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LONG BEACH CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

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SESSIONS WITH A REGIONAL FLAVOR

This year at the USITT Conference & Stage Expo, two sessions with a Southern California flavor—"Developing Your Career in 99-Seat Waiver Theatre" and "What Else Can You Do with a Theatre Degree in L.A."—may be of particular interest to young designers, technicians and stage managers.

Years ago, Actor's Equity Association ruled that in small theatres—99 seats or less—Equity actors could perform without an Equity contract. The effect of the 99-seat waiver system has been an explosion in the number of small producing theatre organizations which not only showcase the talents of actors, but also the many theatrical designers, stage managers and technicians in L.A.

Freelance lighting designer Debra Garcia Lockwood will host a panel of distinguished and diverse artists who got their careers jump-started in these small theatre venues. Debra is resident lighting designer for the critically acclaimed Theatre 40, and she also teaches at the University of Southern California and at Pomona College. Other participants include: scenic designer Susan Gratch of the Colony Theatre and chair of the Department of Theatre at Occidental College; costume designer Sherry Linnell who designs for Long Beach's award-winatre and who is resident designer and professor at Pomona College; Barbara Beckley, co-founder and producing director of the Colony Theatre, threetime president emeritus of Theatre L.A. and recipient of Women In Theatre's Outstanding Contribution Award; plus Robin Peters, African-American actor, director and playwright who specializes in producing ethnic theatre, and who teaches at California State Polytechnic University, ans of the 99-seat waiver theatre world will explain to young designers, technicians and stage managers, how to get a job in the Los Angeles theatre scene and then how to work within the time, budget and space limitations commonly found in small theatres.

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Southern California is not only the film and television capital of the world, but it is also headquarters to most of the worlds major theme parks. In the session, "What Else Can You Do with a Theatre Degree in Los Angeles," panelists will explain how to find fulfilling and stimulating careers in California's non-theatre entertainment industry. Session chair is Jeff Hickman, technical director at California State University, Long Beach, and coordinating chair of the USITT Long Beach conference. Panelists will in-

nia State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and California State University, San Bernardino. These veter-

> clude: Scott Shaffer, scenic designer for Disney; Tom Ruzika, freelance lighting designer whose designs can be seen at theme parks in California, Florida, Japan, Australia and Germany, and lecturer at the University of California, Irvine; plus Nancy Seruto, vice president of Lexington Scenic Studios.

> Plan to attend the 1998 USITT Conference & Stage Expo in Long Beach. We promise something exciting for everyone, and we hope that these regionally flavored sessions will help some young designers, technicians and stage managers find the careers of their dreams.

Donna Ruzika Promotions Coordinator USITT Conference & Stage Expo, Long Beacb **USITT SIGHTLINES** is the national newsletter of United States Institute for Theatre

Technology, Inc. We welcome news about USITT activities and industry events. Send your articles and letters to the Editorial Office—email submissions are preferred although we gladly accept typed manuscripts or even scribbles on napkins.

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SUBSCRIPTION to USITT

Sightlines is part of membership in USITT, The American Association of Design and Production Professionals in the Performing Arts. \$15 is deducted from membership dues to cover the cost of publication. USITT is the United States Center of OISTAT, The International Organization of Scenographers, Technicians, and Architects of Theatre.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to USITT, 6443 Ridings Rd., Syracuse, NY 13206-1111. Periodicals postage is paid at Syracuse, NY.

USITT Sightlines (ISSN: 1048-955X) is published monthly, except bimonthly in April/May and July/August, by United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.

Volume XXXVII Number 11 © 1997, United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.

OISTAT NEWS

DESIGNING WITH AND WITHIN NATURE

The Korean Center of OISTAT hosted a meeting of the Scenography Commission in Seoul Korea September 11–14, 1997. From the outset our Korean colleagues made us feel very welcome and their attention to detail insured success. Over three days the 31 delegates from 17 countries enjoyed a varied program ranging from a tour of the Kyongbokkung Palace to a formal symposium with the topic, Nature-Scenography, all of which coincided with International Theatre Institute's international conference.

The Korean Center of OISTAT organized an outstanding exhibit of work by professionals, including a section for the OISTAT delegates. This exhibition also featured work from seven different schools. Remembering that Korean theatre artists have been awarded two silver medals at the Prague Quadrennial it was no surprise to see superb work in all categories, student and professional alike.

Mrs. Sun-Hi Shin organized the Nature-Scenography symposium which featured seven speakers from seven different countries. I believe we all came away with a new understanding of how much we work with or in nature. From performances in outdoor venues, to evoking natural sites such as forests, oceans and mountains scenographers are more involved with nature than one might think.

Two business meetings were also held. While less exciting than the exhibition or the symposium, business meetings are necessary to the work of OISTAT's Scenography Commission. Of particular interest was the discussion on ways to increase the interaction at the PQ between exhibiting designers and those who attend. Both OISTAT's Education and Scenography Commission's are pledged to work together on these plans.

The highlight of the meetings was our Sunday night visit to the TOTAL MUSEUM, hosted by Mme Byung-Doc Lee, president of the Korean Center of OISTAT. The museum is a collection of five "old" houses from various parts of Korea rebuilt in a village-like setting. There, we saw a performance of a Korean traditional GUT. The day before we had been introduced to GUT by Professor Yon-Ho Suh at our symposium. This performance of JAESUGUT was distinguished by the performance of Shaman Kim Keum-Hwa, a 67 year old Korean Living Treasure. Audience members, from all countries, were uplifted by the ritual chanting and dancing. OISTAT president Dick Durst and longtime USITT member Elbin Cleveland were particularly honored to share a sip of wine with the shaman while others of us enjoyed the blessing of good fortune symbolized by gifts of rice cakes and apples or pears. To insure our good fortune stays with us in the coming year we were coached by our Korean hosts to respond with a small gift of money for the shaman and her company.

With good fortune for the coming year assured, the delegates enjoyed a delicious farewell banquet under the stars. For dessert, the delegates were further honored with special gifts: a beautiful book, *30 Years of Art for the Stage* by Byung Boc Lee, and original t-shirts decorated with an ancient Korean symbol to ward off evil spirits.

I know all who attended join me in saluting our Korean hosts for organizing an excellent meeting and thanking them for their friendly and generous welcome to the Land of Morning Calm. None of us will soon forget their vitality, artistry and warmth.

Sarah Nash Gates USITT delegate to OISTAT Scenography Commission

ENGINEERING COMMISSION

-1

HAZARD ALERT — POWER ON DMX DATA LINES

At the PLASA show this September, Paul Mardon of Pulsar Light of Cambridge announced that Pulsar and Clay Paky place between +18 and +25 volts dc on Pin 5 of their DMX connectors, in violation of the USITT DMX512 and DMX512/1990 Standards. Clay Paky now conforms to the standard. Effective September 25, 1997, Clay Paky policy is that its products are guaranteed to comply with the DMX512/1990 Standard-this non-compliant voltage will not be placed on the data lines. The label on the back of the units will be changed to reflect the fact that Pin 5 now does not carry dc voltage. Clay Paky has also issued a bulletin dated October 3, 1997, instructing users how to perform this modification on units that are already in the field, including the affected serial numbers.

Pulsar's Mr. Mardon also stated that there are more than 5,000 Clay Paky "Scans" in the field manufactured over the last eighteen months that employ this use of Pin 5. This practice has been in place for as much as four years on some Pulsar products. In addition to its own product line, Pulsar designs, develops and manufactures the electronics for all Clay Paky Scans. Pulsar labels their equipment DMX512 and says that connectors which carry this voltage on Pin 5 are identified by a pin connection table adjacent to the connector.

Placing a voltage on Pins 4 and/or 5 of the 5 Pin XLR connector compromises a DMX512 system and is a clear violation of the USITT DMX512 and DMX512/1990 standards. Connecting DMX512 and DMX512/1990 compliant equipment, in particular equipment that uses the secondary data link (Pins 4 and 5), to non-compliant gear **may disable and/or damage** th compliant equipment. At least two manufacturers have reported damage symptomatic of a high voltage on Pin 5, but have not yet been able to confirm.whose equipment was involved. Pulsar acknowledges that its on-compliant implementation resulted in damage to one of a third manufacturer's consoles.

USITT cannot condone this practice, and Pulsar has been notified of this. The standard clearly states that Pins 4 and 5 are for an optional second data link (see endnote 1) and must conform to the electrical requirements of the EIA-485 standard (2). The USITT DMX512 standard also states the rules for marking the equipment indicating compliance (3).

Pulsar is continuing to use 18 - 25 vdc on Pin 5 and intends to introduce more products with the same configuration. This voltage is used as a current source (power supply) so they do not have to provide a separate power supply for their desks (consoles). They acknowledge that their products are not in accordance with USITT DMX512/1990, but in a letter to ESTA and a posting on the Internet by one of its employees, Pulsar says this "is a benign deviation from the standard." By adding certain components for overvoltage protection on Pins 4 and 5, they state that these connections could be used for a secondary data link or for a power supply. Pulsar intends to request an amendment to the DMX standard for this modification, but we have not seen the details of their proposal yet. We are not clear how this method would allow the large base of equipment that uses the secondary data link to remain in compliance with EIA-485 and to continue to operate (transmit or receive data) while also using the lines for low voltage power.

