

STRAND EFFECTS LIGHTING

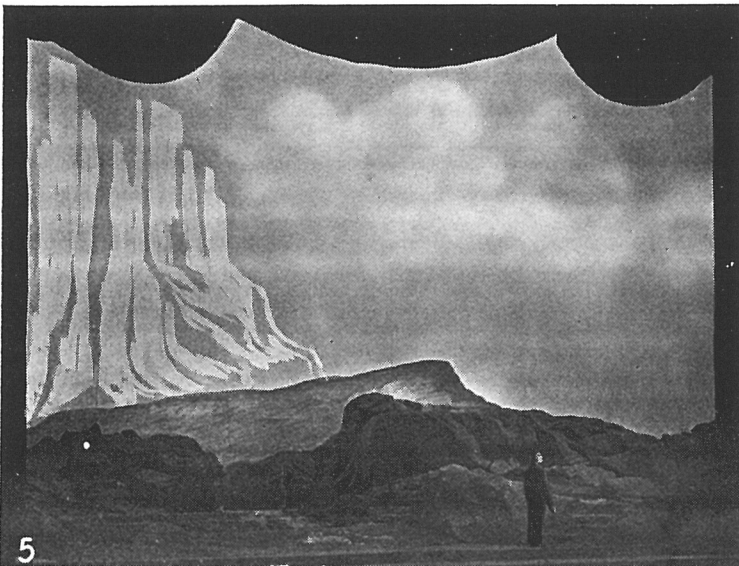
The possibilities of optical effects are fully realized by the producer of to-day. There are situations where an optical effect, be it realist or impressionist, gives a finishing touch to the production unobtainable in any other way.

Wide though the range is of standard optical effects that Strand Electric have to offer, special facilities are provided for carrying out the producer's own ideas. Optical effects, provided their lanterns and projection beams are borne in mind when designing the scenery, may be projected successfully on the largest stages. This is well demonstrated by their extensive use in "The Ring" at the Covent Garden Opera House. Here the effects of under the Rhine, The Rainbow Bridge, the Castle of Valhalla, The Ring of Fire, and The Rise of the Rhine, and extensive use of Clouds are all obtained by optical means.

The varied uses to which STRAND effects have and are put, in revues, pantomimes, and musical plays, at famous London theatres like Drury Lane, The Palace, Lyceum, Hippodrome, and The Saville, are too well known to need description. Extensive use is made of them abroad in the Casino de Paris and the Folies Bergere in Paris.

In the serious theatre, effects must be kept strictly in the background, as they must not distract attention from the actor. However many are the special effects that have been successfully used at the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, The Old Vic, Sadlers Wells, and Westminster Theatre, and in each of these theatres scene projection to a greater or lesser degree has been successfully carried out.

It is not generally realized that scene projection is feasible from STRAND optical effects lanterns without expensive apparatus, if allowance is made in the design of the set and lighting plot. It is not possible anywhere in the world whatever the apparatus used, to project a full stage set and yet fully light the actors; it is, however, quite possible to compromise very satisfactorily.



Optical Effects at Covent Garden Opera House for "Rheingold"

For the Cinema, it is worth noting, that STRAND optical effects fit both the Brenograph and the Ross Effects Machines. Opportunities for their use in Organ Interludes and stage shows are constantly occurring.

Apart from the optical projection of effects, effects lighting can take many forms, and Strand Electric have produced many memorable results in the past, as, for instance, the fireworks effects in "Waltzes from Vienna," at the Alhambra Theatre, the Samoiloff productions at the London Hippodrome, providing complete change of scene under the eyes of the audience, and the Indian Rope Trick in "Golden Toy," at the London Coliseum, carried out by Ultra Violet Rays.

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