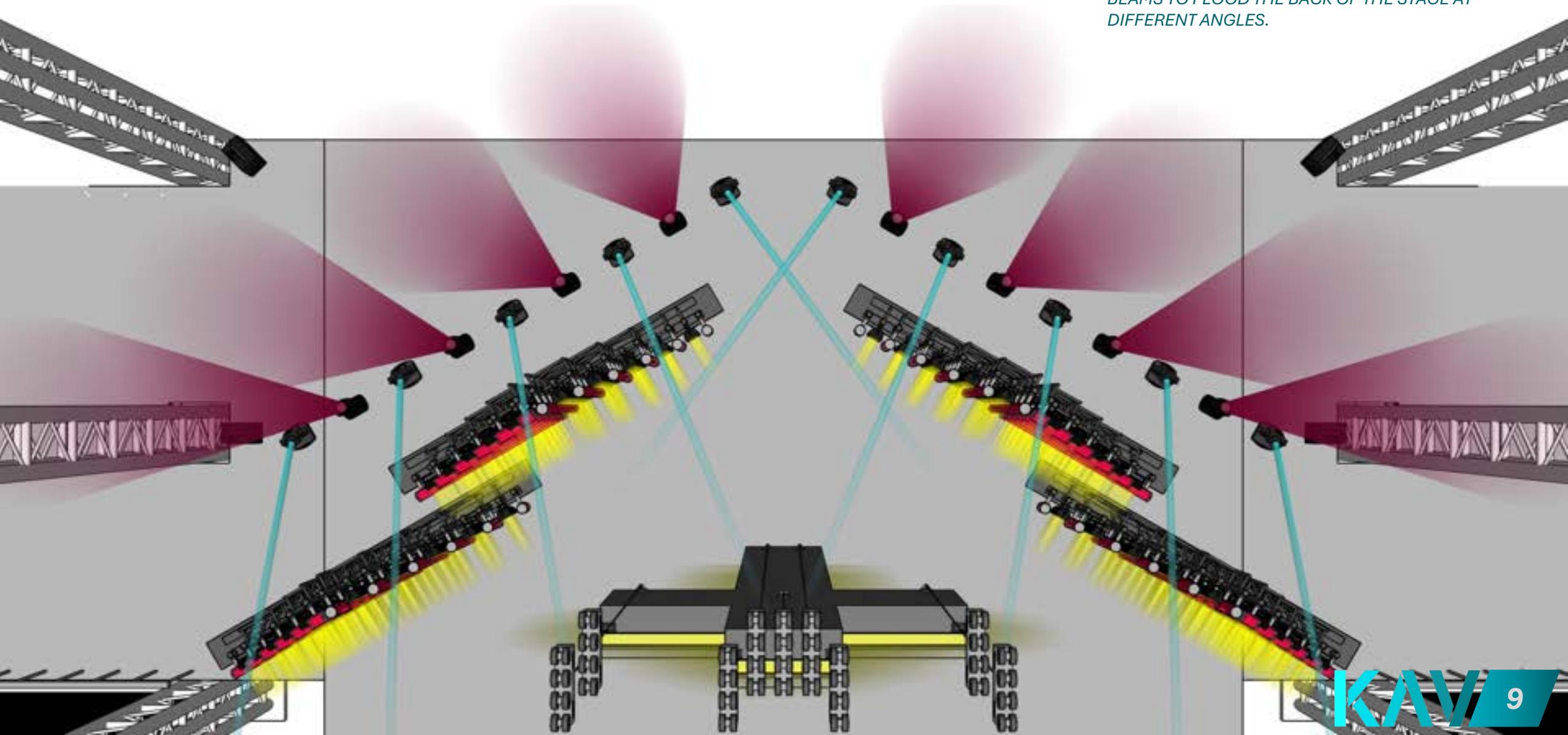
THE 'CROSS' RIG COMPRISES OF 13 FIXED SPOT/WASH LIGHTS AND 12 STROBE LIGHTS. EACH RESPECTIVE SPOT AND STROBE ARE SPACED AT 0.8 METRE INTERVALS FROM CENTRE. EACH FIXTURE IS ATTACHED TO THE SUPPORT FRAME CONNECTED TO THE BACK WALL OF THE RIG. TRANSPARENT LED SCREEN PANELS ARE THEN HOUSED IN FRONT OF THE LIGHT FIXTURES TO COMPOSE THE FRONT FACE OF THE RIG.

EACH OF THE 'HILLS' RIGS ARE COMPRISED OF 12 LIGHT BARS WHICH, INCLUDING THE HOUSING, VARY IN LENGTH FROM 0.25 METRES TO 2.75 METRES AND ARE 0.15 METRES IN DIAMETER. 30 FLOOD LIGHTS ARE POSITIONED IN ROWS BETWEEN THE LIGHT BARS.

