

# Sightlines

**USITT** july/august 1990

The American Association of Design and Production Professionals in the Performing Arts

## SUMMER GREETINGS

Your Summer issue of **TD&T** will be arriving shortly after you get this **Sightlines**, and not too long after that be watching for your 1990-91 **Directory**. Summer greetings from USITT Publications!

## REMINDER

If you haven't already done so, please take a few minutes to fill out the "USITT Occupational Survey" which came with your Spring 1990 issue of **TD&T** and then send it off to the National Office by fax or by mail.

Returning the survey will help the National Office serve you better and is also a good way to update your membership record if you have moved or changed phone numbers recently.

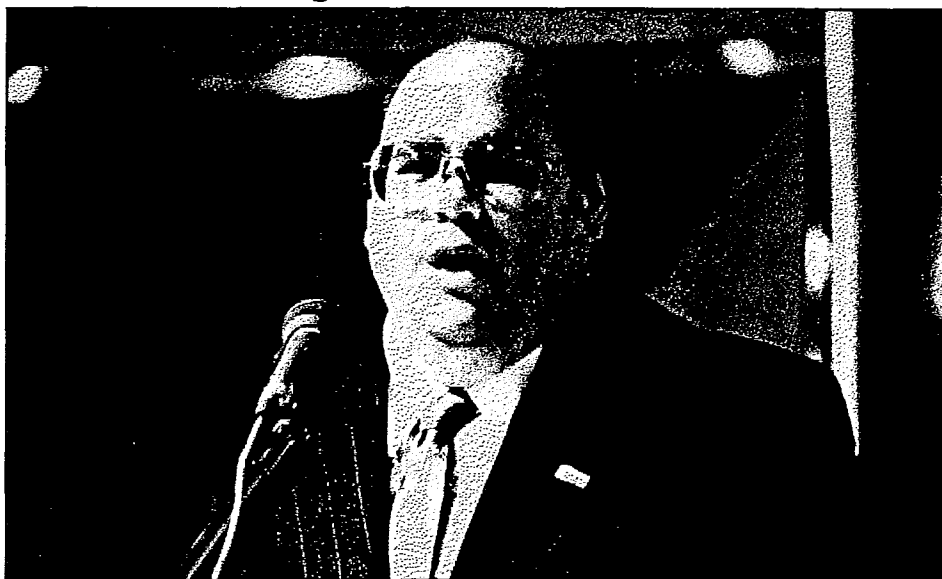


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## New USITT Administration

### Donald Shulman Begins Two-Year Term as President



*The following remarks were made by then President-Elect Donald Shulman at the banquet commemorating the 30th anniversary of USITT on Friday, 13 April 1990 in Milwaukee, WI. Shulman wishes to acknowledge the use of textual passages and paraphrases from the book, *MegaTrends 2000* by John Naisbitt and Patricia Aburdene in his spoken remarks. On 1 July 1990—the beginning of the new USITT fiscal year—Donald Shulman officially assumed the position of USITT President and Dick Devin became the Immediate Past President of the Institute. —Ed.*

**D**ick, will you please wait here with me a moment. The past year has given me a newer, clearer understanding of what volunteer leadership and commitment is all about. I have marveled at the sheer number of issues you have had to deal with as our organization's leader. This, while trying to balance an already full plate as an educator, designer, consultant and administrator. You have achieved many significant things during the past two years with great style and a peacefulness that is much admired.

You are a wonderful man and we thank you with our admiration, respect and this small token

of our appreciation. (The conference attendees then gave Devin a standing ovation. —Ed.)

Dick's contribution is emblematic of the incredibly hard work that many, many people in the Institute do, day in, day out, week in, week out. We are fortunate to have a hard-working staff of professionals in New York and Orem, UT.

Still, the Institute's work is largely driven by volunteers. We have a Board of Directors, commissioners, committee chairs, officers and scores of people who work on our many varied projects. And to each of these people I want to express my thanks. It is also important not only to thank each one of them individually, but also the many people who rely on them: employers, spouses, families, friends, significant others and all other people to whom you have often had to give excuses why you can't do things in order to accomplish something for the Institute.

I know all of you have been excited by what you have seen here in Milwaukee during the past several days. It has been a marvelous conference and certainly we want to thank the local conference committee who have made this a wonderful conference. But we also need to thank Milwau-

## NEW ADVERTISING REP

USITT President Donald Shulman has announced that Events Production Group has been appointed advertising representative for USITT's publications **TD&T** and **Sightlines** effective immediately.

By hiring an outside marketing/advertising organization, USITT is positioning itself for a dramatic national expansion beyond its 3000-plus membership. "We think this is a natural step forward for the Institute," says Joy Emery, USITT vice-president for Communications. "With Don Shulman and his strong background in arts administration at the helm, USITT is entering the '90s poised for continued growth."

**TD&T** is a journal for design and production professionals in the performing arts offering in-depth features on international design as well as the latest developments in theatre technology. **Sightlines** is a monthly newsletter with up-to-the-minute news and technical advice by and for USITT members. In charge of advertising for USITT publications at EPG is Phil Tocantins, director of special sales.

EPG is also conference manager for the annual USITT Conference and Stage Expo. "We're extremely honored to be able to add this sales and marketing function to the work that we are already doing for the Institute in management, promotion and sales of its Conference and Stage Expo," says EPG President Patricia MacKay.

For further information on **TD&T** and **Sightlines** advertising, call Phil Tocantins, Events Production Group, 135 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY, 10010; 212-677-5997.

## SIGHTLINES

### VOLUME XXX NUMBER 7/8

USITT **SIGHTLINES** [ISSN 1048-955X] is published monthly (except bi-monthly May/June and July/August) by the United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc., 10 West 19th Street, Suite 5A, New York, NY 10011. \$15 is deducted from membership dues to cover the cost of publication. Second class postage pending at New York, NY and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: USITT, 10 West 19th Street, Suite 5A, New York, NY 10011-4206.

**SIGHTLINES** is published from editorial offices at 966 East 1030 North, Orem, UT 84057. Phone: 801-226-3258 Fax: 801-226-5342

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**Editor ■ Eric Fielding**  
**Editor ■ Cecelia Fielding**

## News From The National

David Diamond, USITT General Manager

It's hot and muggy in New York City, but the National Office has not let up in its endeavor to serve you better. We are in the process of upgrading our membership materials to provide clear descriptions of our projects and services and attract a wider range of professionals and students to USITT. But the best marketing method we have is you. Tell your friends and colleagues about the benefits of USITT!

As you travel by car this summer, don't forget to use National Car Rental and take advantage of your member discount. Also, if you will be in New York, stay at the Milford Plaza, the Doral Park Avenue or the Paramount Hotel, which has been newly renovated in an art deco style. Even though the quality of the hotel has improved dramatically and rates have risen, USITT members still get the same discounted room rate as before. Call us for information.

Congratulations to USITT member John Conklin for winning this year's Zeisler Award, given by Theatre Communications Group for distinguished service to the not-for-profit professional theatre.