It should be pointed out that there are other manufacturers that also do not use Pins 4 and 5 in compliance with the standard. Some also do not use a 5 Pin XLR connector, so there is little risk of causing damage to DMX compliant equipment. Of the manufacturers that use a 5 Pin XLR but do not use Pins 4 and 5 properly, we know of only one or two that may be using a)oltage outside of the EIA-485 specification (we were not able to confirm this prior to press time). This means that there is non-compliant equipment that may cause compliant equipment to malfunction or be damaged, but the risk of damage is less.

So, be aware that there is equipment out there claiming to be DMX, which does not comply with the standard and may in fact damage your equipment. If a 5 Pin XLR is used for something other than *fully compliant* DMX512, it must not be labeled DMX512 (and should not even be labeled DMX).

Note that the use of a 5 Pin XLR connector on entertainment lighting equipment has become synonymous with DMX512, even if not identified as DMX512. Therefore, we recommend that 5 Pin XLR connectors only be used in accordance with the standard and that manufacturers that do not fully comply work to bring their products into full compliance as Clay Paky has done.

In one posting on the Internet regarding this situation, Steve Terry of Production Arts Lighting (who is an Engineering Vice-Commissioner as well as the original DMX512 Project Chair) stated: "The DMX512 standard has been a success because it has made it possible for users to interconnect equipment from different manufacturers without having to worry about the details of data encoding, bit rates, signal levels, and pin-outs."

Mitch Hefter

Engineering Commissioner, a member of the ESTA Technical Standards Committee, and Director of Engineering Services for Rosco/ Entertainment Technology.

Endnotes:

1. Pin assignments as called out in *Section 9.02* of the DMX512/1990 standard are as follows:

- PIN 1 Signal Common (Shield)
- PIN 2 Dimmer Drive Complement (Data 1 -)
- PIN 3 Dimmer Drive True (Data 1 +) PIN 4 - Optional Second Data Link Complement (Data 2 -)
- PIN 5 Optional Second Data Link True (Data 2 +)

2. *Section 4* of the standard requires adherence to EIA-485 with regards to all electrical characteristics. EIA-485's maximum voltage range is stated as -7 to +12 volts dc; +18 to + 25 volts dc is outside this specification.

3. Section 11 of the DMX512/1990

standard gives rules regarding the marking of equipment—specifically:

"Equipment conforming to this Standard may be marked and identified with 'USITT DMX512/1990' or 'DMX512/1990.""

and

"Compliance with this Standard is the responsibility of the manufacturer, and such marking and identification does not constitute certification or approval by the USITT."

CITT NEWS

MIRACLE IN MONTREAL

With only three months notice an ad hoc group of Montreal C.I.T.T. members programmed the C.I.T.T. Annual Conference in "la belle Provence". This incredibly dedicated group of people acted upon an initiative from the C.I.T.T. National Board of Directors to extend a friendly welcome to our francophone colleagues in Quebec, Canada and current C.I.T.T. members in the Atlantic provinces. And what a conference it was!

Montreal has seen a recent boom in the restoration or building of live performance venues and six were visited by the delegates. The internationally acclaimed Cirque du Soleil played host to a half day tour of their new rehearsal and shops space in the north end of Montreal. Wardrobe folk were overwhelmed with the immensity of this operation. Their Head of Wardrobe can only guesstimate as to the number of costumes made in a given season and shipped around the world to the current eight companies performing.

One hundred ten C.I.T.T. colleagues attended the trade show and banquet at La Musee Juste Pour Rire. The evening, sponsored by William F. White allowed old and new friends to meet and mingle in the three story atrium of the museum turned into a lighting spectacular by the exhibitors. During the banquet Interm-President Bob Vernon gratefully accepted the annual "getting bigger every year" sponsorship cheque from Mr. Steve Duff of

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HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERS

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MAINSTAGE THEATRICAL SUPPLY,

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NATIONAL OFFICE

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Osram Sylvania. In attendance were our much welcomed USITT. colleagues; Christine Kaiser, USITT President and Mary Buffum and Tricia Neuberger from the Syracuse national office. Overheard at the banquet, by this writer was an expression of interest by the Atlantic members in starting a new C.I.T.T. section.

One of the twelve scheduled workshops that truly became the hot topic in Montreal was the Anglo versus Franco Production seminar. The seminar ran twice as long as scheduled and delegates were impressed with the open discussions in both official languages of the very different and yet similar production and rehearsal systems.

C.I.T.T. would like to thank the following corporate sponsors for breathing life into an incredibly successful conference; SCENOPLUS, SSP Group, Jack A. Frost Ltd. and ESTA.

Mark your calendars now for the 1998 C.I.T.T. Annual Conference taking place in Edmonton in August. Howard Van Schaick, Calgary and Lee Livingstone, Edmonton will be throwing a big western welcome your way very soon.

Chuck Homewood Executive Director, Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology

NATIONAL OFFICE

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL

Conference registrations have been steadily pouring in as members take advantage of the very early registration deadline of November 30th. If you haven't already sent in your conference registration form, do so before this deadline and avail yourself of the tremendous savings. USITT has added a new service to this year's registration process; a Travel Request Form supplied by BTI AMERICAS The Travel Consultant, the official USITT conference travel agency. Members can now fax, mail, phone, or e-mail their airline and car rental reservations. Not only will you be able to save money on your airfare and car rentals, but conference registrants who make their travel arrangements with BTI AMERI-CAS will be eligible for a drawing for a free flight. To inaugurate this new service, USITT will give a free Hertz Gold Card club membership (\$50 value) to the first 100 conference registrants making their travel arrangements with BTI.

Other deadlines are also fast approaching: December 5, 1997 nominations are due for the Awards for Young Designers & Technicians in the Performing Arts; and January 31, 1998 applications are due for the Grants & Fellowship Program. For more information on guidelines and applications for the above mentioned opportunities, call the National Office or visit our Web site at http://www. culturenet.ca/usitt.

On to news from our members.

CONTRIBUTING MEMBER NEWS

Vari-Lite, Inc. unveiled a special publishing first with a stunning book of photography entitled A Different Light: Lewis Lee Photography. For many years, Lewis has expertly used photo equipment. His pictures represent a unique style of stage lighting over the past two decades, and his skills behind the lens have captured the scope and excitement of many stage productions. Included in this collection are photographs of David Bowie, The Cure, Elton John, Genesis, Rolling Stones, Siegfried and Roy, and many other well-known artists. "This extraordinary selection of Lewis' pictures chronicles some of the many memorable moments in Vari-Lite history," said Rusty Bruitsche, President and CEO of Vari-Lite International, Inc. A Different Light is a memorial to the late Kirby Wyatt, one of the pioneers of concert lighting.

Great American Market has appointed Peter E. Schmitt Company to represent the GAM in the Northeastern states. Peter E. Schmitt Company's vice-president of operations, Bart Busko, describes his company's role in the affiliation as "the manufacturers voice to the dealers that we have in our territories." The territories benefiting will include Metro New York and New England. Both companies look forward to the affiliation.

SUSTAINING MEMBER NEWS

Richmond Sound Design Ltd., manufacturers of show control equipment, are pleased to announce that a Stage Manager 500 show control system will be used for the MIDI portion of the course Show Control for Live Entertainment, taught this semester at Yale University by John Huntington, author of the book with the same title. The course is offered to the upper levels of the graduate theatre class and covers the entire range of control protocols used in the entertainment industry, including DMX512 and MIDI as well as newer developments such as IEEEI 394 and AES-24.

H&H Specialties Inc. recently entered its fourth decade of manufacturing stage rigging and curtain tracks. From a modest beginning in 1967 as a fabric supplier of darkening draperies, H&H Specialties has grown to occupy a five-building complex in the Los Angeles suburbs. Its product lines are distributed throughout North America by independent dealers. Recent projects include the New York-New York Hotel in Las Vegas, Jones Hall in Houston and the Tennessee Performance Art Center in Nashville. H&H equipment has also appeared in many recent shows including EFX!, Phantom of the Opera, Miss Saigon, and Ragtime.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER NEWS

The University Theatre and the Institute for the Exploration of Virtual Realities (i.e. VR) at the University of Kansas has begun work on its third major production integrating new media and live performance. On February 12-15 and 17-21, they will present David Gustav Fraser's *Telsa Electric* in the Inge Theatre in KU's Murphy Hall.

i.e. VR's previous projects include *The Adding Machine*, Beckett's *Play* and, most recently, Arthur Kopit's *Wings*. All of these productions involved the integration of real-time 3D computer-generated virtual environments and live actors performing before a live audience. This experimenal work with virtual reality theatre has been supported in part through grants from USITT.

Associate professor and Individual member, Mark Reaney, graduate student, Lance Gharavi, and professor Ronald Willis, the team that created i.e. VR's previous productions, are once again joining forces to stage *Telsa Electric*. Due to the high level of international interest in i.e. VR's productions, plans are being laid for a live web broadcast of *Telsa Electric*. For further information, visit i.e. VR's website at: www.ukans.edu/~mreaney or contact Mark Reaney or Lance Gharavi (tel: 785-864-3381, fax: 785-864-5251.