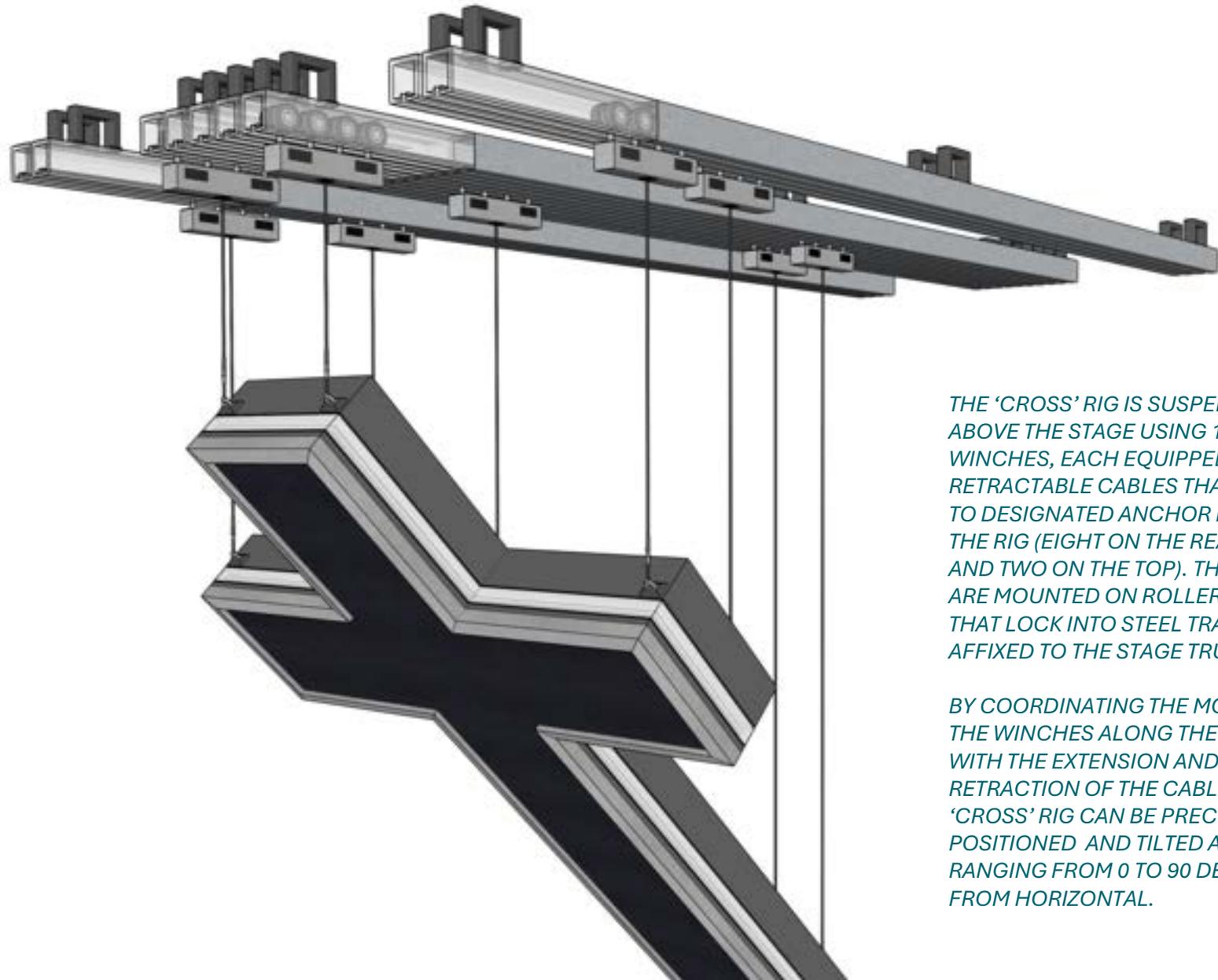


# LIGHTING DESIGN.

10 MOVING HEAD BEAM LIGHTS AND 8 MOVING HEAD SPOTLIGHTS ARE POSITIONED ALONG THE UPSTAGE FLOOR (BEHIND THE 'HILLS' RIGS) TO ALLOW A VARIETY OF THIN AND THICK LIGHTING BEAMS TO FLOOD THE BACK OF THE STAGE AT DIFFERENT ANGLES.

