

1993 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

WICHITA CONFERENCE PRODUCES A WHIRLWIND OF TECHNOLOGY

As promised, the Wichita Conference Committee led by Doug Taylor produced a "Whirlwind of Technology." More than 2900 attendees, 100 exhibitors, and dozens of panelists provided the stimulus for four days of exciting and meaningful interaction for members of the Institute old and new. I salute all members of the Committee for a good job well done.

I am going to attempt to give you an overview of the Conference, with emphasis on the business of the Institute which is my charge. Details of the activities and events will follow in subsequent issues of *Sightlines*.

The Keynote Address set the tone for our four days at the Century II Center in Wichita. Mary Guaraldi, asso-

ciate artistic director of the Missouri Repertory Theatre, eloquently shared her belief in the worth of a life in the theatre. Look for the complete text of her address in *TD&T*. Henry Tharp gave a moving tribute to Karl Bruder, who received the USITT deGaetani Award. Many of Bruder's associates, former students, and friends joined us to celebrate this remarkable man's contribution to our profession.

This year our Conference was privileged to have an exhibit of the work of master mask maker Wolfgang Utzt, the chief make-up artist at the Deutsches Theatre in Berlin. Kryolan generously brought this exhibit and Utzt to Wichita. Words cannot do justice to the work of this remarkable and delightful man, so I am not going to try!

The Bi-Annual Theatre Technology Exhibit and a new venture by the Design Expo Committee, "Cover the Walls," enriched our Conference experience. I never cease to be delighted and amazed at the ingenuity and talent of our members.

The Board of Directors had reports

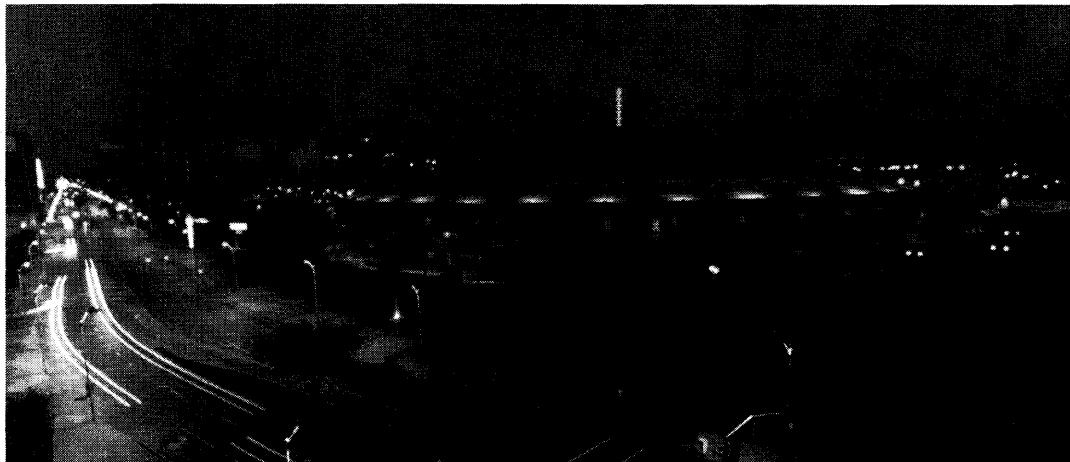
from all areas of the Institute. These reports document the activity in each area and alert us to future plans. In addition the Board took the following actions:

1. Adopted a policy governing the use of the Commissioners Fund.
2. Approved a proposal from the Architecture Commission to develop USITT Architecture Awards.
3. Adopted procedures concerning Non-Affiliated Groups which wish to meet at our Conference. Inquires regarding this should go to Norm Bouchard, VP for Relations.
4. Passed a resolution making Randy Davidson the Institute's first Commissioner Emeritus.
5. Adopted revisions to the 92/93 budget.
6. Adopted the 93/94 budget.

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WICHITA'S CENTURY II CONVENTION CENTER, SITE OF THE 1993 USITT CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO, AS SEEN FROM THE RAMADA HOTEL.

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LATE ARRIVAL

CONFERENCE DELAYS NEWSLETTER

If it seems like your April issue of *Sightlines* is arriving a little later than normal...it is.

Due to the timing of the 1993 USITT Conference & Stage Expo in Wichita, it was determined that the most effective use of *Sightlines* would have us delay the deadline of material submission and printing of the April issue until *after* the conference. This has allowed us to get you an issue full of up-to-date reports on the activities of our recent conference.