As a result of the Free Trade Agreement between the US and Canada, arts organizations that employ Canadians as teachers to instruct at the college/university level no longer need a petition, labor certification or prior approval; a Canadian academic wishing to work in the US need only show proof of Canadian citizenship and documentation demonstrating his or her engagement in business in the US at a professional level.

Props-On-Line, Inc. is a new information service that links prop suppliers with users. Requests are matched against a props database and referred to participating suppliers who carry the appropriate props. For more information, contact Props-On-Line, Inc., PO Box 2375, Framingham, MA 01701; 800-367-7767.

**Current Exhibitions:** If you will be in Chicago this summer for the Commissioners retreat, the Board meeting, the ATHE conference or just for fun, check out the exhibit "Resetting the Stage: Theatre Beyond the Loop" on view at the Chicago Public Library's theatre collection through September 15. The exhibit includes Cookie Gluck's costume designs from the Organic Theatre's production of *WARP* and designs from the Goodman Theatre's production of David Mamet's *American Buffalo*.

**New Publications:** *Light on the Subject* by David Hays is subtitled "Stage Lighting for Directors and Actors and the Rest of Us" and may be useful to those folks who don't understand what it is

you do. The book is available for \$8.95 from Limelight Editions, 118 East 30th Street, New York, NY 10016; 212-532-5525.

With the National Conference in Boston fast approaching, you may be interested in a new reference guide—*The Source: The Greater Boston Theatre Resource Guide*. There is a section on finding supplies in the Boston area. It costs \$21.95 from StageSource, One Boylston Place, Boston, MA 02116.

Theatre Arts Video Library offers a videotape called "Fundamentals of Scenic Painting" with Ron Ranson, Jr. It is useful to help teach students how to achieve high-quality results in a short time. The video is 81 minutes long, in color on

VHS format and costs \$235 from Theatre Arts Video Library, 174 Andrew Avenue, Leucadia, CA 92404; 619-632-6355.

A new guide to medical, legal, financial and social services for artists has been published. *ArtistHelp: The Artist's Guide to Work-Related Human and Social Services* covers more than 120 cities in 50 states listing addresses, phone numbers, contact persons and cost information for both public and private-sector agencies. Contact Neal-Schuman Publishers, 23 Leonard Street, New York,

NY 10013. The cost is \$45.

Do you remember the fascinating exhibit of the works of Adolphe Appia in the '86 Design Expo? You may be interested in the English translation of *Adolphe Appia: Essays, Scenarios and Designs* now available from UMI Research Press. Call 800-521-0600 for more information.

**Upcoming Events:** The New England Theatre Conference will be held 2-4 November at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, ME. The theme is "Theatre as a Heritage." The National Black Arts Festival will be held in Atlanta 27 July-5 August. For a full schedule of events, contact NBAF, 70 Fairlie Street Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30303; 404-730-7315.

**CyberArts International** is the first professional conference and performance showcase of emerging interactive and multimedia technologies as they apply to the arts. The conference will be held at the Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel 6-9 September. For more information, contact Bob Gelman, CyberArts International, Miller Freeman Expositions, 500 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105; 415-267-7646.

**Recent Happenings:** At the Central Op Service's Annual Conference, "New Directions for the '90's," one session, "Theaters for the '90's," involved USITT members: Theatre Projects

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## The President's Report

Donald Shulman, USITT President

It is very hard to believe that this issue of *Sightlines* marks the start of a new fiscal year for the Institute. And with the beginning of the new program year I want to take this opportunity to thank a number of people whose terms of office have just ended. This Institute has such a history and tradition of significant numbers of people taking an active role in our activities, it is impossible to conceive of the Institute's achieving so many of its important milestones without them.

Dick Devin has served the Institute so well over the past two years as President that I take over the job knowing there are extraordinary "shoes to fill." I know that Dick is looking forward to having the chance of spending as much time working with the Colorado Shakespeare Festival as he was working for the Institute. (Devin was recently appointed as the new Producing Artistic Director of the Colorado Shakespeare Festival in Boulder, CO, where he has served as resident lighting designer for the past ten seasons. —Ed.)

The Institute is guided and directed by the Board of Directors that is elected by you each year. It takes a great deal of time and no little contribution to be a Director. I want to thank the following Directors who have served so ably and whose terms have concluded: Lance Brockman, Carolyn Lancet, Tom Burke, Deborah Bell, Randy Davidson and Jody Good. Two members of the class of '90 were elected to new terms: Ken Hewitt and John Lottes. The Institute's thanks and appreciation to all.

Over the past several months, the Publications Committee has spent a great deal of time considering the best ways for the Institute to seek ongoing

growth of our publications' advertising. After much discussion, it was decided to develop an RFP—a Request for Proposals—from individuals and firms that specialize in selling advertising for publications such as ours. A Committee wrote the RFP and later reviewed the proposals and interviewed the candidates. The Institute has selected Events Production Group, EPG, to handle the advertising solicitation/sales for *TD&T*, *Sightlines* and the annual *Directory*. We look forward to a long and productive relationship with EPG.

I want to thank the Committee members Joy Emery, David Rodger, David Diamond, Eric Fielding, Chris Kaiser and Dick Devin for their hard work. This was a complicated matter and they worked most efficiently and effectively in accomplishing their goals.

I want to take a moment to thank someone who has not always been as visible as some others, yet whose work over the past six-seven years has been invaluable to the Institute. Tina Margolis has been the Advertising Manager of USITT publications and before that served as our Newsletter Editor. Her dedicated work on our publications have provided the fuel and substance for their growth, and we thank her for her efforts and accomplishments.

Finally, in coming months, this space will be used for reports by other officers as well as by the President. I know you will find their reports about the myriad goings-on in the Institute to be exciting and informative. Please feel free to contact me or any of the other officers to express your interests, thoughts and comments. We all welcome the opportunities to talk with you. All best wishes for a good summer. ■

## News From The National

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Consultants in the person of Richard Pilbrow and Russell Johnson of ARTEC Consultants. The other panelists were Klaus D. Bindhardt, a German architect working in Canada and Carlos Ott, who designed the Opera de las Bastille in Paris. A transcript of their fascinating discussion is available in the COS Conference/Bulletin, Volume 30, Number 1. Contact COS at Metropolitan Opera, New York, NY 10023; 212-957-9871.

Direct From Broadway sponsored a seminar, "Bright Lights of Broadway," as part of a series on the history of Broadway stagecraft. The panelists included lighting designers Ken Billington, Jeff Davis, Tharon Musser, Abe Feder and Peggy Clark. The discussion focused (sorry!) on collaborations with directors, computerization and the history of lighting design on Broadway.

Another seminar in the series, "Broadway Sound Design," dealt with the evolution of sound design from the first instance of electronic ampli-

fication on Broadway in 1933 on the show *Earl Carroll's Vanities* to the present. Panelists included sound designers Abe Jacob, Otts Munderloh, Jack Mann and Jack Shearing.

On 27 March 1990, Kirill Lavrov, president of the Union of Theatre Artists of the USSR and president of the International Theatre Institute Soviet Center, gave an international message in honor of World Theatre Day. He expressed his hopes to build the World Theatre House in Europe that would be a place of cultural exchange between East and West.

