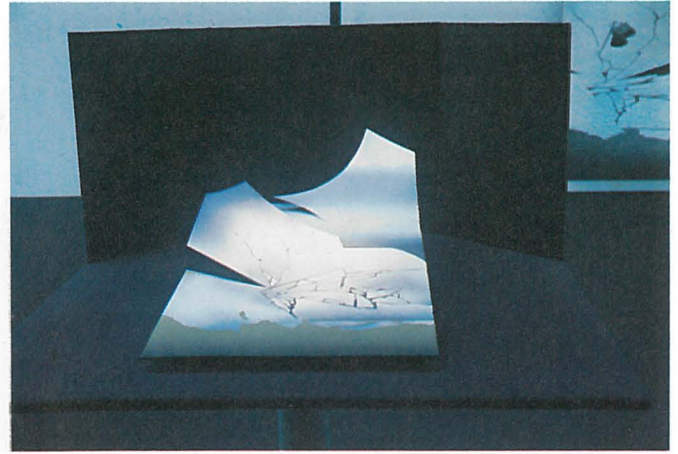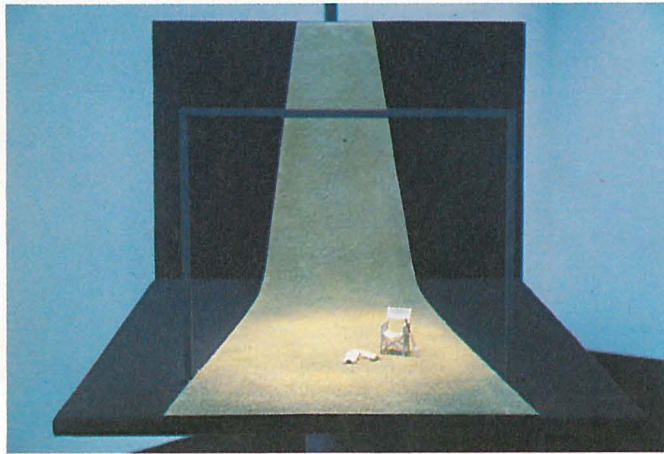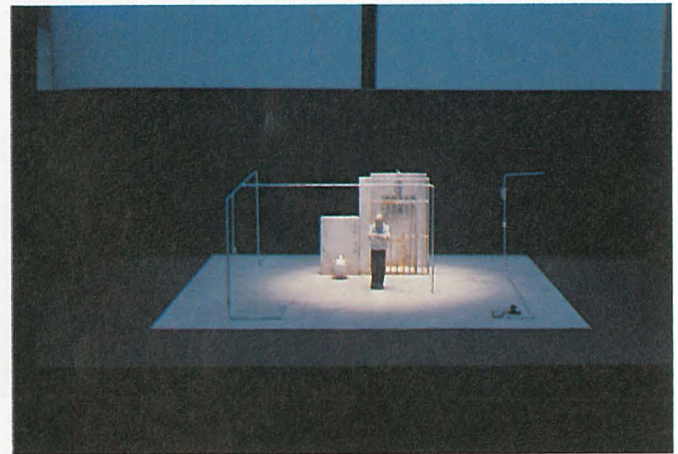John Bury *Strife* National Theatre

Ralph Koltai *Brand* National Theatre

Mary Moore *Gimme Shelter* Royal Court

Chris Dyer *Jail Diary of Albie Sachs* RSC Other Place

in theatre design in the post war years, and only now have yielded their laurels to the west, the west in the form of Great Britain!

The British exhibit, put together by the Socity of British Theatre Designers, was distilled from our very successful Riverside Exhibition of last February. The distilling process was entrusted to a small panel of two directors: William Gaskill and Christopher Morahan; two designers: Jocelyn Herbert and Ralph Koltai; and a representative from each of the Arts Council and the British Council. I chaired the panel jointly with Peter Gill, the Director of Riverside Studios.

We didn't want a large and representative exhibition. We had seen too many of these from other countries at Prague, and that way boredom lay! We had to risk offending people—we had to choose the unique. We found seven models and six sets of drawings—to these we added the work of three selected designers who genuinely had not been able to exhibit at Riverside. To this we added the wonderful puppets of Jennifer Carey and the exhibition was complete.

All we needed now was money. A grant of £3000.00 from the British Council was a great improvement on the £250.00 we received in 1975, but still not much compared to the sums at the disposal of other countries: only about a tenth, for example, of that available to our close rivals, the

Alison Chitty – Costume drawings for *The Tempest* (Harpy) and *Fanshen* (poor peasants). Victoria Theatre, Stoke on Trent.

West Germans. Still, it paid for the transport, some nice frames for the drawings, and a distingished set of labels. What more could we want?

All the designers provided the displays at their own expense, and all except the few who raised travel grants paid for themselves to Prague. All that worries us is a possible complacent feeling in high places that if we were properly funded we wouldn't be near-