Look for additional information on the Wichita Conference in the upcoming May/June issue of *Sightlines* and in the Summer issue of *TD&T*. ●

Eric Fielding
Editor

SIGHTLINES

VOLUME XXXIII NUMBER 4

USITT SIGHTLINES

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CECELIA FIELDING

1993 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

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7. Directed the By-Laws Committee to amend Article V Section 1 to state that members of the Nominations Committee serve a two-year term, with half being elected in even years and half in odd years.

The Board also heard reports from VP for Conferences Dick Durst that our Conference Management Firm AE&S intends to terminate their agreement with us after the close of the Wichita Conference. The Executive Committee, after consultation with AE&S, intends to replace them with an employee who will manage the Stage Expo and Advertising Sales for the Institute. I will keep all of you apprised as we proceed.

I should add that while AE&S will not be with us, they feel that we are positioned very well for the Nashville Stage Expo. If the sale of booth space for 1994 on the last day of the Expo is any indication, we will have a large and diverse show for all of you in Nashville.

VP for Development Bill Byrnes reported that USITT continues to grow. We have lost some of our Contributing and Sustaining Members over the past year so our total membership revenue is indeed down; however the total number of members is at an all-time high.

After many years of service, Charles Williams has stepped down as Chair of the Fellows of the Institute. Richard Arnold was elected unanimously to succeed Chuck.

Past President Randy Earle is leading a group of the Fellows in creating a Planned Giving Program for the Institute. He was able to announce that he had received the first pledge at Friday's Board meeting. I am sure that you all will join with me to thank Randy for undertaking this significant project. Details of the program will appear in *Sightlines* in the fall.

The Planning and Priorities Committee had two very productive meetings and is well on its way to pre-

senting to the Board a prioritized list of Goals and Objectives at the August meeting. Committee Chair Stephanie Young hopes that the Board will be able to take action on this list in August as that would permit the budget development process to work with the priorities for the 94/95 budget.

The Endowment Committee announced that they are moving ahead with plans for another auction to be held in Nashville to raise funds for the Endowment Fund.

Among our guests in Wichita was Secretary General Designate of OISTAT Chris Lievaart. He brought us a warm welcome from the current Secretary General Helmut Grosser. In addition, Lievaart was able to tell us about the plans for the 9th major OISTAT Congress to be held in Caracas, Venezuela in October 1993. Nellie Garzon, vice president of ITI, and Humberto Bermudez, president of the Venezuelan OISTAT Center, were also in attendance and extended invitations to USITT to come to Caracas.

This brief overview of the Wichita Conference and Stage Expo does not do justice to the electricity generated by the excellent programming. Many members stopped me in the hall to say

"Great Conference!" Commissioners stopped me to say "We had a lot of good ideas generated at the Commission meeting." First-time attendees said "I had no idea a USITT Conference was this good."

One student said, "I am going home and tell my faculty and fellow students they don't know what they missed." I quote these comments here because they are not for me. They are for the Institute, and **you** are USITT.

I cannot end this report on the Wichita Conference without thanking the Officers, Commissioners, Committee Chairs, Session Chairs, and everyone else who volunteers their time and energy so that our profession may flourish. I also want to thank our employees, Debora Kingston, Anne Eliet, and Morgan Doninger for their tireless work on site and Colleen O'Loughlin who held the fort in New York all week. It is a privilege to work with *all* of you. ●

Sarah Nash Gates
President

1993 USITT CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

STAGE EXPO SUCCESS IN WICHITA SPURS NASHVILLE SALES!

The Century II Convention Hall in Wichita graciously hosted a truly successful Stage Expo. In the bright and cheery hall, complete with our decorator's new teal and white curtains and bright teal aisle carpeting, 112 Exhibitors showed-off their companies, their new products, and their technical marvels to an appreciative audience of conference goers.

The success of our conference management firm, Association Expositions & Services, was marked by the 21 exhibitors new to Stage Expo. A listing of new exhibitors was requested by the USITT Exhibitor Committee and was also circulated at the Board of Directors Meeting. If you didn't get a chance to thank these new exhibitors, our member exhibitors, or our continuing exhibitors, it's not too late to let them know how their presence enhanced your conference experience. Drop them a note, or when

WELCOME ABOARD

THE INSTITUTE IS PLEASED TO WELCOME THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF USITT BEGINNING 1 JULY 1993. OFFICERS ARE ELECTED FOR TWO-YEAR TERMS (EXCEPT FOR THE PRESIDENT-ELECT) AND DIRECTORS FOR THREE-YEAR TERMS.