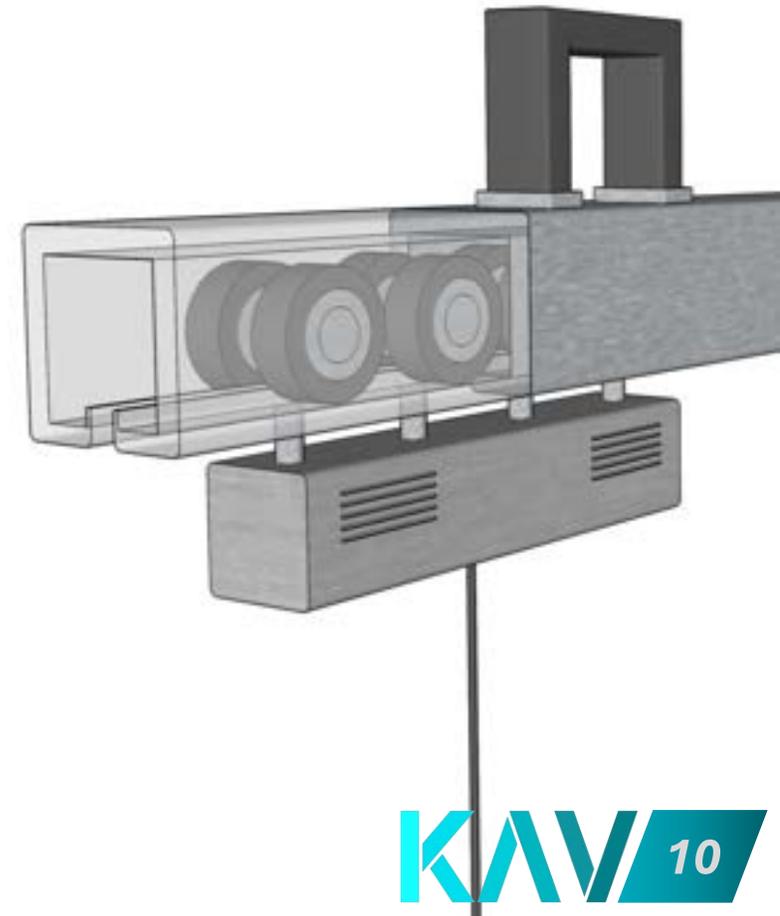


# MECHANICAL ELEMENTS



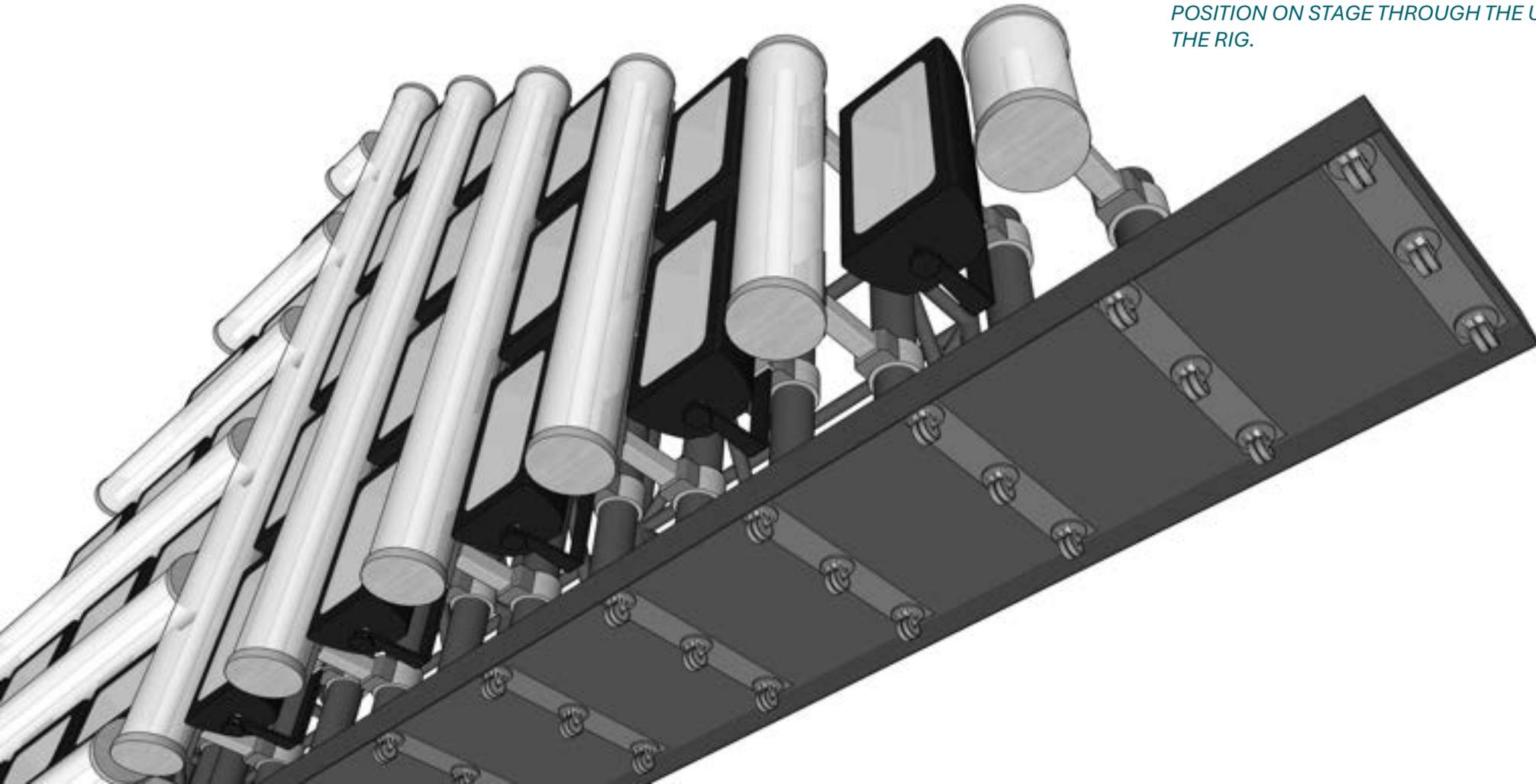
THE 'CROSS' RIG IS SUSPENDED ABOVE THE STAGE USING 10 CABLE WINCHES, EACH EQUIPPED WITH RETRACTABLE CABLES THAT CONNECT TO DESIGNATED ANCHOR POINTS ON THE RIG (EIGHT ON THE REAR FACE AND TWO ON THE TOP). THE WINCHES ARE MOUNTED ON ROLLER WHEELS THAT LOCK INTO STEEL TRACKS AFFIXED TO THE STAGE TRUSSES.

BY COORDINATING THE MOVEMENT OF THE WINCHES ALONG THE TRACKS WITH THE EXTENSION AND RETRACTION OF THE CABLES, THE 'CROSS' RIG CAN BE PRECISELY POSITIONED AND TILTED AT ANGLES RANGING FROM 0 TO 90 DEGREES FROM HORIZONTAL.



# MECHANICAL ELEMENTS

THE 'HILLS' LIGHTING RIGS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED SO THE LIGHTING BARS CAN BE EASILY ASSEMBLED AND DETACHED FOR TRANSPORTATION. ONCE ASSEMBLED, THE RIGS THEMSELVES CAN EASILY BE MOVED INTO POSITION ON STAGE THROUGH THE USE OF ROLLERS ON THE BASE OF THE RIG.