"After so many years of suffering, humanity will, I am convinced, greatly benefit from this expression of brotherhood," he said. "I call on you to use all your talents to do away with what is vulgar and obsolete and to remain faithful to the ideal of humanism. It is in this way that we will contribute to the triumph of freedom, human rights and the full growth of the individual." ■

## CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

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**Teatronics, Inc.**  
**Theatrical Dealers Association**  
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**Wybron, Inc.**

## NEW C&S MEMBERS

*Sightlines* welcomes the following new and returning Contributing Members—**Associated Theatrical Contractors**—and Sustaining Members—**Backstage, Inc.**; **FM Productions**; **Hawkeye Scenic Studios, Inc.**; **Man GHH Corporation**; and **A. E. Mitchell & Co., Inc.**

Our sincere thanks to all the Contributing and Sustaining Members of USITT who do so much to support the ongoing activities and the continuing growth of the Institute!

## SUSTAINING MEMBERS

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Adirondack Scenic, Inc./JCH  
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Desisti Lighting Equipment  
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GTE/Sylvania, Inc.  
A. Haussmann International USA, Inc.  
Hawkeye Scenic Studios, Inc.  
H & H Specialties  
Hoffend and Sons, Inc.

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## New USITT Administration

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kee as a community itself, for it has made this one of the great theatre and art cities in the US.

The first professional arts management job I ever had was with the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre and the United Performing Arts Fund, now almost 20 years ago. When I left Milwaukee, MECCA was still under construction and the Rep had only been performing at the Todd Wehr a few years. So it is with great pleasure that I have returned to Milwaukee for this conference to witness the phenomenal growth in the arts in this great city.

My comments tonight are based on my recent reading of the book *Megatrends 2000*, and certain parts of my remarks will cite direct references and will quote from the book. Building on the original *Megatrends* published in 1982, John Naisbitt and Patricia Aburdene forecast ten new major trends in world society that will affect our lives. When we look back on the successful forecasting that Naisbitt did in 1982 and look at the changes that have occurred in the last eight years, this compels me to give serious consideration to the forecasts he makes for the 1990s.

Even though this book has been criticized by some as being overly optimistic, if even a fraction of these predictions come to pass, it presents us great opportunities in the coming years.

Ten major forecasts that they foresee for the 1990s will have tremendous effects on us as individuals within the arts, within technology, within the world. Naisbitt and Aburdene forecast that during the decade of the 1990s, the arts will have a major renaissance, even to the degree that they may replace sports as a primary focus of our leisure time activities. This trend is already well into effect with the explosion of the arts.

Among the evidence Naisbitt and Aburdene present are the facts that since 1965, American museum attendance has increased from 200 million to 500 million annually; that the 1988/89 Broadway season broke every record in history; that since 1970, US opera audiences have nearly tripled. The sheer numbers of people attending are not the only part of trend that is important. The arts have become one of the leading growth areas in our society.

Dollars, as well as people, are driving this renaissance. Some rather incredible economic facts are coming to play about the role of the arts in society. A Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce study showed that the economic impact of the arts in LA total more than \$5 billion annually.

The April issue of *Theatre Crafts* talks about the Milwaukee Rep's new home on the Milwaukee river as the "cornerstone of the city's \$100 million renovation of its downtown Theatre District." This renovation includes the three-theatre complex, a 225-room hotel, a 28-story office building, a garage, galleria, rotunda and arboretum.

The ongoing renovation in Cleveland of Play-

house Square Center, which is the home to three restored theaters, generates an estimated \$35 million boost into the downtown economy. Playhouse Square goes beyond being a cultural institution. Cleveland has formed a redevelopment authority that envelopes a three-theatre complex. Now in different stages of planning or construction are several parking lots, a hotel, two office buildings—all of which are being managed by the Playhouse Square development authority and are being designed hand-in-glove with cultural institutions.

The growth of arts audiences is only a part of the projected renaissance. As other fields receiving philanthropic support have plateaued, giving to the arts continues at an increased pace. Corporate support is no longer limited to cash contributions given by foundations. Corporate America has begun to use its marketing and advertising budgets to augment or even replace philanthropic dollars. Cause-related marketing campaigns are common now, where companies piggy-back their product or service with a cultural or social cause or event where the attender to the event fits the market profile for the company's product. Mr. Naisbitt predicts that arts events will replace sports events as the primary events-of-choice for corporate promotions in the 1990s.

The thread that Naisbitt and Aburdene use to connect the ten trends they forecast in their book is the recognition of the individual. In a relatively high-wage information- and technology-based economy, people are paid for what is unique to them: their intelligence and creativity. Many well-trained people could be managers, but few can be leaders. A leader is an individual who builds followership by ethical conduct and by creating an environment where the unique potential of one individual can be actualized.

Behind the renaissance in the arts is the individual artist creating a work that might be enjoyed by many but that is ultimately experienced and evaluated by an individual. Throughout history power has been associated with institutions. Today, there is a new possibility: The individual can influence reality by identifying the direction in which society is headed. By identifying the forces pushing the future, rather than those that have contained the past, you possess the power to engage your reality.

So the same must be true for us in USITT. The fact that we are a compilation of many diverse interests is one of our strengths. The possibility of an individual's idea becoming an organization's project is a powerful incentive for involvement. I hope you will ally the Institute to your individual creativity, and that you will share your genius with your fellow artists within our common arena.

Thank you—I look forward to working with you in the coming years, and thank you for giving me this opportunity. ■

## '91 Conference & Stage Expo

Paula Harris, Events Production Group

**G**et it while it's hot! More than 50 percent of available booth spaces are already sold for USITT's Stage Expo 1991.

USITT 1991 is off and running! As of 7 May, more than half of the booth spaces available for the 1991 USITT Conference and Stage Expo have been sold. The conference will be held in Boston 20-23 February 1991 at the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center and the Sheraton Boston Hotel and Towers.

Leading names in the entertainment technology and design business that have already committed to USITT '91 are The Great American Market, JBL, Lee Colortran, Strand Lighting and Rosco. Exhibits represent leading manufacturers and suppliers of sound and lighting equipment as well as makeup and costumes.

The theme of the 1991 conference will be *New England: A Region of Theatres* and will include the New England Design Exhibit, a showcase of scenic costume and lighting designs from New England regional theatres. Also on display will

be Tech Expo, an exhibit of innovative technical designs and technical solutions, as well as a special preview of the US exhibit for the 1991 Prague Quadrennial. Special events will feature the cultural resources of Boston and the New England region.

The 1991 Stage Expo hopes to equal or even surpass the success of USITT 1990. Attendance at that show, held in Milwaukee 11-13 April, included 1300 full conference delegates, 300 exhibits-only visitors and 700 exhibitors for a total of 2,300 attendees, all of whom shared in a series of seminars, special events and exhibitions.

Among the international guests at the 1990 conference was a delegation of technicians and designers from the Soviet Union.