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doing business with them, let them know they and Stage Expo are important to you.

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Nashville Continues the Growing

LOST CAMERA

A CAMERA WAS LOST AT THE
EMPORIA STATE RECEPTION
FOLLOWING THE KEYNOTE
ADDRESS IN WICHITA. IF ANYONE
COULD ASSIST IN RETURNING THE
CAMERA—OR AT LEAST THE FILM
WHICH HAS SIGNIFICANT
ARCHIVAL VALUE—
PLEASE CONTACT:

VIRGINIA HIGGINS, CHAIR
DEPT. OF SPEECH & THEATRE
EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY
EMPORIA, KS 66801

Success of Stage Expo!

More than half of the companies participating in Stage Expo '93 have already signed up and picked their booth spaces for Nashville. Seven of those exhibitors have signaled their positive feelings about Nashville by increasing their exhibit booth size. We look forward to building upon this significant start and making Stage Expo '94 bigger and more diverse than ever. ●

Christine L. Kaiser
Stage Expo Liaison

1994 USITT CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR 'PHANTOM OF THE OPERA' IN NASHVILLE

Andrew Lloyd-Webber's *Phantom of the Opera* will be playing in Nashville during the 1994 Conference and Stage Expo. The Conference Committee is pleased to announce that a special block of tickets for the Saturday matinee (April 16 at 2 pm) of this spectacular production are being made available to persons attending the conference. For those who have heard about this production for years but have never had the opportunity to see it, this is your chance! Others may wish to see it again. Plans are also in the works for conference programming related to the design and production aspects of *Phantom*.

To receive an order form or to order tickets by credit card, contact the USITT National Office at 212-924-9088. The tickets are \$57.25 for orchestra seats or \$42.25 for mezzanine seats. This may be your only opportunity to purchase tickets to see *Phantom of the Opera* in Nashville. Don't delay!

Because the Nashville performances are expected to sell out far in advance, tickets must be ordered by 15 May 1993. For additional information, please contact: Delbert Hall, 148 Green Pond Rd., Johnson City, TN 37604; 615-929-5826. ●

Delbert Hall
Nashville Conference Chair

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INTERNATIONAL EVENT

EUROPEAN SCENOGRAPHY CENTRE HOSTS SCENOFEST

Scenofest 1—to be held in London from 5-10 September 1993—is the inaugural event that launches the beginning of the European Scenography Centres Master of Arts Course. It is the first international forum for European theatre designers.

Scenofest 1 will feature an exhibition of work of the professional scenographers and staff from the four centres (London, Paris, Barcelona, and Utrecht) and examples of recent work of the first 20 students to begin the Master of Arts degree in European scenography. Workshops, seminars, debates, and events will be organized by each Centre, and will include slide presentations of work from each country.

An eminent theatre director/designer will give the keynote address that will analyze contemporary Shakespearean productions in Britain and Europe over the past five years. This inaugural lecture—as with the subsequent workshops—will take place against the background of an unusual scenographic exhibition created by the staff of the European Scenography Centres and the first group of students.

There will be an official opening and private view of the exhibition, followed by a reception for festival patrons, the sponsor, and invited guests. This is an opportunity to meet the theatre designers from each country who have created the ESC MA project, representatives of the Cultural Ministry from each country, as well as many well-known theatre personalities.

The private viewing and exhibition opening will occur at noon on Monday, 6 September 1993. Practical workshops, seminars, and lectures will occur on Tuesday through Friday, 7-10 September 1993 from 10 am until 5:30 pm each day.

Scenofest 1 will take place at the Lethaby Galleries of the Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design and The Cochrane Theatre.

Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design is the largest of the London Institute Art Colleges and offers a range

of degree and postgraduate courses in art and design that is the most diverse and comprehensive in the country. It has pioneered and supported the new MA in Theatre design, known as the European Scenography Centres, in collaboration with three other theatre institutes in Paris, Barcelona, and Utrecht.

The workshops will each have a theme and will be conducted by leading scenographers from The Ecole des Arts Decoratifs in Paris ("The Diversification of Scenography"); The Institut del Teatre in Barcelona ("The Creative Illusion"); Hogeschool voor de Kunsten in Utrecht ("Actor and Myth"); and Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London ("Classical Theatre Today").

On the final day there will be a review of the week's workshops, and a final address by another leading theatre practitioner.

The workshops will be conducted in English, French, or Spanish and translation services will be provided.