INDUSTRY NEWS

LIGHTFAIR INTERNATIONAL 1998, North America's largest architectural and commercial lighting trade show and the world's largest architectural and commercial lighting conference program, will be held at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, NV, May 26–29, 1998. The exhibit hall is already 87% sold, with new exhibitors being added daily. The conference advisory committee has completed the 1998 conference program which for the ninth consecutive year promises to deliver industry's leading educational lighting.

SEIL 98 (16th International Trade Show of Equipment and Technology for Leisure Entertainment Venues) and the 13th Theatrical Services Exhibition will take place February 8–11, 1998, at the Exhibition Center in Porte de Versailles, Paris. Organized by Reed Exhibitions France, the show is a four day international event and forum for professionals in the entertainment and pubs and club sectors.

LOST MEMBERS

The USITT National Office is requesting your assistance in finding the coroect address for the following current USITT members: Alvin Reese, Lee Walker, Derek Hunt, Dan Eastman, Lars Billstrom, Jon Kazunaga, Michael Skinner, and John Geisz. If anyone knows the whereabouts of these members, please contact Tricia Neuburger at the national office, 800-93USITT or 315-463-6463, or email: usittno@ pppmail.appliedtheory.com. We would like to ensure that these members continue to receive news from USITT.

The "News from the National" column is specifically written for-and about-USITT members. Noteworthy items, or information that would be beneficial to our members, can be submitted to the national office.

> Mary P. Buffum USITT Marketing and Public Relations Manager

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

NEW USITT STANDARDS AVAILABLE

Three new USITT publications are now available; one is available for free downloading via USITT's Web site (http://www.culturenet.ca/usitt) and the other two are available for purchasing from the USITT national office.

Wire Rope Terminations, authored by the USITT Rigging and Stage Machinery Standards Committee, is available for free downloading, or for those without easy access to the World Wide Web, it can be obtained via fax or mail from the USITT national office. This two-part standard is a guide for using wire rope swage fittings, and wire rope clips, for the termination of wire rope in load bearing applications.

USITT Guideline for a Standard Technical Information Package is a helpful set of guidelines authored by Technical Production Commission. The purpose of these recommendations is to help facility managers create technical information packages (also known as tech riders) with as much detailed information as possible for use by productions touring into or renting the facility. The cost of this publication is \$10.00.

USITT S3–1997, Standard for Stage Pin Connectors is a new manufacturing standard authored by the Engineering Commission. The purpose of this standard is to present the dimensional and other requirements of a series of wiring devices used in the entertainment industry known as stage pin connectors. This standard costs \$25.00.

For more information about these new publications, or to purchase them, please contact the USITT national office at 6443 Ridings Rd., Syracuse, NY 13206-1111; tel: 800-938-7488, 315-463-6463, fax: 315-463-6525, e-mail: usittno@ pppmail.appliedtheory.com.

> Sylvia Hillyard Pannell Chair

USITT PLANNING COMMITTEE

STRATEGIC PLAN GETS UPDATED

We are still looking for input from the membership as we update the USITT Strategic Plan. Now is the time to drop me an e-mail or note with your suggestions. Some questions to consider include:

- Are there activities, programs, projects, exhibitions or other presentations USITT should consider sponsoring or producing in the future?
- Are there member benefits you would like to see added, improved or changed in some way?
- Are there topics we should be covering in our publications that you feel will help us better fulfill our mission of advancing the knowledge and skill of our members or the profession?
- Are there any suggestions you have for improving USITT in any area not already mentioned?

We will be reviewing your suggestions and ideas over the next few weeks as we formulate our 1997-98 plans. If you could let me know what your thoughts are by **December 3**, **1997** I would appreciate it. Send email to bbyrnes@mailer.fsu.edu or send a note to Wm. J. Byrnes, USITT Planning Committee, 2854 Manila Palm Ct, Tallahassee, FL 32308-3537.

> William J. Byrnes Vice-President for Marketing and Development

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COMPUTERS

WOW! OR WADING ON THE WEB

This article is intended for Internet newcomers who want to get their feet wet, as well as experienced net surfers. It is another in my series of compilations of sites on the World Wide Web of interest to theatre professionals. The WOW! homepage [1] archives copies of all the articles published in Sightlines with the added feature of having live links to all the sites mentioned in each article. Bookmark the WOW! homepage in your browser software and use it as the starting place for your exploration of these interesting and informative Web resources.

COSTUME PATTERN MAKING

There are several sites on the Web which can be helpful to costumers in making patterns. "Tailoring & Sewing Stuff . . ." [2] has interesting interactive pages which allow you to input an actor's measurements. It then calculates all of the dimensions for basic costume parts including pants and bodice slopers. "Footwear of the Middle Ages" [3] provides good patterns for period shoes. "How to Make Gloves" [4] provides instructions for making gloves. Making corsets will be easier if you follow the directions on the "Elizabethan Corset Page" [5]. If you are constructing nineteenth century costumes "Past Patterns" [6] Web site will be helpful. Additional Victorian dress and patterns can be found at the "Godey's Lady Book" [7].

THE BAYEUX TAPESTRY

One of the most prized works of Medieval art is the Bayeux Tapestry [8]. It illustrates the Invasion of England, in 1066 [9] by William the Conqueror. An article on "Swords and Swordbelts as Shown on the Bayeux Tapestry" [10] can be helpful in researching medieval armor. It is worth using the Internet to see the full tapestry [11]. There is also a humorous site about the battle of Hastings [12].

SITES SUBMITTED

Since my last article, several people have sent in information on their Web sites. "The Adelaide Theatre Guide" [13] reveals what it is being produced in South Australia. "The Elizabethan Costuming Homepage" [14] was sent in by a member of USITT. Robert Davis Inc. [15] provides theater consulting services. His site includes some interesting reprints of floorplans of eighteen theaters in New York City in the year 1883 [16]. Gerriets International [17], a sustaining member of USITT, manufactures curtains for theatres. If you have a homepage of your own, or if your theatre department or company has a Web site, I would be interested in hearing from you. Please e-mail me [osweeze@ siue.edu] the URL of your site, or any other sites that you want to share with the members of USITT.

C. Otis Sweezey Vice-Commissioner for Electronic Communications

- [1] http://www.siue.edu/COSTUMES/WOW/ WOW_INDEX.html
- [2] http://www.panix.com/~aqn/tailoring/ index.html
- [3] http://www.pbm.com/~lindahl/carlson/
- [4] http://www.io.com/~ches/gloves.html
- [5] http://www.dnaco.net/~aleed/corsets/
- [6] http://www.thepoint.net/~pastpat/
- [7] http://www.uvm.edu/~hag/godey/fashion/di.html
- [8] http://www.cablenet.net/pages/book/ part12.htm
- [9] http://www.ibiscom.com/bayeux.htm [10] http://www.ftech.net/~regia/
- bayint2.htm [11] http://blah.bsuvc.bsu.edu/bt
- [11] http://www.dmcl.com/1066ad/ hastings
- [13] http://www.merlin.net.au/~tlr/ Guide1.htm
- [14] http://www.dnaco.net/~aleed/corsets/general.html
- [15] http://members.aol.com/rdavisinc
- [16] http://members.aol.com/rdavisinc2
- [17] http://www.ushwy1.com/gerriets/

STAGE EXPO

PRODUCTS & SERVICES IN LONG BEACH

Stage Expo affords conference attendees an excellent opportunity to get an up-close and personal look at a wide variety of products and services of interest to those who work in the performing arts. Expanded "Stage Expo Only" times debuted in 1997 and were such a hit with exhibitors and attendees that they will be repeated in Long Beach. Plan now to take full advantage of these times to visit all of the exhibitors who will be a part of Stage Expo '98 in Long Beach. Here is a preliminary list of exhibitors:

A.C. Lighting, Inc. Alcone/Mutual Hardware AlterYears Apollo Design Technology ATM FLY-WARE Automatic Devices Company **Baer Fabrics** Barbizon Ben Nye Makeup Broadway Press Bulbman Inc. CAE, Inc. J.R. Clancy, Inc. Clear-Com Intercom Systems Columbus McKinnon Corporation Crescit Software Incorporated The Crosby Group, Inc. **Custom Rigging Systems Electronic Theatre Controls** Entertainment Services & Technology Association GALA Gothic Coatings, Inc. The Great American Market H&H Specialities Inc. High End Systems, Inc. Intertec/TCI+Lighting Dimensions Irwin Seating Co. Kryolan Corporation LEE Filters Le Maitre Special Effects Inc. Limelight Productions, Inc. LuxArt Conception Mann Brothers MDG Fog Generators