For additional information regarding the 1991 USITT Conference and Stage Expo, contact Events Production Group, 135 Fifth Avenue, 5th floor, New York, New York, 10010; Phone: 212-353-1951, Fax: 212-677-3857. ■

## Boston '91 Plans Underway

James B. Brewczynski, Conference Committee

**P**lanning for the 1991 Conference and Stage Expo is well underway, with the programming schedule expected to be finalized at the Commissioners Retreat/Summer Board Meeting 10-11 August in Chicago. Members with detailed programming proposals should submit them to the appropriate commissioners as soon as possible.

The conference will be held at the Sheraton Hotel and the Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center in historic Boston. Pre-conference events are being planned for Monday, 18 February and Tuesday, 19 February, with main conference events scheduled for Wednesday, 20 February through Saturday, 23 February.

As a result of member interest, the 1991 conference is being planned with an emphasis on family activities. Members might want to make 1991 the year the whole family comes along. Boston is one of the premiere East Coast tourist attractions, with many historic sites, a Children's Museum, a planetarium and aquarium, great regional the-

atre, fine arts collections and fine dining on everything from fresh seafood to Chinatown's best.

The planning committee is working to provide detailed information on area attractions, transportation and seasonal schedules. In addition, the committee is looking into the possibility of providing short-term day care for children while their parents attend conference sessions.

Conference chair Bob McCaw would like to extend a special thanks to the 1990 Conference Committee, which has been planning and organizing the hundreds of details and activities needed to make the conference a success.

As with any worthwhile pursuit, the annual conference requires a great deal of creativity and commitment. Members—especially New England Section members—who are interested in the planning and the doing or who have great ideas should contact Bob McCaw, 776 Trumbull Highway, Lebanon, CT 06249; 203-642-6232, Fax: 203-486-5845. ■

## Flea Market Reminder

Gary Miller, Manager of Membership Services

**W**e are still looking for merchandise that we can sell at the USITT Booth in the 4th annual Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS Flea Market held in Shubert Alley in October, items like theatre art, design renderings, sketches, theatre memorabilia, post-

ers, Halloween masks or even small properties which might be of interest to the general public.

Please send your tax deductible donations to the USITT National Office, 10 West 19th Street, Suite 5-A, New York, NY 10011 or call 212-924-9088 if you have any questions. ■

### SUSTAINING

### MEMBERS

Hollywood Lights, Inc.  
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Sanders Lighting Templates  
Secoa  
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## SUSTAINING MEMBERS

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Vincent Lighting Systems  
Jim Weber Lighting Service, Inc.  
I. Weiss & Sons, Inc.  
S. Wolf's Sons

## Opinion: Are Surveys Needed?

Roy C. Hoglund, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

**D**id you recently receive a survey questionnaire in the mail, only to have it collect dust on your desk? Did you assume that your data wouldn't be needed? Did you think that it wasn't worth your time because the outcome never does any good anyway? The truth is, your data is a very important contribution to the pyramid of evidence necessary to draw valid conclusions in any USITT research survey.

According to Harvey Sharp, director of the Wisconsin Survey Research Company located in Madison, WI, a 60 percent return on a survey produces enough data to yield an accurate picture. If the first survey returns are less than 60 percent, a second survey may be required to canvas those who have not yet responded.

This second survey, while increasing the amount of data, is a costly endeavor. Think about it—if 1000 surveys were originally sent out and only 20 percent were returned, a second mailing of the same survey must be sent to the 800 nonrespondents. Printing costs, postage (for mailing and an enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope), labor and time lost can easily amount to hundreds of dollars in additional costs.

The information accumulated from USITT questionnaires serves several purposes. First, the data and conclusions drawn are always published and available to all USITT members. For example, Jonette Buchanan's survey of technical production facilities in colleges and universities will result in a reference guide of facilities across the country. This booklet will compare and contrast the facilities in order to assist students in their selection of colleges. It will also aid architects and consultants as they rejuvenate older theatre facilities and plan new ones.

Many of the survey results are published in *TD&T*. For example, the "Technical Director Job Satisfaction Survey" written by Dennis Dorn and Lisa Anne Schlenker Aitkens and published in

the Spring 1989 issue provided a very revealing, long overdue picture of the working conditions of technical directors throughout the country.

Second, this information is stored in the USITT archives and is available to any member through Doug Taylor, director of archives, in Kansas City. This makes it easier to obtain data without conducting painstaking searches to find the information.

Third but most important, the information is utilized in formulating standards and guidelines used in our profession. Lucy Terry Nowell, formerly USITT National Liaison Chair, states that the contributions of the job survey to the *Promotion and Tenure Guidelines* publication were very significant. Such publications are of great benefit to many of the USITT members in both academic and professional theatres.

The Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) and the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) have used this information in developing standards and guidelines for theatre faculty throughout the nation. Nowell also points out the significance of the gender bias survey more recently implemented through the USITT Technical Production Commission in defining, exposing and combating bias in the workplace. It is expected that the outcome of this survey will have a significant impact on the profession.

Because of the very positive contributions this information has had and its potential impact on the future of USITT, it is expected that more surveys will be utilized in the future. Survey information in private industry has long been used as a research tool for marketing and product development. It stands to reason that the theatre profession will find it just as beneficial.

So, don't let the feedback from so few influence so many—respond to the surveys you receive. ■

## C&S MEMBER NEWS

■ **OSRAM Corporation** recently broke ground of a \$3 million, 32,000-square-foot addition to its Maybrook, NY lamp manufacturing facility.

In conjunction with the plant expansion, OSRAM will install computerized high-speed manufacturing lines for its energy-efficient light bulbs.

■ **Musson Theatrical** is opening an "Eastern" division for its operation:

Musson Theatrical  
Attn: Jan Musson  
4770 Crittenden Drive  
Louisville, KY 40209  
O: 502-367-1900

## USITT Board of Directors

Jean Montgomery, Secretary

Secretary: Jean Montgomery

Treasurer: Christine L. Kaiser

Finance Committee Chair: Sarah Nash Gates

1988-91 Members-at-Large: Robert Benson, Jay Glerum, Tim Kelly, Jan Musson, Ron Naveron, Robert Scales

1989-92 Members-at-Large: Stuart Goldberg, Sylvia Hillyard, Pete Happe, Molly Lind, Hiram Perez, Charles Richmond, Stephanie Young

1990-93 Members-at-Large: Robert Dustman, Ken Hewitt, Larry Hill, Elynmarie Kazle, John Lottes, Samuel Scripps, Raynette Halvorsen Smith, Anne Thaxter Watson. ■



## USITT At Berlin Congress

Richard D. Stephens, USITT Delegate

**D**ue largely to the substantial support afforded by the recent grant by Samuel Scripps to enhance international involvement, a six-member delegation represented USITT at the OISTAT Technical Production Commission meeting 8-10 May in West Berlin, Germany.

This congress was held in conjunction with ShowTech Berlin 90, Europe's largest tradeshow for the theatrical and entertainment industry.