Information brochures and booking forms will be available in June 1993.

For additional information or to request a brochure and/or booking form, contact:

Pamela Howard, Director
European Scenography Centres
73 Medfield Street
Roehampton Village
London, SW, 154JY
Phone/Fax: 44-081-788-9471. ●

Joel E. Rubin

International Liaison

RESOLUTION

DR. DOOM IS HONORED IN WICHITA

The following resolution was passed at the USITT Board of Directors meeting on Friday, 19 March 1993, in Wichita, KS:

I would like at this time to make the following motion:

Whereas Dr. Randall W.A. Davidson has completed a truly extraordinary tenure of 20 years as the commissioner of the Health & Safety Commission; and

Whereas the work of Dr. Davidson within the field of Health & Safety has had a profound effect upon our profession in general and our member-

ship in particular; and

Whereas Dr. Davidson, with his extraordinary, larger-than-life personality and dedicated service has long been a driving force in the development of Commission structures and mission;

I would therefore move that the Board of Directors recognize Dr. Randall W.A. Davidson as the first-ever Commissioner Emeritus of the Institute, and that as such our own beloved "Dr. Doom" be listed within the directory and conference program; and that he be forever empowered (and required) to wear a special green commissioner's ribbon at the Institute's National Conferences. ●

Richard Stephens
VP-Commissions

EDUCATION

EDUCATION BEGINS NASHVILLE PLANNING

With the success of the programming at the national conference in Wichita as an endorsement, the Education Commission has begun to plan for the next national conference in Nashville. Considering the enthusiastic response to the Workshop on Creative Teaching, the Commission has asked John Harris, Jr. of the University of Texas-Austin to work as a Vice-Commissioner charged with the task of seeking out the latest creative and innovative techniques in teaching methods to be presented for this annual workshop. In addition, the Education Commission plans to present programming in response to the panel on cultural diversity as well as continuing to focus on strategies and solutions regarding promotion and tenure.

Future issues of *Sightlines* will focus on these programming ideas as well as call for additional input from those of you interested in future programming in the Education Commission.

If you have suggestions or programming proposals please contact either Co-Commissioners: Konrad Winters or Shan Ayers (see Directory for contact information). ●

Konrad Winters
Co-Commissioners

THEATRE TECHNOLOGY

1993 THEATRE TECHNOLOGY EXHIBIT A BIG SUCCESS

The coordinators—Ben Sammler, Alan Hendrickson, and Ann Johnson—would like to acknowledge the corporate sponsors for their generous financial support, the awards committee's commitment to excellence, the enthusiastic participation of the exhibitors, and the interest shown by the conference attendees in the 1993 Theatre Technology Exhibit.

This year's Exhibit was made possible by the financial support of the following corporations: Gerriets International; Great American Market; Hudson Scenic Studios; Lycian Stage Lighting, Inc.; Pook, Diemont and Ohl, Inc.; Production Arts Lighting; Rosebrand Textiles; Secoa; SFX Design; and Theatrical Services, Inc. We all owe these companies a debt of gratitude for their commitment to the advancement of theatre technology.

The Exhibit was reviewed by a five-member awards committee comprised of Ned Bowman, Bill Browning, Nick Bryson, Sylvia Hillyard, and Karl Ruling. Six prizes of \$300 each were awarded (one was shared between three entries). This year's prizes were awarded to: Greg Bell from Carnegie Mellon University for "A Shop-Built Cable Cylinder"; Josie Gardner, Jim Wauford and Laurie Kurutz from the University of Washington for "A New Way to Corset"; Patrick J. Seeley from the Yale School of Drama for "A Practical Switch"; Michael Powers from the Wildwood Park for the Performing Arts for "The Chair in a Box"; Frank Bebey from the University of Alaska at Anchorage for "A Floating Pivot Point for Revolves"; Annie O. and M. Barrett Cleveland from Colorado State University for "Masking the Fox"; Steve Thompson from the Omaha Playhouse for "The 'Limitless' Limit Switch"; and Tom S. Bussey and Evan D. Gelick from the Yale School of Drama for "A Less Expensive Alternative for Longer Focal-Length Projector Lenses." Every one of the 25 exhibitors who took the time to share their innovative solutions to everyday technical problems contributed to the success of the Exhibit. We congratulate

late all of you!

More than 1,400 people viewed the Exhibit which represented all facets of theatre technology. For those of you who were unable to attend the conference, a limited number of catalogues describing the exhibits are still available. Send \$7 (which includes postage) to: Ben Sammler, Yale School of Drama, 222 York St., New Haven, CT 06520. (Make checks payable to USITT.)