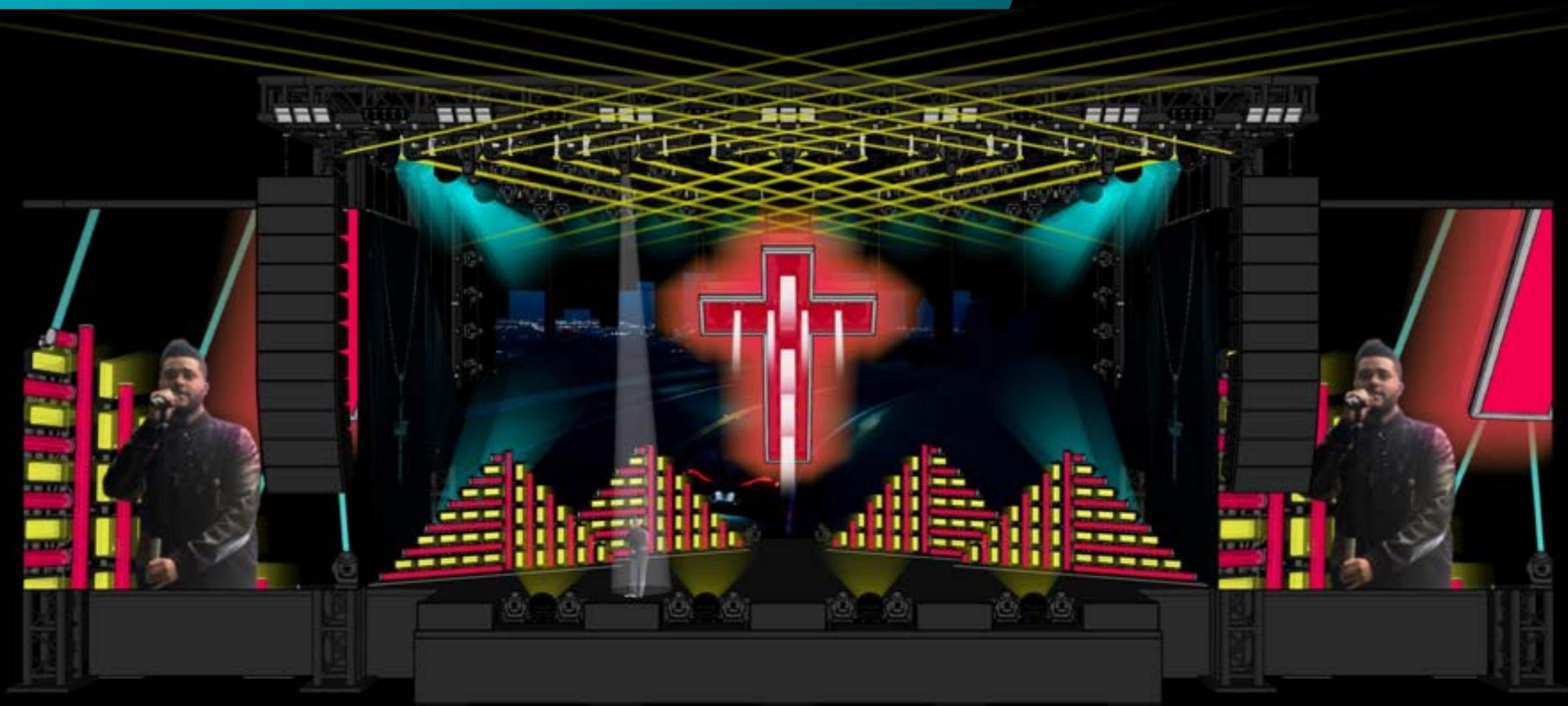


## EXAMPLE CONFIGURATIONS



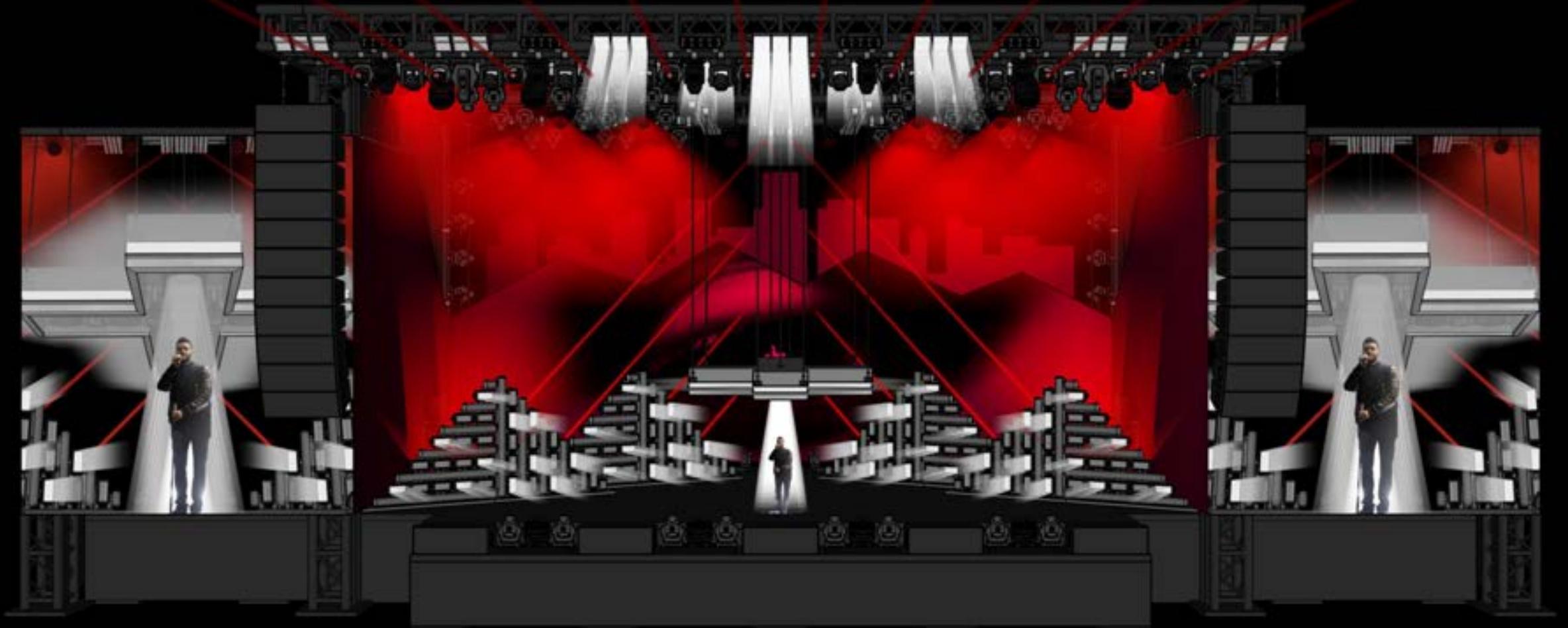
AS THE SHOW BEGINS, THE 'CROSS' RIG IS POSITIONED UPSTAGE CENTRE AND ANGLED DIRECTLY FACING THE AUDIENCE. LED PANELS ON THE RIG ARE USED TO PROJECT LIVE VIDEO FEEDBACK OR VIDEO ASSOCIATED WITH SONGS FROM THE ALBUM. THE YELLOW AND BLUE LIGHTING ARRANGEMENTS ACCENT THE CHERRY RED WASH AROUND THE STAGE TO REPRESENT THE ALBUM COVERS COLOUR PALETTE.

