

Anastasia is a journey, and in the show, the design utilized color, intensity, distribution, and movement to build up the lighting and portray a vital and dramatic part of the story. The setting changes, so there had to be a contrast between the settings using the 4 qualities that complemented these changes. Color is the most important quality of lighting for a show like Anastasia. In psychology, purple represents imagination. Throughout the show, Anastasia must use her imagination to discover herself. As well, blue represents freedom and self-expression, this demonstrates many of the show's characters who present themselves as independent and attempting to break free from Russian oppression. Finally, this show can be very dramatic and intense at times, so the use of red was necessary, such as in the number "Still / The Neva Flows Reprise". These colors were used to exemplify the mood of a scene throughout the show.

Specifically, I as the Lighting Designer had to go in depth on the feelings of all the characters, to properly demonstrate their emotions. When researching these feelings, I chose a specific set of colors that properly matched the psychology of the characters. For example, the colors used for Anastasia were dominantly blue and purple, or for Dmitry, blue and orange. As well, subtlety was key for various parts during a show like this. In order to have a proper build up of lighting the 4 qualities cannot be too dramatic, otherwise the audience would be distracted. However, this show is dramatic much of the time, so that sort of lighting was necessary for a few numbers. Lastly, the show has many scenes that feel warmer or cooler than others. So, with that in mind, specific instruments of front light and sidelight were given cool or warm gel colors that could naturally change the overall feel of a scene, while still matching the theme of the show.

All of these attributes were used to portray all of the strong emotions that Anastasia presents. The characters feel such a variety of things to the point where it was hard to decide

what color to give them, or what intensity they deserved, but with enough research, it could be done.