It is not too early to begin preparation for the 5th Biennial Theatre Technology Exhibit which will be held in Las Vegas in 1995. Entry forms with rules and regulations will appear in the September 1994 issue of *Sightlines*. If you have any questions regarding participation in this event, do not hesitate to contact me—Ben Sammler—at the address listed above. I hope to see your entry in 1995! ●

Ben Sammler
Project Co-Coordinator

TECHNICAL PRODUCTION

HIGH LEVEL OF INTEREST IN WICHITA TECHNICAL PRODUCTION MEETINGS

With pleasure I report an active and fruitful convention in Wichita for the TPC. While awaiting word from the program surveys used on site, casual comments at the convention lead me to think that sessions on Parenting, Shop Math, and Pneumatics were particularly well received. Thurston James' pre-conference workshop was applauded by those in attendance.

We add our thanks and praise to Doug Taylor and his conference work group for a smooth conference in a great facility. Never a noticeable hitch! And my thanks to fellow commissioners and assorted others for very lively programming. Wichita is a great city for focusing on convention activities.

I am pleased to report a high level of interest and energy from the Technical Production Commission meeting in Wichita. We look forward to programming in Nashville and beyond which will include sessions on adhesives, engineered wood products, motion control, networking skills, and

opportunities in the IORT theaters, to name a few. I urge you to contact me, Mark Shanda, or John Darling with your interest in and ideas for programming—always an open agenda. In Nashville, we plan for a roundtable discussion on training technical directors in structural engineering.

I solicit interested readers for contributions in two exciting new areas of TPC interest and one ongoing one. First, we are proposing a Nashville program of Tech Tips, a session of short (eight- to ten-minute) presentations on building, shop techniques, jigs, materials, or whatever. We are hoping you silent types will join in—the ideal brief presentation for a student or first-time conference participant. Please direct your idea here through us, though a program chair will be announced soon.

TPC is developing a new project. We are exploring the long overdue idea of a computer file library. We want to develop a collection of useful (and public domain) software files available to USITT membership. CAD files, manufacturers drawings, useful spreadsheet routines, programs written by members—we imagine a thousand useful files which can be collected and distributed via a handy disk transfer at the convention. Stay tuned for a place to send your contributions!

Roy Hoglund, Vice-Commissioner for the *Technical Source Guide*, asks you to send your idea for publication in *Sightlines*. According to discussion at the convention, send in even your napkin sketch—he will help you get it into presentable shape.

Co-Chairs for the Commission:

A.D. Carson
Pittsburgh Public Theater
Allegheny Square
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
Callboard: carson

Mark Shanda
Dept. of Theatre
1089 Drake Union
1849 Cannon Drive
Columbus, OH 43210

Nashville Programming
John Darling
8040 Kostner Ave.
Skokie, IL 60076

A.D. Carson
Co-Commissioner

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COSTUME DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

WORLD COSTUME CONGRESS BEING PLANNED

Thank you, Kathleen Gossman, for a job well done! Programming at the Wichita conference was great. Special thanks to all who participated in making the programming so successful. Watch next month's column for a detailed review of the conference.

Hours of work on site in Wichita provided Suzy Campbell, Vice-Commissioner for Programming for the Nashville Conference, with a solid list of exciting sessions for the 1994 conference. Thanks to everyone who submitted program session proposals. You will be hearing from Suzy soon.

Now is the time to think about planning for programming for Las Vegas in 1995! The Costume Design and Technology Commission has a unique opportunity in the area of programming in 1995. Joel Rubin, OIS-TAT Liaison, has promised that the international guests to this conference will be invited from the costume

design and technology fields. He informs us, "We will be establishing a much-needed precedent within OIS-TAT by singling out the costume discipline and hope that a 'world costume congress' will be an important part of the Las Vegas Conference."

I know we all support this observation, so if you have names of costumers you would like to see invited, areas of interest you would like to see explored, programming topics you would benefit from, activities you would encourage, or suggestions you would like to share, I want to hear from you! Write me at 2724 Melinda Dr., Winston-Salem, NC 27103, or call me at home, 919-765-2263. Let's take full advantage of this fabulous opportunity! ●

Diane R. Berg
Commissioner

ARCHITECTURE

ARCHITECT COMMISSION PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

While Wichita will certainly not be remembered for its architecture, hopefully it will be looked back on as the place of the rebirth of the USITT Architecture Commission. Ideas for future programming were presented with an urgency to better define the role of Architecture Commission within USITT, which would simultaneously begin to express to the architecture community the potential value of USITT to the profession.