## EXAMPLE CONFIGURATIONS



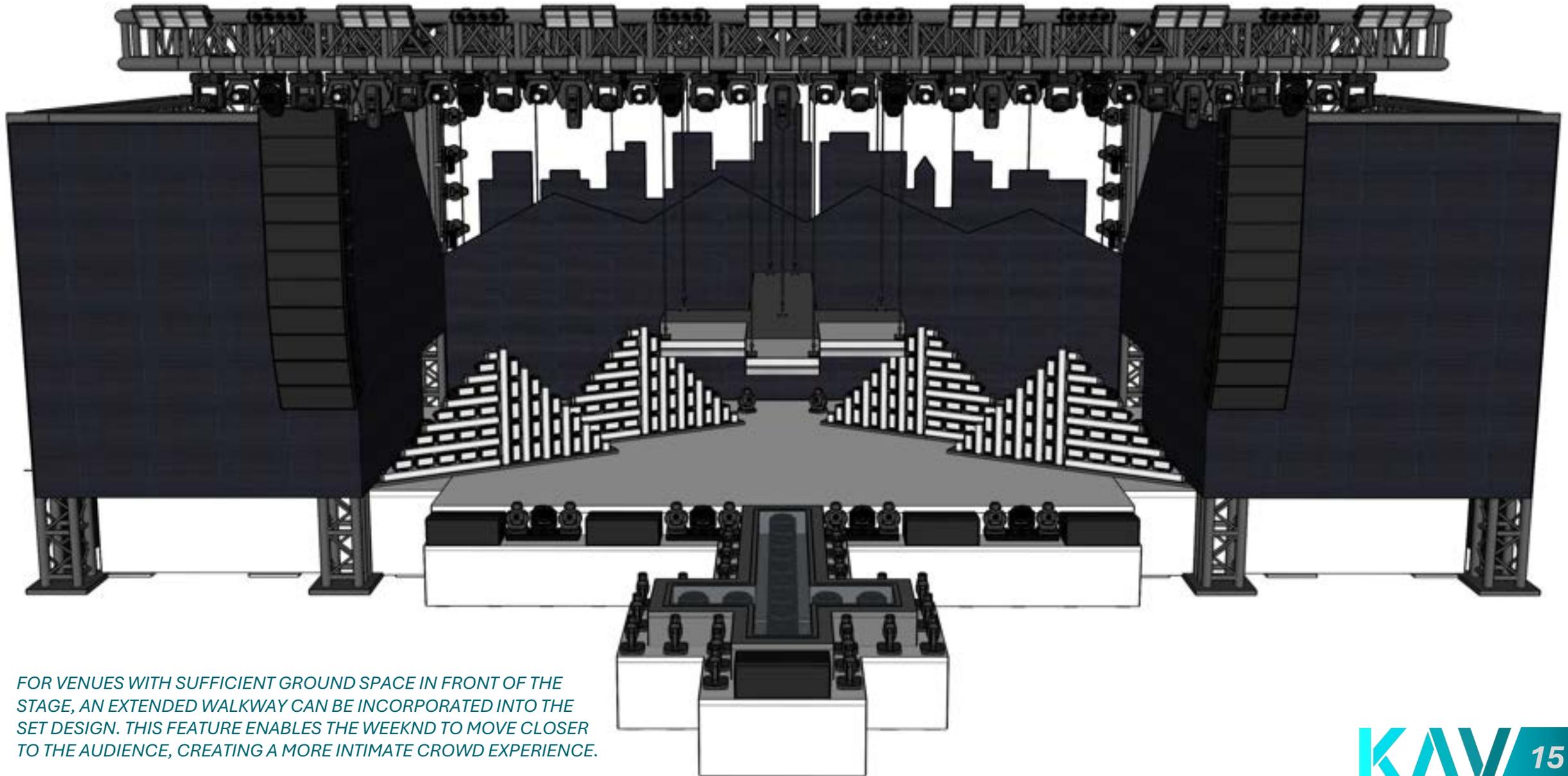
AS THE SHOW PROGRESSES, THE 'CROSS' RIG BEGINS TO TILT AND MOVE CLOSER TO THE CENTRE STAGE. AT THIS POINT, THE LIGHTS WITHIN THE 'CROSS' RIG CAN BECOME MORE ACTIVE. STROBE LIGHTS CAN BE USED TO DRAW THE AUDIENCE'S ATTENTION TO THE CROSS MOVING WHILST THE WEEKND PERFORMS. BEAM LIGHTS ALONG UPSTAGE AND OVERHEAD TRUSSES CAN BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STROBES TO ENHANCE THE ENERGETIC ATMOSPHERE AROUND THE STAGE.