The USITT group was composed of Dr. Joel Rubin, Joel E. Rubin and Associates, delegation leader; George Howard, George T. Howard and Associates; David Ramsey, production manager, Cleveland Playhouse;

Richard Stephens, scenery supervisor, University of Texas-Austin; Steve Terry, vice president, Production Arts; and David Diamond, general manager, USITT National Office.

After some initial confusion over the availability of English language translation was settled (after all, the official languages of the OISTAT are English and French, not German), both the US and other English-speaking delegates were made to feel welcome.

Of primary concern to the OISTAT Technical Production Commission was a current project to develop and implement a standardized curriculum for training theatre technicians. Members of our delegation suggested that information developed from both past and present USITT Education and Technical Production Commission projects might be useful. Likewise, when the discussion turned to the topic of new business, David Ramsey and Steve Terry were able to open the door to liaison with our European counterparts on the DMX512 dimmer protocol standards.

Other groups that held meetings in conjunction with ShowTech were the VDSM (International Association of Municipal, Sports and Multipurpose Halls) and the DTHG (German

Theatre Technical Society).

Activities at the congress were many and varied. In addition to the OISTAT meetings, more than 30 program sessions concentrating on management and technology were presented. While the quality and content of these programs was largely inconsistent (a problem no doubt compounded by those of us dependent upon competent interpreters), a substantial amount of

information was exchanged.

The tradeshow portion of the congress was particularly valuable and informative. The sheer size and number of exhibitors was impressive. The US contingent felt that the trade show was nearly the same size of the show held in con-

junction with our own national conference, and the number and variety of new products and ideas were numerous.

Most surprising, however, were the considerable numbers of familiar exhibitors and products at the trade show.

Their presence continued to reinforce the conviction that we are increasingly becoming a world community.

The Institute itself was well represented in the person of David Diamond. David arranged for, or-

ganized, decorated and staffed a booth within the United States Pavilion on the trade show floor. There he was able to "spread the word" about USITT to many of the thousands of theatre and entertainment professionals in attendance.

"A very fruitful and informative experience," was how David typified the trade show. "We were able to interest and inform not only a considerable number of individuals but a good number of European manufacturers and vendors. Several expressed interest in exhibiting at our conference next year in Boston."

"The expanded exchange of goods and services as well as ideas and information is yet another benefit of increasing our international profile," he concluded. ■



USITT General Manager David Diamond explains the Institute to European visitors to ShowTech Berlin 90



Members of USITT delegation to OISTAT Tech Production Meetings: Joel Rubin, David Ramsey & David Diamond

## CALENDAR

■ 26-28 July 1990 ■ USITT Costume Symposium, New York City ■ Contact: USITT National Office, 212-924-9088

■ 29 July-2 August 1990 ■ IES Conference, Baltimore, MD ■ Contact: Illuminating Engineering Society, 212-705-7926

■ 1-5 August 1990 ■ ETA Convention, Salt Lake City, UT ■ Contact: Educational Theatre Association, 513-559-1996

■ 3-5 August 1990 ■ Black Theatre Network Conference, Atlanta, GA ■ Contact: Ethel Pitts Walker, 408-924-4530

■ 8-11 August 1990 ■ ATHE National Conference, Chicago, IL ■ Contact: Asso. for Theatre in Higher Education, 812-474-0549

■ 10-12 August 1990 ■ USITT Summer Meetings, Chicago, IL ■ Contact: USITT National Office, 212-924-9088

■ 19-25 August 1990 ■ Masters Workshop in Stage Rigging, Phoenix, AZ ■ Contact: Herbing Theater Center, 602-254-7399

■ 9-12 September 1990 ■ Light + Sound Show, London, England ■ Contact: David Street, 081-569-9742

■ 15-17 November 1990 ■ USITT Winter Meetings, Orlando, FL ■ Contact: USITT National Office, 212-924-9088

■ 17-19 November 1990 ■ LDI'90, Orlando, FL ■ Contact: Lighting Dimensions International, 212-353-1951

■ 1-13 January 1991 ■ Costume Society of America Study Tour of France ■ Contact: Kaye Boyer, PO Box 73, Earleville, MD 21919

■ 20-23 February 1991 ■ USITT Conference & Stage Expo, Boston, MS ■ Contact: USITT National Office, 212-924-9088 or Events Production Group, 212-677-5997

■ 10-30 June 1991 ■ Prague Quadrennial/PQ'91, Czechoslovakia ■ Contact: Joel E. Rubin, USITT International Liaison, 212-757-5646 or Eric Fielding, 801-226-3258

## LOOKING FOR SOMEONE?

Consider advertising your job opening in either the monthly newsletter, **Sightlines**, or the quarterly journal, **Theatre Design & Technology**. For information on rates and deadlines, contact:

Phil Tocantins, USITT Ad Manager  
Events Production Group  
Phone: 212-677-5997  
Fax: 212-677-3857

## SIGHTLINES

Since space in the newsletter is at a premium, please be concise. With rare exceptions, commissioners, committee chairs, or officers should keep their manuscripts to a **maximum of 500-600 words [approximately 2 double-spaced typewritten pages]**. Longer articles will be considered for the "Centerline" section of *Sightlines*.

We are also pleased to receive from the membership at large questions or letters for our periodic "Opinion" and "Response" columns or brief articles of general interest for publication in the "Centerline" section.

We greatly appreciate receiving your material. Our thanks especially when you are able to send it either on computer disk or by Electronic Mail to CompuServe, 76526,3177; America Online, EFielding; GENie, E.Fielding1; or the Calgary Callboard, EFielding.

If you are unable to submit your material via electronic means, then send your clean, typewritten copy to our office address (see page 2) or by Fax: 801-226-5342.

## C&amp;S MEMBER NEWS

▪ The Mirage Hotel showroom may be the most versatile showroom in Las Vegas, thanks in part to a moving platform system by **Hoffend & Sons**. The showroom can be converted from a proscenium to a thrust in a matter of minutes. Each of the moving platforms are free-form units that, in a lowered position, are filled with cocktail tables for audience seating or when raised by five synchronized screw jacks, form the thrust stage for "headliner" acts.

▪ Appointments: **Hoffend & Sons** recently announced the placement of **Laurie Dale** as vice president of project administration in the firm's project management department...Last May **Arthur Greenberg** joined the Emeryville, CA office of **AMS/Artsoft Management Services**, a division of **HILL Arts and Entertainment Systems, Inc.** Greenberg has been working in preparing market studies and developing strategic cultural plans...Former Brooklyn Academy of Music Executive Vice President and Managing Director **Judith Daykin** was recently named executive vice president of **Theatre Projects Consultants**, the international theatrical consulting firm.

## REMINDER

Plan now to attend the 1991 USITT Conference and Stage Expo to be held 20-23 February 1991 in Boston!

## Costume Commission

Kevin L. Seligman, Commissioner

I hope that the summer has been relaxing, productive and eventful. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the end of the month at the New York Symposium. Holly Cole will keep us active and alert for the three days as we explore the areas of design and technology in the Big Apple, with presentations by many of the top designers and technicians/specialists in the area. Look for a full report on the Symposium in a future issue of *Sightlines*.