A very focused and productive commission meeting produced the following 1993-1994 agenda.

1. A call of theatre projects for the first USITT Architecture Awards Program to be presented in Nashville in 1994.
2. A symposium on the current status of the "Great White Way" in celebration of "100 Years of Broadway in Times Square" this fall in New York City.
3. Programs on outdoor theatre design, theatre renovation, and presentation of submitted projects for awards for the Nashville convention in 1994.

It was agreed that to be effective we

must enhance the role of USITT in the professional community, enlarge membership, and increase affiliations with other organizations. We must begin collaboration with other commissions to stress the need for a better understanding of the role of the architect and other professionals involved in the design of a theatre. Architecture must be responsible for reminding all other commissions that collectively we cannot only be focused on refining and communicating special interests, but we must also stress the need for coordinating and facilitating all interests to ultimately produce the best facility possible for performer, patron, operator, and the community within which it is placed.

If you would like to get involved in the exciting re-genesis of the Architecture Commission, please call Tim Hartung at 212-807-7171. ●

Tim Hartung
Commissioner

LIGHTING DESIGN

LIGHTING COMMISSION EXPERIENCES CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP

This year's convention may go on record as being the most difficult to attend. Friends from all over the country had stories of being buried in feet of snow—drifts over their cars and airports shut down—yet attend they did. And while Wichita's weather was cold and rainy, the reception was warm and welcome—and we took advantage of it.

The Lighting Commission began by hosting what has rapidly become our most popular event: the Thursday night reception and meeting. Cindy paid tribute to Bill Warfel who is retiring from Yale to pursue his private business and work on a revision of the color book. Exhibitors and members numbering close to 300 enjoyed the evening of meeting and greeting new and old friends.

We had some great panels and speakers this year: Abe Feder was delightful and inspiring as our featured "distinguished lighting designer," Dennis Size from ABC New York was entertaining as usual, and the sessions in the outstanding Century II

lighting lab were heavily attended and well received. We thank the Wichita Planning Committee (especially John Uthoff), the Century II staff (especially Bill Fox), and our own session chairs and participants for all their hard work and great attitudes.

Nashville planning is being solidified under the capable supervision of Rich Dunham, Vice-Commissioner for Nashville Programming. Rumors are that Jim Moody and Vari*Lite will be there, Dennis Size is threatening to return, and a guy by the name of Billington may show up. Believe it or not, we have to begin thinking about programming for Las Vegas in 1995 and I am pleased to announce that Vice-Commissioner Marc Riske has agreed to take the programming helm—you'll hear from him in the next issue of *Sightlines*.

We have had a change in commission leadership that I would like to make you aware of: Cindy and I are going to spend a year as co-commissioners and then she is going to step down in order to have a life, and we have some new vice-commissioners.

Cindy Limauro

Co-Commissioner

Craig Wolf

Co-Commissioner

Rich Dunham

Vice-Commissioner for Programming: Nashville

Patrick Gill

Vice-Commissioner for Research and Development

Mary Tarantino

Vice-Commissioner for Education

John Fuller

Vice-Commissioner for Manufacturing

Ann Archbold

Vice-Commissioner for Design

Marc Riske

Vice-Commissioner for Programming: Las Vegas

Please feel free to contact us with ideas, questions, and/or issues of interest. Nashville is scheduled for 13-16 April 1994.

