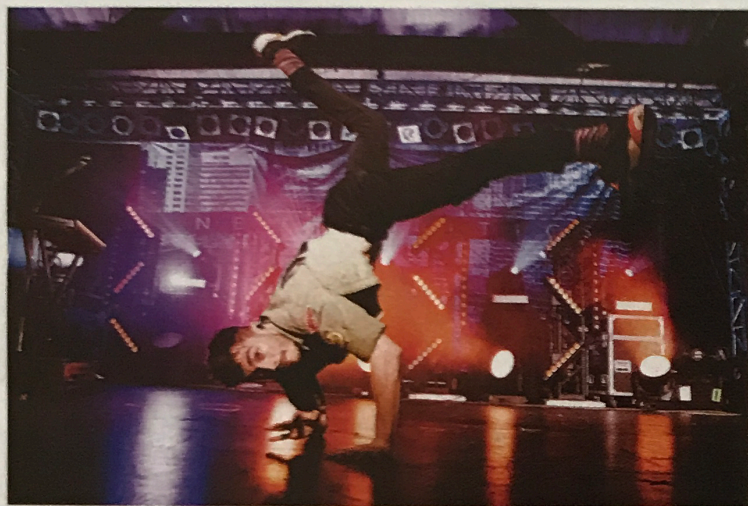


# New Politics Tours U.S. with Design by LD Alex Specht

» **LOS ANGELES** — Lighting designer/director Alex Specht of Spechtrum Lighting used Elation's ACL 360 Bar effect luminaire for Danish rock band New Politics' fall U.S. tour, teaming the continuous rotation batten effect with Elation's warm-white Lumina Strips, among other lights.

New Politics toured the U.S. Oct. 14-Nov. 29, 2015, teaming up with indie pop band, Wilderness, on a trek dubbed the "Wilderness Politics" tour. Specht incorporated Elation's ACL 360 Bars and Lumina Strips as part of a shared lighting package that both acts used.



The LD made use of Elation's ACL 360 Bar fixtures.

Specht met New Politics when the band opened for Panic! at the Disco, an American rock band that he also designs lighting for. "We shared a good rapport," he says of the relationship. "They were fans of my previous work and I had an interest in designing for them."

Part of Elation's ACL Series of high-output narrow-beam LED effect lights, Specht explains why he chose the color-changing ACL 360 Bars for the New Politics tour and how he incorporated them into his design.

"I wanted to set New Politics' show apart and highlight the electro-pop element," said Specht.

"I used four six-foot truss towers lined along the upstage side of the deck and placed three ACL Bars and one Lumina Strip on each," he continued. "They were spaced to where the ACL Bars would form a solid, evenly-spaced LED line when placed in a vertical position. This combination gave me multiple geometric positions to form various background looks.

"Pixel mapping, LED effects and position transformation were the three focal points I was looking to get out of the ACL 360 Bars," added Specht, also lauding the infinite pan and tilt. The batten fixtures are equipped with 15W RGBW LEDs and advanced optics for laser-like beams.

Though compact (22.5 by 10 inches, LxW) and just 22 pounds, each ACL Bar packs a punch, and they are easy to work with, making set changeovers "extremely quick," Specht noted. "I bolted refrigerator dollies straight to the truss and baseplate. Once our set was over, I disconnected the home runs and wheeled them right off stage for disassembly."

Burst Sound & Lighting Systems of Detroit supplied the gear for the New Politics tour, including the ACL 360 Bars. Burst also supplied the fixtures (200, in fact) for the main stage at the Electric Zoo Festival last fall.



LOS ANGELES - Lighting designer/director Alex Specht of Spechtrum Lighting turned to the dynamic look of Elation Professional's ACL 360 Bar effect luminaire for Danish rock band New Politics' fall U.S. tour, teaming the continuous rotation batten effect with Elation's warm-white Lumina Strips, among other lights.

More details from Elation ([www.elationlighting.com](http://www.elationlighting.com)):

New Politics toured the U.S. October 14th to November 29th on a "Wilderness Politics" tour, which they co-headlined with indie pop act Andrew McMahon in the Wilderness. Alex incorporated the ACL 360 Bars™ and Lumina Strips™ as part of a shared lighting package that both acts used.

Alex first met New Politics when the band opened for Panic! at the Disco, an American rock band that he also designs lighting for. "We shared a good rapport," he says of the relationship. "They were fans of my previous work and I had an interest in designing for them."

Part of Elation's ACL Series™ of high-output narrow-beam LED effect lights, Alex explains why he chose the color-changing ACL 360 Bars for the New Politics tour and how he incorporated them into his design. "I wanted to set New Politics' show apart and highlight the electro-pop element," he said. "I used 4' x 6' truss towers lined along the upstage side of the deck and placed three ACL Bars and one Lumina Strip on each. They were spaced to where the ACL Bars would form a solid, evenly-spaced LED line when placed in a vertical position. This combination gave me multiple geometric positions to form various background looks."

The ACL 360 Bar is a versatile moving head effect batten with 7 individual 15W RGBW LEDs and advanced collimator optic that produces a dense, laser-like 4-degree beam from each lens. Combined with fast, continuous 360° pan and tilt rotation, a variety of dynamic movement effects are possible. "Pixel mapping, LED effects and position transformation were the three focal points I was looking to get out of the ACL 360 Bars," Alex states. "The infinite pan and tilt was a great feature. Although I didn't use it as much, it became a special highlight in the show when I did."

At 22.5" long and only 10 inches high with a weight of 22 lbs, the ACL Bar packs a lot of effect into a relatively small package. "With the size and weight of these fixtures, I was able to make the co-headlining set changeovers extremely quick!" Alex says. "I bolted refrigerator dollies straight to the truss and baseplate. Once our set was over, I disconnected the home runs and wheeled them right off stage for disassembly!"

The ACL 360 Bar's were supplied for the New Politics tour by Burst Sound & Lighting Systems of Detroit ([www.burstllc.com](http://www.burstllc.com)), a growing rental company who had supplied 200 of the units for the main stage at the Electric Zoo Festival last fall. "I had worked with Burst owner Scott Ciungan on the Electric Zoo Festival this past September," Alex says. "I saw them as the perfect fixture for the look I envisioned for New Politics. Along with the Lumina Strips, I had the perfect balance of clean LED color and movement countered with a dirty tungsten blast that was great for silhouettes, which was perfect for New Politics' electro-pop mixed with punk."

New lighting innovation opens up new possibilities for lighting designers and the ACL 360 Bar is a good example. Alex comments, "The ACL 360 Bars allowed me to transform my design style. They helped me veer away from the profile, wash and beam fixture combination I found myself resorting to in the past few years. Although I maintained an organic feel to my show, these fixtures helped me break into a more cybernetic approach, with a little more 'Tron' feel. I'm looking forward to incorporating them into future designs."

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# ***New Politics Tours U.S. with Elation's ACL 360 Bar Fixture***

by Nook Schoenfeld ▪ in News ▪ Created: 08 January, 2016



*Photo by Jonathan Hoeg*