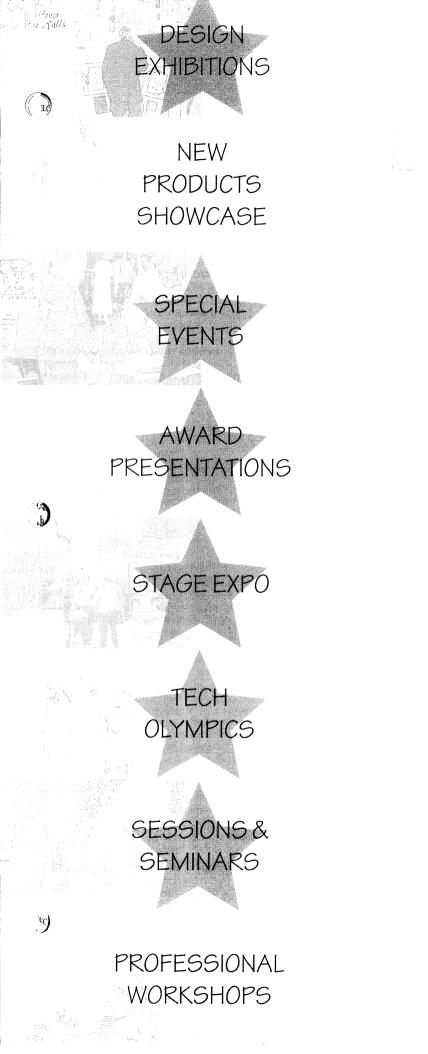
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Milliken & Company Musson Theatrical-TV-Film Neiman Supply Company Norcostco Inc. Olesen Premier Lighting & Production Co. Protech Rosco Rose Brand Sapsis Rigging Inc. Sculptural Arts Coating, Inc. SECOA SSP Group Inc. Stage Directions Magazine StageRight Corporation Stageworks Steeldeck, Inc. Strand Lighting Inc. Strong International Inc. Syracuse Scenery & Stage Lighting Co., Inc. Technical Projects, Inc. Theatre Arts Video Library James Thomas Engineering, Inc. Tomcat USA Inc.~ Union Connector United Scenic Artists Local 829 Vincent Lighting / Future Light Warner Bros. Studios Facilitiés Weapons of Choice Wenger Corporation ZFX, Inc. Flying Illusions

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To learn more about any of these exhibitors in advance of the show, visit USITT's award-winning web site at *http://www.culturenet.ca/ usitt*. Proceed to the Stage Expo pages in the Conference section, where the exhibitor listing includes company descriptions and contact information, with a direct link provided to many exhibitors' home pages. Visit USITT on the World Wide Web today, and plan now to join us in Long Beach 18-21 March 1998 for the 38th Annual USITT Conference & Stage Expo.

> Helen Willard Stage Expo Sales Manager



This conference brochure is downloadable from the USITT web page at http://www.culturenet.ca/usitt

CONFERENCE

&

STAGE EXPO[®]

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MARCH 18-21

ARCHITECTURE

We're Too Small To Hire Design Professionals: Growing the Small Theatre Introduced by Kurt Schindler of ELS/Elbasani and Logan Architects and including Art Manke from "A Noise Within" in Glendale and Bob Caine from "The Actor's Alley" in North Hollywood, this discussion session follows the story of several theatre companies in the Los Angeles area as they take the leap to new space, engage design professionals, and deal with the world of building codes, municipal agencies, and advocacy groups to create a better theatre environment.

Teach and Perform on the Same Stage?: The Design of a Teaching Theatre. The special design challenges of a teaching theatre; creating a laboratory for education and experimentation in the performing arts, and a venue for a variety of performance types and audiences are examined in the presentation of recent projects addressing these issues by BOOR/A Architects from Portland and Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates from Los Angeles.

Are Aquariums Just Theatre for Fish? Chuck Davis, Senior Principal with EHDD Architecture and designer of the original Monterey Bay Aquarium, its Outer Bay Wing as well as the new Aquarium of

the Pacific in Long Beach discusses the ways in which lessons learned from theatre design are applied to the modern aquarium and museum.

USITT CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO 1998 LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA Commission Sponsored SESSION

HIGHLIGHTS

Expo.

of portfolio creation.

Team Teaching in the Collaborative Arts · We collaborate as artists. Why is it difficult to collaborate as educators? Take

part in a panel discussion on fostering development of the theatre student by creating a collaborative environment in the classroom.

COMPUTERS

The Digitized Portfolio - Tired of lugging around 14 pounds of matted photos, all your renderings, and tubes of draftings only to discover that what they want to see

is what you left behind?? Digitize your work and store it on a CD-ROM or Zip disk. Lighten your load and be able to show more at the same time.

Non-Graphic Uses of Computers in the Theatre Photorealistic 3D pictures of the designer's concepts may look good hanging in the lobby, but spreadsheets and databases probably do more to get the set, lights, and costumes onto the stage. Find out how to really put the computer to work on your next production.

Using the World Wide Web as a Resource Tool - Want to surf? Go to the beach. Have a show to design? Mine the World Wide Web. If you know how to find it, there is an incredible amount of information available to you just a few clicks of the mouse away. Come and learn what tools are available to help find what you need on the WWW.

COSTUME DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

The Work of Deborah Dryden Fabric dyeing and painting can make a simple costume turn into a work of art. Appreciate this art while taking a retrospective look at Deborah Dryden's exceptional work as a designer, author, dyer and painter.

Desmond Heeley- The Designer and His Inspiration - Desmond Heeley, entertaining raconteur, renown designer and USITT Award winner, talks about the famous designers who inspired and mentored him in the early stages of his career.

ENGINEERING

1999 NEC - What to Expect -

The final meetings of the National Electrical Code Panels have taken place and revisions to the 1999 edition of the Code, available in September 1998, are being finalized by the National Fire Protection Association. Several members of Code Panel 15 present the results and bring us up-to-date.

COSTUME DESIGN &

TECHNOLOGY

AND EDUCATION

Heritage of Dr. Paul Reinhart - A joint two-part session, presented

by the Costume Design & Technology and Education Commissions, highlights the illustrious career of Dr. Paul D. Reinhardt, educator

and designer. Dr. Reinhardt joins a panel of his former students

who discuss his influence as both a collaborator and educator. A special exhibition of Dr. Reinhardt's work will be presented at Stage

EDUCATION

Using Portfolios for Improving and Documenting Effective Teach-

ing and Learning · Participants write and speak about their teaching and their students' learning in this interactive demonstration of

techniques for developing tenure and promotion documentation.

Exercises include basic features of teaching the art and technology

Basic Electricity - The Next Generation (Electricity 201) - In Pittsburgh, a large group of conference attendees reviewed the basic formulas of electricity, the types of electrical power and proper connection of simple dimmer packs. This tutorial explores more advanced topics related to the use of electrical power within the entertainment industry.

Hemp & Counterweight Rigging Operation & Procedures - A presentation by Jay Glerum, author of *Stage Rigging Handbook*, on how to safely operate; load, unload, raise and lower hemp and manual counterweight rigging.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Health and Safety for Women: Does it, or Should it Differ? A look at women's safety concerns in our industry. Are there concerns that are not being addressed? Are health concerns basically the same, regardless of gender?

Ventilation: Your Last Breath - A triple session focussing on one & the major health problems in theatre: providing clean, non-toxic air.

Over-Production Revisited: Shame on us! A second look at a common problem in theatre productions, originally explored in 1991 in Boston. A positive session centering on solutions to problems rather than bemoaning our fate.



Distinguished Lighting Designer for 1998 Continuing the tradition of the Lighting Commission's highly popular "Distinguished Lighting Designer Series", award-winning Broadway designer Jennifer Tipton shares her work. Ms. Tipton is one of the foremost practicing lighting designers in this country. Don't miss the rare opportunity of seeing her and her work in person.

Student Designers in the Lab — A Critique - Several lighting students from across the country will have the opportunity to present their design work live in the Long Beach Entertainment and Convention Center's Center Theatre space and receive critiques from three of the country's finest educational and professional lighting designers: Cindy Limauro, Chris Parry, and Neil Peter Jampolis. Be there to watch a Shakespeare scene unfold under different lighting interpretations and witness the critiques!

Designing with Intelligent Fixtures #1 - Emmy-winning professional lighting designer Jeff Davis tackles the challenges of designing with intelligent fixtures in today's legitimate theatre. Jeff will use the facilities of the Long Beach Entertainment and Convention Center's Center Theatre to present a demonstration of his findings.

MANAGEMENT

Changing the Cultural Environment at Work - A heated supersession beginning with an electrifying dialogue addressing how to improve cultural diversity in our workplace then concluding with practical tools for this type of conflict resolution.

International Touring Charrette - Around the world with an international production. Small groups of Facility Managers, Producers, Production Managers, Stage Managers, and others go through the process of touring a show - problems, pitfalls, brainstorming and solutions for success. Join in this exploration.

SM/PM in the Theatre - Fine Line Between Responsibility and Collaboration · Stage Managers and Production Managers from both coasts examine the working relationships between their jobs. What types of conflict exist? What are the areas of mutual concern? What solutions are there for the future?

