Roles in the industry

Playwright	This is the name given to the person who writes the play.
Performer	An actor or entertainer who realises a role or performance in front of an audience.
Understudy	An actor who studies another's role so that they can take over when needed.
Lighting designer	This person is responsible for designing the lighting states and, if required, special lighting effects for a performance. The final design will result in a lighting plot which is a list of the lighting states and their cues.
Sound designer	This person is responsible for designing the sound required for a performance. This may include underscoring, intro and outro music as well as specific effects. The final design will result in a sound plot which is a list of the sounds required and their cues.
Set designer	This person is responsible for the design of the set for a performance. They will work closely with the director and other designers so that there is unity between all the designs and the needs of the performance.
Costume designer	The person who designs the costumes for a performance. The costume department of a theatre is often called the wardrobe.
Puppet designer	The person who designs the puppets for a performance.
Technician	A person who works backstage either setting up technical equipment such as microphones or rigging lights before a production or operating technical equipment during a performance.
Director	This person is in charge of the artistic elements of a production. A director will often have the initial creative idea ('concept') for a production, will work with the actors in rehearsal, and will collaborate with designers and the technical team to realise this idea in performance.
Stage manager	This person is in charge of all aspects of backstage, including the backstage crew. They will oversee everything that happens backstage before, during and after a performance. During the rehearsal period, the Stage Manager and their team will make sure that all props are found or made, scene changes are rehearsed and smooth, and all other aspects of backstage are prepared. They are also in charge of the rehearsal schedule.
Theatre manager	This is the person who is responsible for and manages the front-of- house team who deal with the audience during the production (for example, the box office manager, ushers and similar staff).