Mark your calendars. ●

Craig Wolf
Co-Commissioner

CALENDAR

- 17 APRIL 1993 • USITT OHIO ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE, OTTERBEIN COLLEGE, WESTERVILLE, OH • CONTACT: WILLIAM BYRNES, 216-775-8162
- 19-21 APRIL 1993 • SHOWLIGHT '93, BRADFORD, ENGLAND • CONTACT: BARBARA LEACH, 0532-43-8283
- 24 APRIL 1993 • USITT MIDWEST SECTION MEETING, MILWAUKEE REPERTORY THEATRE, WI • CONTACT: KEN KLOTH, 414-288-1649
- 29-30 APRIL 1993 • ABTT CONFERENCE, LONDON, ENGLAND • CONTACT: ABTT, 071-403-3778
- 8-10 JUNE 1993 • SHOWTECH '93, BERLIN, GERMANY • CONTACT: AMK BERLIN/NORTH AMERICA, 312-245-5230
- 21-23 JUNE 1993 • INTERNATIONAL LIGHTING EXPO, TORONTO, CANADA • CONTACT: 416-890-1846
- 30 JULY-4 AUGUST 1993 • IAAM CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW, PITTSBURGH, PA • CONTACT: DARRELL DAY, 214-255-8020
- 5-8 AUGUST 1993 • AATE 1993 CONFERENCE, BOSTON, MA • CONTACT: AATE, 602-965-6064
- 13-15 AUGUST 1993 • USITT SUMMER BUSINESS MEETINGS, NASHVILLE, TN • CONTACT: USITT NATIONAL OFFICE, 212-924-9088
- 20-22 AUGUST 1993 • CITT NATIONAL CONFERENCE, VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA • CONTACT: BOB EBERLE, CITT/BRITISH COLUMBIA, 604-822-6738
- 1-14 SEPTEMBER 1993 • THEATRE LIGHTING DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY COURSE BY FRANCIS REID, EDINBURGH & LONDON, ENGLAND • CONTACT: THE BRITISH COUNCIL, 071-389-4406
- 20-23 OCTOBER 1993 • NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON OUTDOOR DRAMA, NEW HARMONY, IN • CONTACT: INSTITUTE OF OUTDOOR DRAMA, 919-962-1328
- 11-13 NOVEMBER 1993 • USITT WINTER BUSINESS MEETINGS, ORLANDO, FL • CONTACT: USITT NATIONAL OFFICE, 212-924-9088
- 13-16 APRIL 1994 • USITT CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO, NASHVILLE, TN • CONTACT: USITT NATIONAL OFFICE, 212-924-9088

INTERNATIONAL EVENT

BAROQUE THEATRE SEMINAR TO OCCUR AT ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

An international seminar on "Baroque Theatre, Theatre Production, and Musical Culture at the Český Krumlov Castle" is planned for 1-4 June 1993 in the Czech Republic.

The seminar's objective is to acquaint the international theatre public with this unique site which has been preserved in its authentic form and is included in the UNESCO list of world cultural monuments.

The theatre in the Český Krumlov Castle is one of the jewels of the baroque stage. It contains a rich collection of original technical equipment, stage sets, costumes, props, lighting and other archival material.

The seminar will feature a series of lectures, discussions, exhibitions, and visits to the theatre and various archives.

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to examine first hand the riches of the 17th and 18th century European theatre.

Registration, which includes a single room accommodation, is US\$478.

For further information, contact:

John Madill
403-483-2355 (O)
403-483-4300 (fax) ●

John Madill

SIGHTLINES ADS

SIGHTLINES CLASSIFIED ADS ARE \$1 A WORD WITH A \$50 MINIMUM PER AD.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ADVERTISING IN THE USITT PERIODICALS, CONTACT:

**DEBORA KINGSTON
USITT
10 WEST 19TH STREET
SUITE 5A
NEW YORK, NY 10011
212-924-9088
FAX: 212-924-9343**

CLASSIFIED AD

COSTUME SHOP SUPERVISOR

The Conservatory of Theatre Arts at Webster University, a professional training program, needs a costume shop supervisor. This faculty position is expected to manage planning, construction, and student crews for the eight student-designed department productions. Teaching requirements include one semester of costume construction, one semester of patterning/draping, team-teach one semester of technical production (costume area), and supervise independent studies in specific skill as needed. Rank for this position is assistant professor. Position requires MFA or equivalent professional experience. Send cover letter and resume to Costume Shop Supervisor Search, Personnel Office, Webster University, 470 East Lockwood, St. Louis, MO 63119. Deadline for applications is 16 April 1993. ●

CLASSIFIED AD

SCENIC ARTIST

Scenic artist with minimum two years experience wanted for theatrical scenery and supply house in Tampa, Florida. Responsibilities to include wide range of scenic painting; renderings; working in 3-D with plastic, foams, and casting materials; supervising painting crews; and maintaining paint shop. Call Pat Geisler at 813-626-5991. ●

CLASSIFIED AD

THEATRE TECHNOLOGY FACULTY

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign seeks qualified person for entry-level position in theatre technology. Beginning date: 21 August 1993. Salary commensurate with experience. Duties include teaching both graduate and undergraduate courses in scene technology, and traditional and computer-assisted drafting (CAD). Additional responsibilities include advising student technical directors on realized productions at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, a multi-theatre facility. The department has outstanding BFA and MFA professional design, technology, and management program, with skilled and committed faculty and staff. MFA degree and USITT membership preferred. Submit application and three reference letters to: James Berton Harris, Head, Division of Design, University of Illinois, 4-122A Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, 500 South Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801, (217-333-2371), by 26 March 1993 to receive full consideration.