SCENE DESIGN

Theatre of the Fraternity: An Interpretation • At the turn of the century, many fraternal organizations used state-of-the-arts scenery, costumes, lighting, and stage effects from the popular theatre as a means of deepening the initiation experience. In an exhibit at California State University, Long Beach museum, artifacts from the "secret" world of the fraternity will be displayed to explain this strange intersection of the fraternity and the theatre. On view will be rare costumes, colorful scenic sketches, unusual props, and exotic regalia. Two conference sessions help provide additional interpretation of this exhibit. First, a gallery walk with the curator and noted scholars will establish the context for the use of the artifacts and stage effects in the fraternal movement and second, an offsite trip to the Pasadena Scottish Rite Temple will provide a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to examine the 60 drops originally installed in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1902 and moved to Pasadena in 1922.

The Magic Portal: Toy Theatre Designs - An exhibition of Toy Theatre designs by Joe Musil. Mr. Musil, a restoration artist, will explain the history of toy theatres, construction techniques of the models, and his career as a historian, theatre consultant and designer. *The World's a Stage: Theatrical Designs of Joseph Musil* exhibition will be on view at Stage Expo.

REGIONAL

Design and Production for Babylon 5 - Look for insights into the production design and construction process, the melding of constructed scenery with computer-generated scenery into a single camera shot, and the design and construction of out-of-this-world properties and costumes in this panel discussion with members of the design and production staff of the hit science fiction television series Babylon 5.

Developing Your Career in 99-Seat Waiver Theatre - An important part of the L.A. theatre scene, 99-Seat Waiver theatres provide numerous opportunities for theatre designers, technicians, and stage managers to work on productions that feature experienced film and television actors. Learn how to get involved in southern California theatre through design and production for these theatres.

Special Effects Properties for Film and Television - Two special effects props artisans, specializing in constructing props for film and television, including such films as *Men in Black, Broken Arrow,* and *Twelve Monkeys,* discuss their work.

What Else Can You Do with a Theatre Degree in L.A. • Experience and advice is offered from theatre graduates who have found gainful employment and fulfilling careers in southern California's entertainment industries outside traditional theatre through jobs in such fields as themed entertainment design, lighting technology for amusement parks, and production management for television.

Special Effects Make-up- Learn about some of the latest results in special effects make-up from make-up artists who work regularly in southern California's film and television industries.

SOUND DESIGN

The Production Process in Film Sound, and its Implications for Theatre Sound Design - Mitch Chapman, from Sony Pictures, explores the relationship between the processes for sound design for theatre and sound design for film and television. Key concepts from this lecture will be examined at a tour of the sound facilities at Sony Pictures.

Sound Playback for Theatre - John Gottlieb and Eileen Smitheimer team up to present a special competitive demonstration of several digital audio systems currently being used to play back sound scores in theatres, such as computers, hard disks, minidisks, samplers, and stand alone systems.

Sound In Themed Environments - Ken Bell, from Richmond Sound Design, Ltd., puts together a panel discussion of sound designers who work in the theme park industry to discuss theatrical sound design techniques employed in commercial and exhibit settings.

TECHNICAL PRODUCTION

Employer Expectations for Technologists: Part 1 and Part 2. Technical Directors from regional theatre and university settings assess expectations for a technologist leaving an academic program and entering the job market. Audience members join the discussion in Part 2.

Technical Production Problem-Solving. Attendees will be put into small groups to solve "Technical Challenges" (inspired by the design charrette at the Pittsburgh Conference). Bring your favorite problem and your thinking cap. This session promises to strengthen our skills as problem-solvers.

Scenic Labor & Material Estimating Methods - A "must see" for all Technical Directors. Ben Sammler reviews previously presented information and provides new material on methods of scenic labor & material estimating.

ESTA Entertainment Services & Technology Association SPONSORED SESSIONS

Ground Supported Truss - A panel of experts from leading truss manufacturers discuss and demonstrate the proper use and application of ground supported truss. Discussion topics include load calculations, engineering, and safety inspection. Setup and operation are demonstrated using sample truss and rigging.

Progress Reports on ESTA Standards - A report from the Technical Standards Committee of the Entertainment Services and Technology Association discussing both the adopted, as well as pending, technical standards and recommended practices concerning control protocols, fog and rigging safety, photometrics and other topics related to technical production.

DMX Distribution Panel discussion with hands on demonstration of the ways and means to distribute DMX control signal between consoles, dimmers, scrollers and other devices. When to use splitters, terminators, routers and other devices for secure transmission.

League of Resident Theatres

A Tour of the Regional Theatres - Visit 8-10 regional professional theatres in a slide tour presented by a representative of each of the theatres.

Employment Opportunities in the LORT Theatres - A panel of LORT production managers discuss how to find employment in the LORT Theatres, including what they want entry level people to know prior to being hired.

> PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

Half, full and two day intensive work shops designed to provide you with special opportunities to increase your professional skills and knowledge. Sign up early, spaces are limited. See REGISTRATION FORM for pricing.

Synergetic Audio Concepts

System Design Seminar Monday, March 16 8:00 am - 5:00 pm and Tuesday, March 17 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

For 25 years, Syn Aud Con has been providing training in designing sound

reinforcement systems. The Design Seminar is the most comprehensive short-course in system design available today. The contractor. consultant, and advanced system operator will enjoy this two-day audio and acoustic experience, and will leave with the knowledge and tools necessary to design sound reinforcement systems from the drawing board stage of the project. Registration includes lunches and coffee breaks. This Workshop takes place at California State University at Long Beach.

Management & Leadership Academy #13 - Managing is

Everyone's Business Monday, March 16 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm and

Tuesday, March 10 0.00 pm 10.00 pm and Tuesday, March 17 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Understanding ourselves and understanding

our staff is the "key" to managing our Join colleagues at the 13th business. Academy and get to know yourself better as a manager and what it takes to sharpen those skills which make supervising and working with people the "key" to a successful organization. Monday evening will include the Personal Profile along with a session on what it takes to Teambuild. The Leadership track offered on Tuesday will examine Quality Management, Leadership Qualities, Strategic Planning, Dealing with Conflict, and Situational Leadership. Whether you have been a manager for years or are just beginning your career as a supervisor, the Management & Leadership Academy is something you won't want to miss.

L.A. Scene Shop Tours:

Construction Techniques and

Employment Opportunities Tuesday, March 17 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Visit Los Angeles scene shops specializing in scenery construction for theatre, film. television, and industrial/commercial presentations. Participate in discussions on construction techniques and employment opportunities at Lexington Scenic and Cinnabar-California. You will have the opportunity to see some sights and buy your lunch at a midday stop at Universal City Walk.

Drawing, Rendering and Painting: The Historical Method

Tuesday, March 17 9:00 am - 6:00 pm As a supplement to the "Theatre of the Fraternity" exhibit and programming, a special professional development workshop is devoted to revealing the "secrets" used by scenic artists at the turn of the century. Participants will get the opportunity to experience hands-on drawing and painting techniques used by artists in Victorian and early twentieth-century studios. The workshop presenters all have extensive experience in researching and replicating historic wing and drop scenery and they will share their knowledge, along with the "tricks" of illusionary painting. In addition they will describe their successful incorporation of historic techniques into teaching design and scene painting. This session will be offered at the scene shop at California State University, Long Beach.

Photographing the Scene Tuesday, March 17 SESSION 1: 9:00 am - 12:00 noon SESSION 2: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Two identical sessions demonstrating the technique and process of photography for the theatre are scheduled with nationally-known photographer of theatre and opera, Ken Howard. Ken Howard's photographs appear in Time Magazine, American Theatre Magazine and many other national publications. Mr. Howard is the Production Photographer for Los Angeles Opera, San Francisco Opera, Old Globe Theatre, and South Coast Repertory His Broadway credits include Theatre. Hapgood, Pride's Crossing, Damn Yankees and The Who's Tommy. Film credits include Crossing Delancy and PBS American Short Stories Series.

Lighting Game Shows -

"Wheel of Fortune"

Tuesday, March 17 2:30 pm - 11:00 pm Jim Moody, lighting designer, USITT Fellow, Director-At-Large, and author leads this demonstration of techniques for lighting game shows and other TV situations on the "Wheel of Fortune" Sound Stage at Sony Pictures. Participants will have the opportunity to see the taping of Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy.

Real Ladies Wear Corsets!

Tuesday, March 17 9:00 am - 6:00 pm A full day hands on workshop devoted to pattern development, sizing, modification, construction & fitting of 19th Century Victorian corsets. Participants will develop, size, sew/construct and learn to fit a Victorian corset. This workshop takes place at California State University at Long Beach.

Rendering on the Computer

Tuesday, March 17 9:00 am - 6:00 pm Ready to give up your pencil? Explore the possibilities of computer assisted drawing and design using Fractal Painter and Poser. Following a session on the general use of these programs, participants will divide into groups by design areas of scenery, costumes or lighting for more in-depth exploration.

Understanding Your Personal and

Professional Management Style Tuesday, March 17 6:30 pm - 10:00 pm

Indextal, match is tyle you bring to your professional responsibilities. The Personality Profile Instrument helps you learn what type of manager, leader and worker you really are. The Personality Profile System helps yo

learn how to better create the motivational environment most conducive to success in your organization and enables you to better anticipate and minimize potential conflicts with others.