## EXAMPLE CONFIGURATIONS



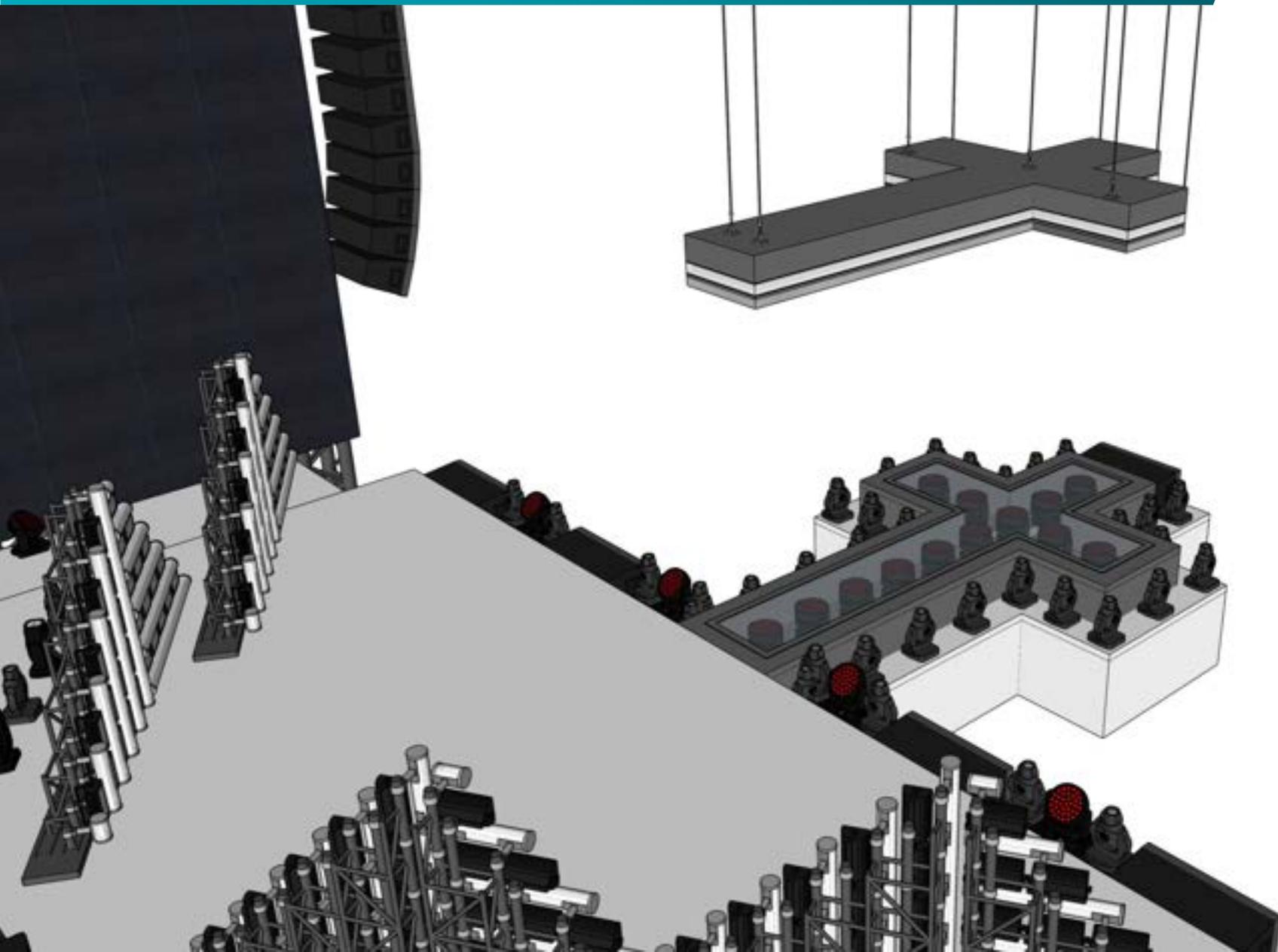
THE 'CROSS' RIG CAN CONTINUE TO TILT UNTIL IT IS DIRECTLY PARALLEL WITH THE STAGE, ALLOWING THE RIG TO BE LOWERED JUST ABOVE THE WEEKEND. WASH, SPOT AND STROBE LIGHTS HIDDEN BEHIND THE LED PANELS CAN BE USED TO LIGHT THE WEEKEND OVERHEAD AND SWAMP LIGHT ACROSS THE CENTRE STAGE. THIS INVOKES AN EERIE ATMOSPHERE AS THE WEEKEND PERFORMS WITH A SILHOUETTED APPEARANCE. THE 'HILLS' RIGS AND SIDE LIGHTS ARE USED LIGHT UP THE STAGE WITH ERRATIC FLASHES OF LIGHT.