Some changes in commission projects need to be reported. Marie Chesley has stepped down as co-chair of the Decorative Arts Project. Sandy Bonds will continue to chair the project and would welcome anyone who would like to work with her. Sandy is interested in compiling information on museums, collections and exhibits in Europe. If anyone is interested in doing the same in the US and/or Canada, please let both Sandy and me know.

Betty Blyholder will continue to serve as a resource person on Health and Safety for the Commission. The original aims of the project have been completed; please see the results published in the April 1990 issue of *Theatre Crafts*. Betty welcomes anyone interested in working with her to please contact her.

The Costume Design Portfolio Review Project was "born" in Milwaukee with the first very successful review. Special thanks to the five who presented their work at the premiere sessions. Anne Thaxter Watson did a tremendous job in

bringing the project into reality. Zelma Weisfeld and Claremarie Verheyen have agreed to take over the design area of the review; Maribeth Hite will chair the technician review. Both are being planned for the Boston Conference and specifics will be announced in *Sightlines*.

Kathy Jaremski, chair of the Designer/Director Job Sheet Project, has compiled a list of theatres in the Midwest area. She would appreciate help and assistance in identifying theatres in other areas of the country and Canada as potential employment opportunities to add to what she already has. If interested, please contact Kathy.

A number of people asked about information on private grant organizations during the Milwaukee Conference. If you are aware of any or would like to work on exploring this area, please contact Debra Dutkiewicz-Zetterberg, chair of the Grants Resource Project. Also, a number of students asked about scholarships for undergraduate students; again, if you are aware of any or wish to explore this topic, please contact Deb.

The Annual Commissioner's Retreat will be in August in Chicago and at that time final plans will be made for programming for the Boston Conference. The Commission had more than 30 program proposals submitted in Milwaukee which will give us a variety to select from. We will try and do some co-sponsored sessions with other commissions and are exploring the potential of pre-conference workshop on dyeing and painting. ■

## Prague Student Exhibit

Carolyn Lancet and Ron Naverson, Coordinators

The US entry in the Prague Quadrennial 1991 will include a student exhibit. The PQ'91 Student Exhibition Committee is currently trying to identify which programs in which schools have students whose scenic or costume designs might be included in the exhibit. If you feel that your program has outstanding student design talent and perhaps institutional support as well, please consider sending work to be juried for the exhibit.

In order to help you decide whether your institution and its students might participate, we offer the following guidelines:

1. Students whom you recommend to enter will be asked to submit slides of their work by 1 October 1990. An official application form must accompany all entries. Selection of entries will be completed by 15 October 1990.

2. If a student from your program is chosen, we hope that your institution will support the student's mounting—but not framing—his/her work to exhibition standards. (We will be more specific about what this entails later.) The mounted designs must be sent to the Exhibition

Committee by 15 November 1990.

3. If your students are selected, we will also be soliciting information about your program and school which will be included in the exhibit. (The international design community is *very* interested in the way designers are trained in the US.)

The PQ'91 Student Exhibition Committee also hopes that your institution can help cover any accepted student's travel expenses to Prague in 1991.

The Committee will be looking for approximately 15 students whose work will be sent to Prague. The more choices we have, the better our chances are of finding the very best to represent us in 1991. Please give this project serious thought and respond as soon as possible.

To receive the official application form or to ask any questions, feel free to write or call either of us: Carolyn Lancet, Drama Department, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 78712; 512 471-3354; or Ron Naverson, Department of Theater, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901; 618-453-5741. ■



## NCA/USITT Costume Award

Zelma H. Weisfeld, Coordinator

**T**he recipient of this year's National Costumers Association/USITT scholarship award is Margaret Mitchell, a second-year costume design student at the University of Texas at Austin.

Some years ago the NCA established a scholarship in the field of costume and three years ago asked the Costume Commission of USITT to administer that scholarship, which they increased last year from \$1000 to \$1500. The main eligibility criteria is that the student, of either costume design or technology or both, be already succeeding in an MFA program and have at least one more year until completion.

This is not Margaret's first recognition of talent and potential. She received a USITT Design Exposition award for her designs for *Macbeth*

which, along with *The Geometry of Love*, were on display at the Milwaukee conference. (See "Art for the Stage, p. 21 in *TD&T*, Spring 1990). She is

also the recipient of ACTF Costume Excellence Awards for 1985 and 1986 and her recent work was in this year's ACTF exhibition in Washington, DC.

The portfolio review committee, composed of Whitney Blausen, Liz Covey, March Froehlich, Mimi Maxmen and myself, were unanimous in selecting Margaret Mitchell for the award.

Because next year's conference is so early (Feb. 20-22), the announcement of the award in *Sightlines* and call for student portfolios will be much earlier,

Look for it and read it! We hope for greater participation next year. ■

**"The recipient  
of this year's  
NCA/USITT  
scholarship  
award is  
Margaret  
Mitchell of  
UT-Austin."**

## Costume Society of G.Britain

Zelma H. Weisfeld, USITT Liaison

**T**he Costume Society of Great Britain welcomes overseas members. They have wonderful publications which alone make membership worthwhile. They also have a rich offering of meetings, symposia and outings throughout the year in various parts of the island.

Their newsletter lists related meetings, exhibitions and museum exhibits of interest. For example, here is a list of upcoming CSGB events that might be of interest to those of you traveling to England this fall:

27 October: "Court and Ceremonial Dress."  
Weekend visit, Court Dress Collection, Kensington

Palace, London.

1 December: An open day on "Fashion." Victoria & Albert Museum, London.

Because of the expense of mailings from England, I have been informed that inquiries to the Society need be accompanied by two pounds sterling for each event (for maps, fact sheets, tickets, etc.) or for membership information. Therefore, if you are interested in membership, write to me for a copy of the membership form and enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope: Zelma H. Weisfeld, 1716 Charlton, Ann Arbor, MI 48103; Phone: 313-665-7946. ■

## Costume Portfolio Review

Claremarie Verheyen, Portfolio Vice-Commissioner

**T**he Costume Commission announces a second annual Design and Portfolio Review at the 1991 Boston Conference. This review is intended to serve the needs of costume designers who 1) are working within or have been connected to an educational surrounding, and 2) have been in the workplace (out of school) for at least five years.

The proposed schedule will include two sessions, one morning and one afternoon, each of which will include three reviews, thereby ena-

bling a total of six participants to have their work discussed.

If you are interested in being considered as one of the six participants for the 1991 review, please send a brief letter to Claremarie Verheyen, USITT Costume Design Portfolio Review, University of Houston, Department of Drama, Houston, TX 77204-5071. Letters must be postmarked no later than 30 September 1990. At that time, more detailed information as well as application materials will be forwarded to you. ■

## C&S PROFILES



**Chicago Spotlight, Inc.**

Chicago Spotlight, Inc.  
4595 North Elston Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60630  
Phone: 312-777-8824  
Fax: 312-725-8727

Contact: Marty Lazarus, General Manager  
In business for 10 years  
USITT C&S Member for 1 year

**Chicago Spotlight** specializes in rental, sales and service of follow spotlight systems, control, special effects and communications, including systems design and turnkey installation.