USITE CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO 1998

STAGE EXPO

HOURS Thursday, March 19 9:30 am - 5:00 pm Friday, March 20 9:30 am - 5:00 pm Saturday, March 21 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

For information on exhibiting call Helen Willard at 800-398-EXP0 or 315-461-9088



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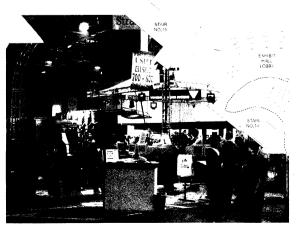
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STAIR NO.14

EXHIBITORS AT 11/1/97 220 A.C. Lighting, Inc. 105 Alcone/Mutual Hardware Corp. AlterYears 447 Apollo Design Technology 370 232 ATM Flyware Automatic Devices Company 107 631 Baer Fabrics 535 Barbizon 230 Broadway Press 446 Bulbman, Inc. 125 CAE Inc. 200 J.R. Clancy, Inc. 216 Clear Com Intercom Systems 350 Columbus McKinnon Corporation Crescit Software Incorporated 650 The Crosby Group, Inc. 231 550 Custom Rigging Systems 430 Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc. 305 Entertainment Services & Technology Association GALA 120 530 Gothic Coatings, Inc. 100 The Great American Market 315 H&H Specialities Inc. 800 High End Systems, Inc. 330 Intertec / TCI + Lighting Dimensions 240 Irwin Seating Company 600 Kryolan Corporation Lee Filters 340 860 Le Maitre Special Effects Inc. 106 Limelight Productions Inc. 246 LuxArt Conception Inc. Mann Brothers 150 745 MDG Fog 318 Mehron, Inc. Meyer Sound Labs 640 Milliken & Company 448 560 Musson Theatrical - TV - Film 440 Neiman Supply Company 110 Norcostco Inc. 141 Ben Nye Makeup 500 Olesen Premier Lighting & Production Co. 351 Protech 250 205 Rosco Laboratories Inc. 300 Rose Brand Sapsis Rigging Inc. 420 345 Sculptural Arts Coating, Inc. 660 SECOA SSP Group Inc. 842 Stage Directions Magazine 633 700 StageRight Corporation 445 Stageworks 225 Steeldeck, Inc. 310 Strand Lighting

- 740 Strong International, Inc.
- Surety Manufacturing & Testing Ltd. 317
- 540 Syracuse Scenery
- & Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- 840 Technical Projects, Inc.
- 630 Theatre Arts Video Library
- 218 James Thomas Engineering, Inc.
- 545 Tomcat USA, Inc.
- 202 Union Connector
- 632 United Scenic Artists Local 829 410
- Vincent Lighting/Future Light
- 460 Warner Bros. Studios Facilities 651 Weapons of Choice
- 400 Wenger Corporation
- 770 ZFX, Inc. Flying Illusions

MARCH 19-21

STAGF

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

*** Please complete all of the information requested on the** REGISTRATION FORM. The DATABASE INFORMATION will be used to update current member information and for new members. Complete the BADGE INFORMATION as you would like your badge printed. Please copy the REGISTRATION FORM and complete an additional BADGE INFORMATION section for joint member or guest conference registrants.

***** Fill in the circles for the coded items you select and indicate the total amount for each section and the TOTAL DUE for all items. Mail forms with check payment, fax forms with credit card payments.

★ School purchase orders are accepted for payment. USITT will invoice schools the day the purchase order is received. In order to take advantage of advance discounts, actual payment from the school must be received by the deadlines noted. IF YOU ARE USING A PURCHASE ORDER FOR PAYMENT, SUBMIT YOUR PAPERWORK EARLY.

★ Registrations for Student Conference fees and membership renewals must be accompanied by a copy of your student ID.

* Children under the age of 12 are not allowed at Stage Expo.

***** Complete conference information, including registration forms is on the USITT Web page at http://www.culturenet.ca/usitt

* QUESTIONS? Call USITT 800-93USITT

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES

FULL CONFERENCE includes all conference sessions, seminars, Stage Expo, special exhibitions (except Professional Development Workshops and Awards Banquet). Non-Member registrants receive a full year of USITT membership.	VERY EARLY Before 11/30/97 amount code	ADVANCE 12/1- 2/12/98 amount code	LATE/ ON SITE After 2/13/98 amount code
USITT Member USITT Student Member Non-Member Non-Member Student Joint Member/Guest (second person, sameaddress)	\$210 A1 \$125 B1 \$315 C1 \$195 D1 \$150 E1	\$260 A2 \$170 B2 \$365 C2 \$240 D2 \$200 E2	\$310 A3 \$215 B3 \$415 C3 \$285 D3 \$250 E3
ONE DAY ONLY includes all conference sessions, seminars, Stage Expo, special exhibitions for the day of your choice- Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday	\$125 F1	\$200 F2	\$250 F3
STAGE EXPO ONLY includes admittance to the show floor and special exhibitions on the show floor.	\$25 G1	\$30 G2	\$35 G3

CANCELLATION AND WAIT LIST POLICIES

* Conference Registration Fee, Professional Development Workshop Fee and Banquet Tickets: 80% refund of fees paid will be made if you cancel your registration prior to February 12, 1998. 50% refund will be made if you cancel your registration prior to March 2, 1998. NO REFUNDS are available if you cancel your registration on or after March 2, 1998.

* There are minimum and maximum enrollments for Professional Development Workshops. Workshops with insufficient enrollment may be cancelled. You will be placed on a waiting list if you register for an over-enrolled workshop. Your registration confirmation will indicate your status and you may elect to register for an alternate workshop or cancel your registration for a full refund.

* ALL REQUESTS FOR CANCELLATION REFUNDS MUST BE MADE BY LETTER OR FAX.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WORKSHOP FEES

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AWARDS BANQUET

Saturday, March 21 - Long Beach Entertainment	& Conven-
tion Center. Happy Hour - 6:00 pm, Dinner - 7	:00 pm
MEDITERRANEAN PASTA penne pasta with fresh herbs,	
dried tomatoes, olives in tomato basil sauce	\$32 \$1
PACIFIC RIM SWORDFISH grilled, presented on bok choy	
bed with ginger lime butter, rice, vegetables	\$41 \$2
ROASTED PRIME RIB OF BEEF rock salt and pepper crust,	
au jus and creamed horseradish, potatoes, carrots	\$43 \$3

USITT MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL

You may renew your USITT membership as you register for the conference. Renewals only, please.

INDIVIDUAL	\$80 U1	STUDENT	\$48	U2
PROFESSIONAL	\$125 U3	SENIOR	\$64	U4
JOINT	\$120 US	ORGANIZATIONAL	\$125	U6
SUSTAINING	\$400 U7	CONTRIBUTING	\$800	18

STUDENT MEMBERS MUST PROVIDE A COPY OF THEIR CURRENT STUDENT ID WITH THEIR RENEWAL.

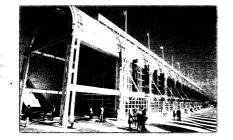
ENDOWMENT DONATIONS

Support the only organization in North America that directly grants support for performing arts design and technology projects and research with your tax deductible contribution the USITT/Edward F. Kook Endowment Fund.

\$5 YI	\$10 Y2	\$25 ¥3	\$50 Y4
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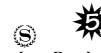
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USITT CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO 1998

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Wednesday, March 18 -Saturday, March 21

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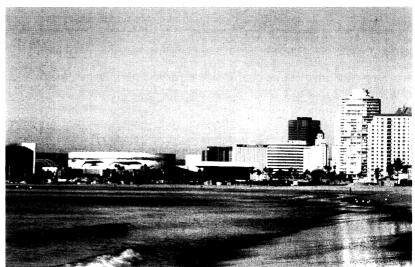
Airline and car rental reservations may be made by fax, mail, phone or email. Use the TRAVEL REQUEST FORM to request flight and car rental information.

To inaugurate this new service, USITT will give a FREE Hertz Gold Card club membership (\$50 value) to the first 100 conference registrants who make their travel arrangements with **BTI AMERICAS**!

In addition, conference registrants using this service will be eligible for a drawing for a free flight.

Your use of the official USITT Conference travel agency allows the Institute to earn flights for special invited Conference guests and staff travel.

Long Beach, Califo In A



Schedule some time to play, too!

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Additional Requirements _____

USITT ANNUAL CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO LONG BEACH 1998

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

Monday - Tuesday March 16-17

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A series of half and full day workshops focusing on design, management and technical performing arts topics.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Wednesday - Saturday March 18-21

4 days of conference activities are filled with over 150 sessions targeting performing arts design, technology, architecture, management, engineering and production; computer demonstration and training center; New Products Showcase; and exhibitions of the art and crafts of stage design at Stage Expo.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Long Beach, California - a big city, down by the beach. Long Beach is sophisticated, funky and fun and its central Southern California location puts some of the world's most famous attractions within easy reach. The newly expanded Convention & Entertainment Center features spectacular glass concourses overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Long Beach has the charm, the excitement, the climate, a choice of three airports and a good selection of hotel rooms that will attract a large conference audience.