# STAGE EXTENSION



*FOR VENUES WITH SUFFICIENT GROUND SPACE IN FRONT OF THE STAGE, AN EXTENDED WALKWAY CAN BE INCORPORATED INTO THE SET DESIGN. THIS FEATURE ENABLES THE WEEKND TO MOVE CLOSER TO THE AUDIENCE, CREATING A MORE INTIMATE CROWD EXPERIENCE.*

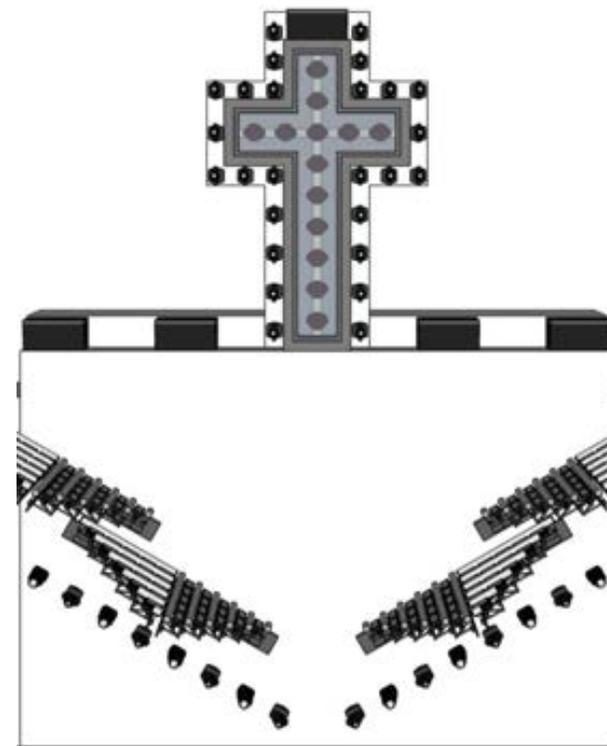
# STAGE EXTENSION



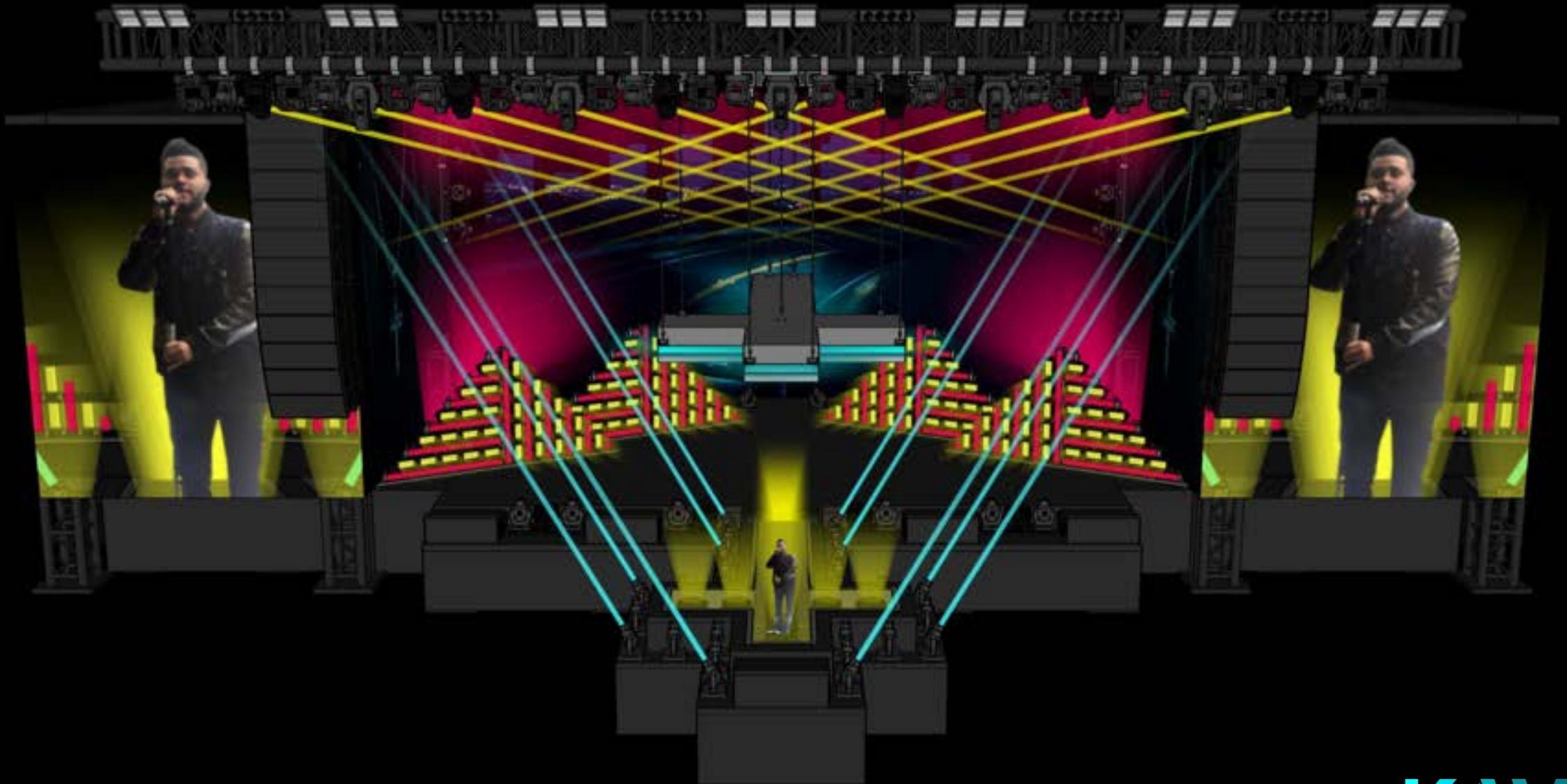
THE WALKWAY MIRRORS THE DESIGN OF THE OVERHEAD 'CROSS' RIG, WITH 10 WASH/BEAM FIXTURES (SITUATED BENEATH A GLASS DECK) PROJECTING A CROSS-SHAPED PATTERN FROM UNDERNEATH THE WEEKND AS HE WALKS INTO THE CROWD.