**Country Roads, Inc.**  
1122 South Bridge Street  
Belding, MI 48809  
Phone: 616-794-3550  
Fax: 616-794-3571

Contact: Bill Waldo, Vice President  
In business for 17 years  
USITT C&S Member for 4 years

**Country Roads** is the largest company devoted to the restoration of existing theatre seating, and is currently producing the "Renaissance," a duplicate of theatre seats from the '20s and '30s.



**Ride & Show Engineering, Inc.**  
279 E. Arrow Highway  
San Dimas, CA 91773  
Phone: 714-592-5575  
Fax: 714-599-9837

Contact: Robert J. Iodice, Marketing Manager  
In business for 54 years  
USITT C&S Member for 1 year

**Ride & Show** has expertise in the design, engineering, manufacturing and installation of specialized performance machinery, including lifts, control systems, rigging and turntables.



**Stageworks Production Supply, Inc.**  
1510 South Main Street  
Little Rock, AR 72202  
Phone: 501-375-2243 Tollfree: 800-888-1224  
Fax: 501-375-2650

Contact: John G. Cooke, President  
In business for 4 years  
USITT C&S Member for several years

**Stageworks** provides a complete line of theatrical equipment for the performing arts industries. Its contracting division installs lighting, staging and rigging systems.

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

To place an ad in Sightlines contact Phil Tocantins, USITT Advertising Manager, Events Production Group, at 212-677-5997 or Fax: 212-677-3857.

**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**

Converse College. Full-time faculty appointment. Production responsibilities include: serve as technical director for three major productions and one opera per academic year; help train and work with student crews; supervise and maintain a fully-equipped scene shop, 270-seat proscenium theatre, a studio theatre, classrooms and storage areas. Teaching responsibilities: at least one section of Intro. to Theatre; Technical Production; plus opportunities exist to develop courses in areas of particular interest or expertise. Design opportunities possible depending on qualifications.

**Qualifications:** MFA/MA in Design/Tech or equivalent professional experience. Must have solid background in all tech areas—aptitude in costuming very helpful. It is imperative that the applicant be committed to teaching and is able to work with students from all disciplines in the college.

**Salary:** \$19,000-21,000

**Rank:** Negotiable, dependent on qualifications

**Submit:** Letter of application and current resume to:

John Bald, Asst. Professor  
Theatre Department, Converse College  
Spartanburg, SC 29302-0006.  
Fax: 803-596-9158.

Converse College is an AA/EEOE.

**DESIGNER/PROD MGR**

New World School of the Arts seeks a candidate with teaching experience and a strong production background for teaching theater production, stagecraft and lighting; design scenery and lighting for six productions annually; plan production calendar and supervise technical department.

**Qualifications:** Masters degree; MFA preferred.

**Salary:** Based on academic rank established by education and experience.

**Submit:** Two copies of resume, transcript(s) and three letters of professional reference to:

Miami-Dade Community College  
Human Resources  
300 NE 2nd Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33132.

**Theatre Computer Forum**

John F. Macpherson, Tech Theatre Section Sysop

**T**he Broadcast Professionals Forum (BPForum) on the CompuServe Information Service has opened a section for performing arts technicians. The section is called "Technical Theatre" and is open to all interested persons, whether they are professionals, amateurs or just plain curious about technical theatre. (You must have a subscription to CompuServe to access the service).

This section is devoted to the production aspects of the performing arts including: theatre, TV, film, radio and video production. The topics covered include (but are not limited to): lighting, costumes and make-up, sets, props, special effects, audio/sound/MIDI, stage and production management, equipment, computer hardware and software, etc.

The Technical Theatre Section consists of three areas:

1. The Message Section, an electronic bulletin board and mail system, where users can ask questions, make suggestions, post messages and generally converse on topics of interest.

2. The Data Library, where users can access files on various topics, download demonstration versions of software and upload files on themselves or their productions, facilities, etc. The Library currently has demonstration versions of JCN's *Apprentice* series theatre software, Rosco's *Lightwright* software and WestStar's *Microstar* (Apple) and *ProStar* (IBM) lighting control software, as well as numerous files of general interest. More software will be available in the near future. We also hope to build a library of data about performing arts facilities throughout the US and abroad.

3. The Conference Room, where users can have online, real-time conversations with other users. We currently have a weekly informal conference every Monday night at 10 pm Eastern Time. Future plans include special formal conferences with guest speakers on assorted topics.

We have also set up an area for USITT. This has the entire 25-year index for *Theatre Design & Technology* magazine, searchable by topic, and will be updated yearly. We will also be including information about USITT, its activities, commissions and committees in this area in the near future.

To access the Broadcast Professionals Forum and the Tech Theatre section, type "GO BPFORUM" at any CompuServe System "!" prompt. Then, once in, select the JOIN option from the

menu (no additional charge). After you have JOINed, you may then access all areas of the Forum.

To access the Message Board, select MESSAGES from the menu, then choose section 13, "Technical Theatre" (or any other section of interest). To access the Library, select LIBRARIES from the menu, then select the LIB you'd like to browse through. To access the Conference Room, select CONFERENCES from the menu and then select Room 13, "Technical Theatre." In all forum areas, you are presented with a menu giving you a list of choices or actions for that particular portion of the system.

To access the USITT area, type "GO BPF-1" at any "!" prompt, then select the "USITT" menu choice. Alternatively, you may type "GO BPF-400" to directly access the USITT Index.

To access CompuServe, you need a computer, a modem and communications software, a phone line and a CompuServe membership.

As a special offer to USITT members, you can get a FREE CompuServe Intro Pack with a credit for \$15 worth of online time. To get your Intro Pack, call 800-848-8199 (or 614-457-0802 in Ohio and Canada) and ask for Operator No. 185. Hours are Monday-Friday, 8 am-10 pm Eastern Time. You must mention that you are a USITT member to get your free Intro Pack.

In addition to the Broadcast Professionals Forum, the CompuServe Information

Service provides electronic mail, personal computer support, financial and stock market information, news services and education and reference products to more than 540,000 members.

For more information on the BPForum or the Tech Theatre Section, contact:

John Hoffman, Area Administrator  
Broadcast Professionals Forum  
PO Box 224  
New York, NY 10023-0224  
CompuServe ID: 76703,1036,  
or  
John F. Macpherson, Jr.  
Associate System Operator  
Technical Theatre Section  
248 E. Irvin Ave.  
Hagerstown, MD. 21740-3402  
301-797-2793  
CompuServe ID: 71220,3051. ■

**"The USITT area  
of CompuServe's  
BPForum  
contains the  
entire  
25-year index  
for TD&T  
magazine which  
is searchable by  
topic and will be  
updated yearly."**

## Arts & The Environment

### Kent Goetz, Project Chair

One of the important events at the 1990 USITT Conference in Milwaukee was a workshop, "The Performing Arts and the Environment: A Philosophical Dilemma." More than 50 concerned theatre practitioners gathered at that session to voice their concerns and fears for the survival of our planet.