United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc. is the American Association of Design and Production Professionals in the Performing Arts. The mission of the Institute is to actively promote advancement of the knowledge and skills of its 4000+ members and to facilitate communication among individuals and organizations engaged in all aspects of design and production in the performing arts.

The USITT Conference & Stage Expo is produced annually by USITT in a North American city. This prestige event is a focal point for all performing arts professionals, attracting an estimated 3,500 attendees from all over the world.

Conference and Membership Information TD&T and Sightlines Advertising Sales:

USITT National Office 6443 Ridings Road Syracuse, NY 13206-1111 800-93-USITT 315-463-6463 FAX 315-463-6525

Stage Expo & Conference Program Advertising Sales

USITT Sales Office 101 Monarch Drive Liverpool, NY 13088-4514 800-398-EXPO 315-461-9088 FAX 315-461-9087

TECHNICAL SOURCE GUIDE

FAST AND FLEXIBLE FLAT FRAMES

By Roy Hoglund, Scenic / Lighting Designer and Coordinator of Theatre, University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh

Scenery construction using light gauge steel tube is nothing new. However, its flexibility in a multi-use situation has not been extensively explored. At the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, the use of this material for flat construction was developed out of a need to produce 8-foot by 16-foot scrim-covered flats with no internal supports which could be rigged to fly. We chose 1-inch square, 16-gauge steel tube.

Steel tubing flats are normally constructed with butt welds in the corners. However, we have a shortage of storage space in our facility, and we generally try to build scenic pieces that can serve multiple roles in our inventory, so we devised a connecting joint that would facilitate easy disassembly of our steel tube flats. A 1-foot section of 3/4-inch square, 16 gauge steel tube was butt welded at a 90 degree angle to the ends of the top and bottom rail sections of the frame. Flats were assembled by simply sliding the rail sections into the style sections.

One-inch wide strips of 1/4-inch plywood were attached with contact adhesive to the back of the framing members. Half-inch self-tapping screws where driven through the plywood every 18 inches to hold the plywood in place until the adhesive had set up. The flats were covered with scrim by drawing the fabric around the steel tube and stapling it to the 1/4-inch plywood on the back side. Drawing the fabric around the frame, while normally not a good idea in flat construction, served our purposes well for three reasons: 1) all visible edges of the flat were covered, creating a clean rectangular unit, 2) stretching the fabric around the edges pulled the framing members together and held them tight thereby making it unnecessary to have any locking device to hold the frame pieces together, and 3) we planned to disassemble the flats for storage after each show, so we didn't have to worry about the fabric on the edges getting worn from repeated dragging and shifting.

In order to fly the frame unit, 1/2-inch holes were drilled through the ends of the 1-inch square steel tube rails into the 3/4-inch internal sleeve pieces. By doing this we were able to feed 1/16-inch cable through the top rail, completely around the hollow tube frame, and back out through the hole at the other end of the top rail. The continuous length of cable was connected to the batten for flying purposes. In the event that the frame did not hang straight, it was simply moved slightly on one side or the other for adjustment. The final weight of the finished 8-foot by 16-foot frame was less then 40 lbs., making it easy for two people to handle.

These square steel tube flats have served us well through our many productions each year. The sleeving process has enabled us to create flat frames of various sizes, which we have covered with a variety of fabrics. When the flats are broken down, the fabric is folded or rolled for storage and the structural members take up very little storage space.

SHARE YOUR SOULTIONS WITH THE TECHNICAL SOURCE GUIDE

your name

company/institution

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Name of product/technique:

Date the product/technique was used:

Name, address and telephone number of product manufacturer:

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TECHNICAL SOURCE GUIDE • A project of the USITT Technical

Production Commission

#29 – Fast and Flexible Flat Frames

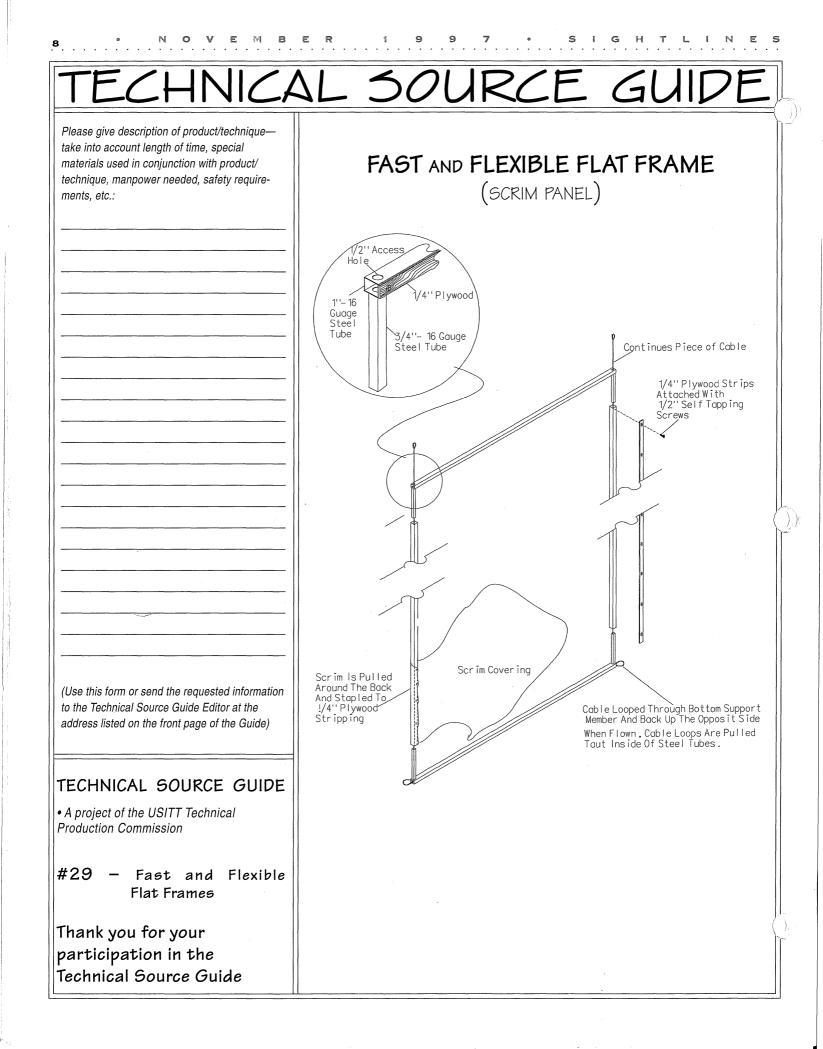
Editor: Roy Hoglund

Associate Editors: A. D. Carson, Jonathan Darling, Timothy Francis, Martin Gwinup, Fritz Schwentker

Technical Source Guide 514 West Parkway Boulevard Appleton, WI 54911 414-424-7051

E-mail: hoglund@vaxa.cis.uwosh.edu

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United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc. is pleased to announce that it is accepting nominations for ...



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TECHNICAL PRODUCTION AWARD

Awarded to an individual who has demonstrated excellence or outstanding potential in the area of technical direction or production in the performing arts while pursuing a graduate degree.



AWARD FOR LIGHTING DESIGN

Awarded to an individual who has demonstrated excellence or outstanding potential in the area of lighting in the performing arts while pursuing a graduate degree.

Winners will be presented with a check for \$1000 at the Fellows Reception held during the USITT Conference & Stage Expo in Long Beach, March 18-21, 1998. usitt Zelma H. Weisfeld

COSTUME DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY AWARD

Awarded to an individual who has demonstrated excellence or outstanding potential in the area of costume design or technology in the performing arts while pursuing a graduate degree.



Awarded to an individual who has demonstrated excellence or outstanding potential in the area of sound in the performing arts while pursuing a graduate degree.



Awarded to an individual who has demonstrated excellence or outstanding potential in the area of scene design in the performing arts while pursuing a graduate degree.

These Awards are made possible by generous gifts from their sponsors to THE NEW CENTURY FUND

Awards

for

Young

Designers

& Technicians

in the

Performing

Arts

Deadline is December 5, 1997

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The Nomination Process

All nominations must be accompanied by three recommendations detailing why the individual being nominated should be considered for this award. The award panelists evaluate nominees based on demonstrated excellence in creative, innovative and imaginative approaches to design and production. Clear and concise documentation of the creative work of the nominee is expected. Each nominator is required to provide a current resume and samples of the work from the nominee as listed below.

Nominations must be from USITT members in good standing. Student members can not nominate themselves or other student members. In order to be eligible the nominee must be completing or have completed an advanced degree with in the last two years from an accredited college or university in North America. Nominations must be postmarked by December 5, 1997.

The 1998 Awards for Young Designers and Technicians in the Performing Arts will be announced and winners will be presented with a check for \$1000 at the Fellows Reception held during the USITT Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Long Beach, March 18-21, 1998.



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Nominators must cite examples of work that feature the individual's creative application of technical direction and/or production management in the performing arts. Examples must be cited that demonstrate excellence in such areas as, but not limited to, all types of construction, rigging, drafting, engineering, computer applications, personnel management, research and the effective use of resources. Samples of work must include either slides (up to 10), or a sample portfolio.

usitt COSTUME DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY AWARD

Nominators must cite examples of work that feature the individual's creative application of costume design and/or technology in the performing arts. Examples must be cited that demonstrate excellence in such areas as, but not limited to, compositional skill, Zelma H. Weisfeld rendering, patterning, construction, craft work, computer applications, personnel management, research and the effective use of resources. Samples of work must include either slides (up to 10), or a sample portfolio.