SURROUNDING THE WALKWAY, MOVING HEAD BEAM FIXTURES ARE POSITIONED TO DELIVER DYNAMIC LIGHTING EFFECTS THROUGHOUT THE PERFORMANCE.

WHERE VENUES SUPPORT OVERHEAD RIGGING, THE 'CROSS' RIG CAN BE FLOWN ABOVE WALKWAY, ALIGNING BOTH CROSS STRUCTURES TO CREATE A STRIKING VISUAL SYMMETRY.

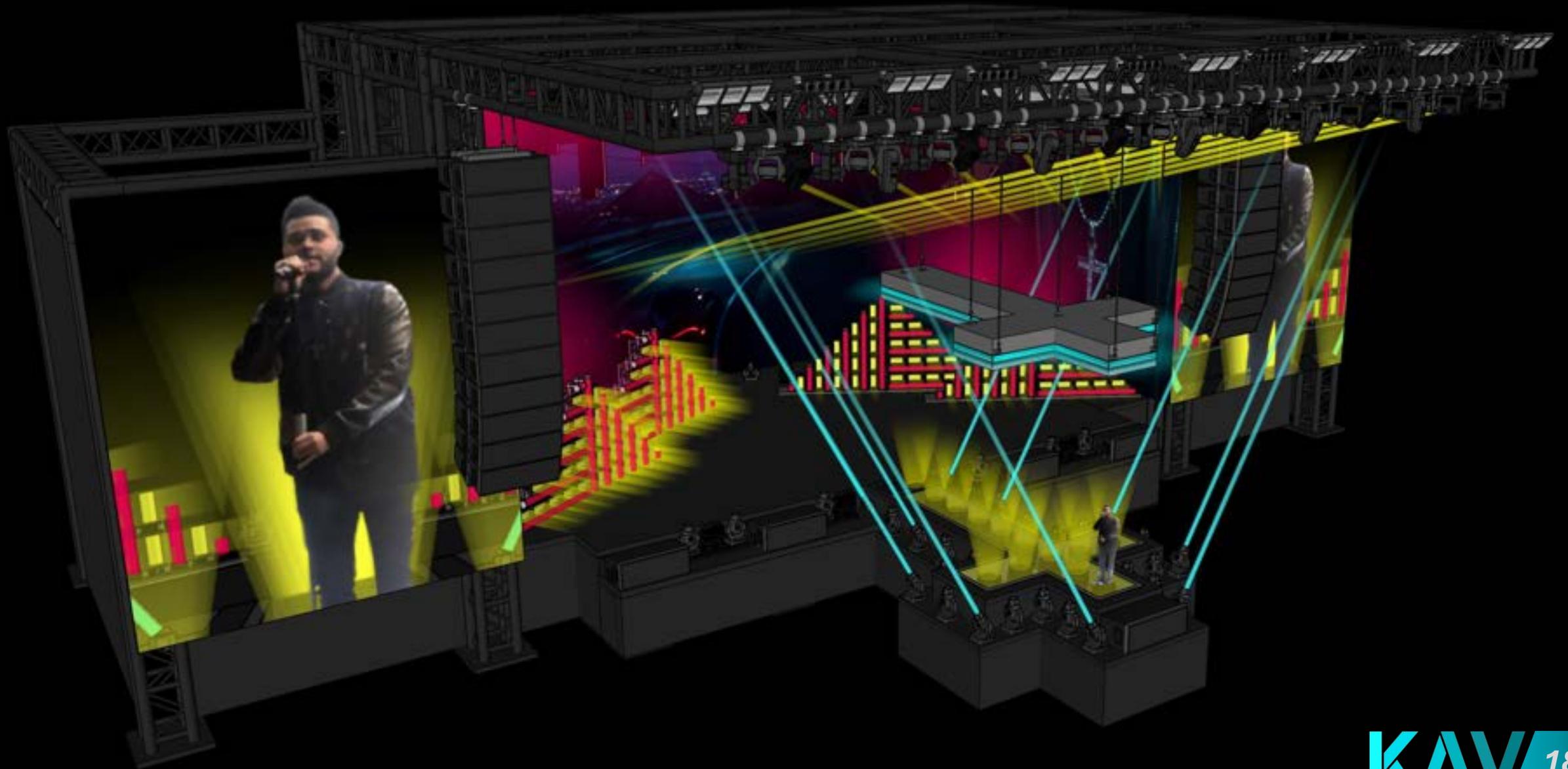


## STAGE EXTENSION: EXAMPLE (FRONT VIEW)



THE 'CROSS' RIG EXTENDS FROM DOWNSTAGE UNTIL IT IS DIRECTLY ALIGNED WITH THE WALKWAY. WASH LIGHTS GLOW BENEATH THE WEEKND AS HE WALKS DOWN THE WALKWAY, WITH BEAM LIGHTS FLASHING AROUND AND ABOVE.

# STAGE EXTENSION: EXAMPLE (SIDE VIEW)



STAGE AND LIGHTING DESIGN BY LOUIE KAVALLARES

**KAW**  
*DESIGN*

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