Attendees reached the consensus that in the performing arts profession need to assume greater responsibility for better managing our resources. A brainstorming session produced a series of ways in which we can be more environmentally responsible while doing theatre:

- Develop a scenery and costume exchange with other theatres and organizations in your community.
- Adjust expectations of audiences to accept and appreciate the use of stock scenery and costumes.
- Produce projects that raise awareness of environmental issues.
- Incorporate stock units in designs whenever possible.
- Build to reclaim raw materials.
- Explore new ways to reuse scrap materials in construction.
- Find an outlet for unusable scrap as heating fuel.
- Investigate the use of steel as a durable, reusable structural material.
- Minimize repainting.
- Use natural finishes whenever possible.
- Explore ways of using organic compounds as binders and texture.
- Let unwanted paint evaporate or add cement to harden it rather than pouring it down the sink.
- Avoid using aerosol sprays.

- Use muslin instead of plastic for drop cloths.
- Use recycled paper for programs, correspondence, administrative communications, etc.
- Invest the time to salvage all reusable hardware.
- Invest in hardware that is easier to salvage, i.e., square drive screws.
- Minimize up-time of lighting instruments during tech rehearsals.
- Take measures to economize the use of power and water in all areas.
- Avoid the use of disposable cups for refreshments in the break room.
- Participate in recycling aluminum, glass and paper within your organization.
- Instigate a stop smoking incentive program.
- Push manufacturers to find non-toxic material alternatives.
- Contact local authorities for information on proper disposal of toxic substances.
- Develop similar practices in your personal life.
- Don't depend on the government to tell you how to conserve.

These are only a few suggestions that can help our organization become more environmentally responsible. If you have other ideas or have implemented other successful conservation activities, please send them to:

Kent Goetz  
Department of Theatre  
Illinois State University  
Normal, IL, 61761.

My goal is to compile this information into a comprehensive list that will be then made available to all performing arts organizations so that we can begin to contribute to rather than exploit the environment in which we live. ■

## PQ'91 News & Updates

### Joel E. Rubin, PQ'91 Steering Committee Chair

Due to the recent exciting political and economic improvements in Czechoslovakia—which have resulted in a dramatic increase in tourism and an unprecedented shortage of hotel rooms—the Czech Ministry of Culture and the General Secretary of PQ'91 have been forced to consider postponing the dates for the next Prague Quadrennial from June until November 1991. As soon as we have confirmed information on the PQ'91 dates we will announce them here.

USITT Tour to PQ'91: As a result of the uncertain date, plans for the USITT delegate tour to PQ'91 have also been delayed. However, anyone wishing to be considered for inclusion in the tour should send a note to that effect to:

Eric Fielding  
966 East 1030 North  
Orem, UT 84057-3463.

American Exhibition for PQ'91: The USITT PQ'91 Steering Committee has determined to concentrate its entry on the thematic section of the international competition: productions of Mozart's operas. Anyone who wishes to submit their scenic, costume and/or lighting design for a Mozart production to be considered for inclusion in the US exhibit should send a maximum of six slides or photos along with a written fact sheet on the production to Eric Fielding at the above address. Submissions for consideration should be sent no later than 30 September 1990. ■

### PURCHASING AGENT

Large New York scenic construction firm seeks purchasing agent. Individual must be an "impact" manager whose responsibilities will include material purchasing, researching new materials, cost accounting, shipping and receiving, and supervision of one assistant.

**Qualifications:** Three to five years experience necessary in a related industry.

**Salary:** Commensurate with experience.

**Submit:** Resume, with salary expectation, to:

John Larkin, Controller  
Hudson Scenic Studio, Inc.  
125 Bruckner Blvd.  
Bronx, NY 10454  
Phone: 212-585-6704  
Fax: 212-585-9691.

### TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

The Department of Theatre and Speech at the University of South Carolina has an opening for a full-time staff technical director. Responsible for organizing and implementing construction schedules, budget planning and control, working drawings, supervision and maintenance of facilities and equipment. Will also supervise and assist in training of students learning to build scenery. Includes translating designers' ideas into practical construction techniques; coordinating all production aspects of a show (sets, lights, sound, etc.) and assisting in the development of students in a professional theatre training program. Responsible for an arena theatre, a proscenium theatre and two studio theatre spaces.

**Qualifications:** BA/BFA in theatre production and at least two years professional work or equivalent experience; sound knowledge of all aspects of technical direction: management, rigging, welding, carpentry, drafting, budgeting, electricity and related skills; ability to work with students, staff and faculty in a congenial manner; neat work habits. Computer literacy and knowledge of pneumatics/hydraulics and furniture-making are an asset.

**Submit:** Resumes (accepted until position is filled) to:

Dennis C. Maulden, Director of Design  
Department of Theatre and Speech  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia, SC 29208

AA/EOE.

### REMINDER

The numbers for the USITT National Office:  
Phone: 212-924-9088; Fax: 212-924-9343

## Theatre Technology Exhibit

Ben Sammler, Theatre Technology Co-Commissioner

**T**he next Theatre Technology Exhibit is scheduled for the 1991 USITT Conference in Boston, 20-23 February 1991. Following the tremendous success of the previous two exhibits, the Institute has decided to make this a regular biennial event.

The objective of the exhibit is to recognize and display the work of practicing theatre technicians in all technical areas: scenery, props, electrics, costumes, sound and painting. Each exhibit should focus on one of three categories:

1. **Device**—a demonstration of theatrical ingenuity or engineering.
2. **Material**—a description of how to use a new material to solve a common problem or a familiar material in a new application.
3. **Process**—a procedure used to solve a technical problem.

Six cash prizes of \$300 each will be offered. An

awards committee will review the exhibit in Boston and prize recipients will be announced at the convention. In addition to the actual displays, a catalogue of papers for all entries is published for distribution at the conference or through the National Office.

Some of the previous entries that received prizes include: rake hinges; a pneumatic door stabilizer; a radio-controlled candle; air lift casters; a low-cost alternative; Multi-pan: a flexible panning device; and building a late Gothic articulated headdress.

Watch for entry forms, rules and regulations in future issues of the newsletter. If you have any questions regarding the exhibit, direct them to Ben Sammler or Alan Hendrickson at: Yale School of Drama, 222 York Street, New Haven, CT 06520; 203-432-1509.

The exhibit is your opportunity to share your successes and help all of us avoid "reinventing the wheel!" ■

### CURTAIN CALL

Deadline for the next issue of *Sightlines*:  
Tuesday 14 August 1990.

In order to allow for the inclusion of reports on the USITT Summer Meetings to be held in Chicago, 9-12 August 1990, the deadline for submitting materials has been extended from the normal 5th of the month due date.

For this reason, your September 1990 issue of *Sightlines* may be delayed by a few days. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

### 2nd CLASS MAIL

In order to improve the quality and timeliness of USITT Publications mail delivery, the Institute is in the process of transferring them from 3rd Class to 2nd Class service.

We hope you will soon be seeing—and enjoying—the benefits of this change! ■

*Sightlines*

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