The University of Illinois is an affirmative-action, equal opportunity employer; applications from minorities and women are especially welcome. ●

Mark Your
Calendar Now!
Nashville
13-16 April
1994

STRESS & WELLNESS
STRATEGIES

CHECK POINTS

Many of us do not know that we are capable of saying "Yes" to stress! Most of us entered the study and practice of the performing arts *because there was stress*. Then, later, on the edge of burnout, we rebelled. We consequently proclaim the need for less stress. We have forgotten the joy of our stress. We have clearly recast ourselves in some fashion. How could we have forgotten what is joyful about stress?

Stress is an individual reaction. A single event—for example, speaking to a large audience—can give a positive stress (eustress) to one person, and a negative stress to another. Indeed, one person can have a positive reaction to this event in January and a negative reaction in April. The difference in either case is a breakdown in coping skills.

Each of us, in time, can experience stress as fantastic, remarkable, ruinous, or fatal. It is, after all is said and done, up to you. You must learn to respect the dangers of high stress as well as respect its benefits. Olympic records are not set on the quiet training tracks, but in the stress of competition—in front of huge crowds. The most efficient work of a theatre techni-

cian is often during the stress of facing a seemingly insurmountable deadline. Trapeze artists have always known that their best performances are without a safety net—it focuses their concentration! Too much stress, however, can become a very negative force when linked with diminished or neglected coping skills.

We can consider some examples of this overpowering predicament. An Olympic high jumper was known to not even get off the ground due to the additional worry of an assassination threat. Outstanding students continually fail exams due to breakups in close relationships. The best actors have trouble avoiding substandard performances after weeks of being squawked at by maniacal directors.

Too little stress, in a corresponding way, can be tantamount to disaster. The sudden calm realized by retiring from a demanding career into a life of idleness often causes death or senility within two years, unless new stress and interests can be found.

The lesson to learn from these examples is that the right amount of managed stress can bring us joy and efficiency. A pivotal question is: Why don't most people do it correctly? The answer, unfortunately, is unconscious incompetence, and an ill-concealed hostility to anyone who threatens their sacred "vices." The view heard most

often from "knee-jerking reactionaries" is that the only way to succeed against stress is to live a monastic life of dullness, self-denial, and rigid discipline. This view is deplorably wrong and it is a grounds for the wrong lifestyle. Not only do most people discern stress as a negative factor, they also perceive stress management in a negative manner.

They can barely contain a smirk when they read about someone dying while jogging. This seems to justify their sloth, apathy, lassitude, torpor, and inactivity. They laugh as they butt their cigarettes into their emptied beer cans.

Nothing could be more faulty, misinformed, and misguided. What *is* advocated is to be selfish: Get everything you can out of life, for as long as you can. Be spontaneous. Be funny. Eat well. Practice regular relaxation techniques. Enjoy one drink of beer, wine, or alcohol once in awhile. Run or ride with the wind in your hair. Be proud of your body and enjoy each stride of exercise. Conduct your affairs with integrity. Earn the respect of your friends.

In short—adjust all your means toward learning how to enjoy stress by controlling your mind and body's reaction to it. ●

Stan Abbott
Check Points Editor

INSTITUTE
BUSINESS
CALENDAR

JUNE

- 16 CALL FOR REPORTS MAILED
- 30 CLOSE OF INSTITUTE'S FISCAL YEAR—ALL VOUCHERS AND RECEIPTS FOR 1992-93 ARE DUE TO THE TREASURER PRIOR TO THIS DATE.

JULY

- 1 COPY DUE FOR 1993-94 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY TRIENNIAL REPORTS DUE TO OFFICERS
- 1 BOARD PACKETS MAILED

AUGUST

- 13-15 SUMMER BOARD MEETINGS IN NASHVILLE. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, SUNDAY, AUGUST 15.

SEPTEMBER

- 14 CALL FOR REPORTS MAILED
- TBA BUDGET REQUESTS FOR 1993/94 MAILED
- TBA NASHVILLE CONFERENCE PROGRAM BIOS DUE TO OFFICERS
- 29 TRIENNIAL REPORTS DUE TO OFFICERS

sightlines

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