Nominators must cite examples of work that feature the individual's creative application of lighting design in the performing arts. Examples must be cited that demonstrate excellence in such areas as, but not limited to, compositional skill, rendering, drafting, engineering, computer applications, personnel management, research and the effective use of resources. Samples of work must include either slides ARD FOR LIGHTING DESIGN UP to 10), or a sample portfolio.



Nominators must cite examples of work that feature the individual's creative application of scene design in the performing arts. Examples must be cited that demonstrate excellence in such areas as, but not limited to, compositional skill, rendering, graphics ability, scene painting, craft work, computer applications, personnel management, research and the effective use of resources. Samples of work must include either slides (up to 10), or a sample portfolio of work that represents the level of quality of the nominee's work.



Nominators must cite examples of work that feature the individual's creative application of sound in the performing arts. Examples must be cited that demonstrate excellence in areas such as, but not limited to, sound design, reinforcement, system engineering, recording, editing, research and the effective use of resources. Samples of the nominee's work must include a cassette tape. DAT, CD-ROM or VHS samples are also acceptable.

Please check the appropriate Award catagory:

Technical Production Costu	ume 🗌 Lighting	Scene Design	□ Sound
Name of Nominee			
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YOUNG DESIGNERS' FORUM

NOTHING TO LOSE, EVERYTHING TO LEARN

The Young Designers' Forum is happening again this year on March 20th and 21st during the USITT Conference & Stage Expo in Long Beach. It promises to be another great opportunity for young designers to show their design work to working designers and directors. This is a unique chance for students to get valuable feedback from professionals, in a short period of time, and under very little pressure. There's really nothing to lose and everything to learn, and we encourage *every* young designer to take advantage of this opportunity.

The Young Designers' Forum is open to any graduate design student in the final year of study and is based on submitted examples of Sportfolio work, both realized and Project designs (including supporting material). There is a maximum number of 20 participants, chosen by faculty nomination and juried selection.

An application form is included in the conference preview guide which will be mailed to all members in December. Please contact Dick Block (tel: 412-268-7219; e-mail: rblock+@ andrew.cmu.edu) or Tim Saternow (tel: 803-486-4185; e-mail: TSATERNOW@finearts. sfa.uconn.edu) if you have any questions.

> Dick Block Co-Commissioner, Scene Design Commission

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COSTUME DESIGN

The Department of Theatre and Drama, Indiana University, Bloomington, seeks applicants to fill a tenure track, 10-month position at the rank of assistant professor in the area of costuming. Responsibilities will include: teaching costume design and rendering, crafts, history, and makeup; supervising student costume design projects; designing at least one major departmental production each academic year; heading MFA costume design program; serving on MFA and department committees. The department offers BA, MA, MFA (costume design, scene design, lighting design, scenic technology and acting, directing and playwriting), and Ph.D. degrees.

Qualifications: terminal degree or equivalent professional experience; teaching experience; significant design experience required; professional experience desirable. **Salary**: dependent upon qualifications and experience. **Begin**: August 15, 1998. Send cover letter, vita, and three letters of recommendation, non-returnable samples of work—perhaps slides or color photocopies of preliminary costume sketches and renderings—on or before December 5, 1997 to:

Leon I. Brauner, Chairperson Department of Theatre and Drama Theatre Building 200

Indiana Univ. Bloomington, IN 47405-5111 Indiana University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

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The University of Kansas; MFA in Scenography; teaching assistantships in Lighting, Scenic, Costume Production, Makeup; 3-year curriculum; Opportunities on CAD, Virtual Reality, film production; G.T.A. stipends are \$10,500 plus full tuition waiver. Contact:

Delores Ringer, Dept. of Theatre and Film University of Kansas Lawrence, KS 66045 tel: 785-864-3381 fax: 785-864-5251 Web site: http://www.ukans. edu/~theatre

ESTA PUBLICATIONS

ESTA, the Entertainment Services and Technology Association has produced three publications that belong in the well-informed technician's library: the ESTA Standard for the Construction and Use of Wire Rope Ladders, the Introduction to Modern Atmospheric Effects, and Recommended Practice for Ethernet Cabling Systems in Entertainment Lighting Application. The wire rope ladder standard describes how to make and use wire rope ladders safely, while the introduction to atmospheric effects offers guidance on selecting and using theatrical fogs. The Recommended Practice for Ethernet Cabling Systems describes preferred system topologies, hardware, and labeling practices for reliable lighting system operation. All three publications are available from the USITT National Office.

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR DESIGNERS

Theatre Communications Group, under a cooperative arrangement with the National Endowment for the Arts, will offer six stage designers \$17,500 in support to develop their skills and expand their knowledge of the field by working with one or more senior artists. Early-career scenic, costume and lighting designers are encouraged to apply and the deadline is January 15, 1998. Guidelines and applications can be obtained by contacting:

NEA/TCG Career Development Program for Designers Theatre Communications Group 355 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10017 tel: 212-697-5230 e-mail: grants@tcg.org. Applicants with Web access can download guidelines at: http:// www.tcg.org/career/design.html.

LONDON DESIGN PROGRAM

Study in London, September 14 to December 20, 1998, with professional directors and designers. See current theatre productions and receive academic credit. Sponsored by Washington University, the British American Drama Academy and The Motley Theatre Design Course. Contact:

International Studies Washington University Box 1088 One Brookings Drive St. Louis, MO 63130 tel: 314-935-5958 fax: 314-935-4075 e-mail: overseas@artsci.wustl.edu.

RATES

Sightlines classified ads are \$1 per word with a \$50 mininum. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Contact Michelle Smith at 800-93-USITT, 315-463-6463, or via e-mail at msm@pppmail.appliedtheory.com.

COMMERCIAL ENDORSEMENT POLICY

USITT is very proud of its commercial members and encourages the research and development of new products by these members. Such improvements are a tremendous benefit to all USITT members. We are pleased to announce the release of new products, and report on the activities and successes of commercial members, however, USITT does not recommend or endorse specific companies or products.

LIGHTING COMMISSION

ILLUMINATING SESSIONS

As we put the finishing touches on our sessions for the USITT Conference & Stage Expo in Long Beach, we want to let everyone know about some of the more luminous events on the lineup.

We are very pleased to honor Jennifer Tipton as our Distinguished Lighting Designer for 1998. Other exciting sessions we have planned include a visit with some CEOs of leading lighting companies who will share their thoughts on industry trends into the next century. Directors, scenic and lighting designers get together to discuss the collaborative process in a session entitled, "Collaboration: Questions We Should Have Asked." Ellen Jones and Craig Wolf will conduct an informative master class on lighting thrust stages, offering methods and tips for dealing with this challenging type of venue.

We are currently seeking student designers to participate in "Student Designers in the Lab: A Critique." Young designers will light a scene from a Shakespeare play, performed live, using a repertory plot. They will then have the opportunity to have their work critiqued by three outstanding educational and professional lighting designers: Cindy Limauro, Chris Parry and Neil Peter Jampolis. To take advantage of this wonderful opportunity, just send your resume to Christopher Popowich at Carnegie Mellon University, School of Drama, CSA 108, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Participation in this session is open to both undergraduate and graduate lighting designers.

Soon we will be soliciting your programming ideas for the 1999 conference—if you have some ideas about what you would like to see and hear at the Toronto conference, now is the time to start focusing your thoughts.

> Ann M. Archbold Vice-Commissioner for Long Beach Programming



USITE SIGNTIMES

6443 RIDINGS RD., SYRACUSE, NY 13206-1111

USITT CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 1997

- 10 USITT Architecture Awards Program entries due
- 15 Editorial deadline for Sightlines (December issue)
- 25 Conference Programming: Program Coordinator mails Long Beach Conference draft program for review
- 30 Very Early Conference Registration deadline

DECEMBER 1997

- 1 Editorial deadline for TD&T (winter issue)
- 5 KM Fabrics, Inc. Technical Productions Award nominations due Clear-Com Sound Achievement Award nominations due Barbizon Award for Lighting Design nominations due Zelma H. Weisfeld Costume Design & Technology Award nominations due

Rose Brand Award for Scene Design nominations due 10 *Conference Programming*:

- FINAL DEADLINE for Long Beach Conference Program information: session titles, descriptions, chair names and presenter biographies
- FINAL DEADLINE for receipt of Long Beach Conference session technical needs: audio/visual, computer equipment, etc.
- Recommendations for 1999 Toronto Conference due to VP Programming
- 15 Editorial deadline for Sightlines (January issue)

JANUARY 1998

- 10 Conference Programming: Confirm USITT non-member presenter travel and housing arrangements
- 15 Editorial deadline for Sightlines (February issue)
- 16 National Office: Mail Call for Reports for Conference Board Meetings

PERIODICALS MAIL

31 USITT Grants & Fellowship Program applications due

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