



General Risk Assessment for Silhouette Cutting

Introduction

Silhouette cutting is an essentially low risk activity involving very little danger to the general public. Portrait profiles are cut from paper with scissors and mounted onto card using either double sided tape or low tack adhesive (according to the preference of the artist).

Scissors.

The only identifiable risk comes from the use of scissors. These are short-bladed instruments with functionally sharp blades. Artists are fully trained, skilled in their use, and aware of safety implications. They are advised not to allow others to handle their scissors, and will usually politely refuse if a guest attempts to take the scissors in order to “have a go” at cutting a silhouette themselves, especially if the guest(s) concerned appear to be under the effects of alcohol. Event organisers should be aware of this, and should respect the artist’s right to make such a refusal in the unlikely event of it causing a dispute.

Other risks.

On occasion artists are asked to set up a silhouette stall using tables and chairs provided by the client. Responsibility for the safety of such equipment remains with the client, for instance in the event that a chair should break while a guest is posing on it for a silhouette.

Insurance

The Roving Artist Ltd works with a variety of self-employed artists. Each artist is obliged to carry their own Public Liability Insurance suitable for the events and entertainment industry. Copies of all relevant certificates are available from the agency handling the booking. Any other queries about Public Liability Insurance are better directed to the individual artists concerned.

Charles Burns (director)

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