

# GSX™

# WITH GENIUS™...



GSX Lighting Console.

Memory lighting control consoles have reached a level of sophistication where even the techno-enthusiasts find it increasingly difficult to compare the benefits of one sparkling feature with another, and even when they've reached a decision will they ever make use of all the functions? The race for ever more gadgets and widgets on lighting controls seems unending, but Strand's GSX with Genius console has at last broken the traditional mould.

The problem was a simple one for us to identify. If we created a new entry-level lighting console, should it keep up with the race and include all of the known and anticipated functions and features of current memory consoles (and burden the user with the complexity and additional cost involved), or should it be designed within the budget of even the smallest venue, without the frills needed for a full-scale musical?

We looked to the computer world for guidance. If we created a console which would accept individual application programs, users would be able to buy what they needed now, at a price they could afford, and add functions and capacity later, simply by purchasing the required software packs. The way lighting consoles were sold prior to GSX was like buying a PC with software for word processing, spreadsheet, database, graphics, desktop publishing, accounts and CAD all built in. GSX is showing the way of the future, and here's how.

The GSX by itself is an extremely attractive stage weight. It does nothing at all except look pretty and draw crowds. But open a pack of software called *Genius*, insert the 3.5" disk, and GSX transfers the software into its internal ROM memory. This is only done once. The 'foundation'

program, as *Genius* is known, brings the GSX to life as a basic memory lighting console. Mind you, this is still a system of considerable capability. The version of *Genius* chosen depends on the channel capacity required; either 25, 50, 75, 100 or 125 channels. All GSX with *Genius* consoles will control up to 512 dimmers (using DMX), 384 dimmers using Strand's European D54 Mux protocol, or 192 dimmers with AMX protocol.

Once the foundation has been loaded, the GSX is ready for action. The only additional task is to register the copy of software with Strand Lighting. After registration a code number is given to the user to override the 28-day software protection clock which closes down the recording function as part of its copy protection feature.

GSX is a compact, lightweight ergonomic console with 24 submasters, two playbacks - manual and auto - a level & rate wheel, an auto playback. It has 'Go' and 'Stop/back' functions, 3 Effects playbacks with 'Go', 'Stop/back' and manual step, soft function keys and a Grand Master fader and Blackout. An LCD display on the console panel provides detailed information and describes the functions of the 'soft' (unassigned) keys at any time.

As you would expect from a new Strand memory console, the GSX with *Genius* has a powerful specification. GSX continues Strand's philosophy of ease of use, and even has a choice of how you enter the information (you may prefer to type in percentages rather than digits). To help with setting the lighting, the channel control can mix channels, cues and submasters, undo any change, switch off lighting fast using REMDIM (remainder dim) or solo.

Recording is made easier than ever with auto selection of the next

free cue number, recording with and without submasters, renumbering, updating features and undo. For the performance, there are two playbacks, automatic and manual, plus 24 submasters. The submasters can have programmable fade times, and up to 12 can be set as inhibitive. Simple chase effects are available with 3 effects memories. A total of 10 macros provide short cuts to more complex actions of up to 32 key presses. Macros can also be used for automated control triggered through the keypad, submasters, handheld remote or by date and time.

There are two proportional patches, and show storage and retrieval on MS-DOS compatible 3.5" disks offers automatic backup copies of the show, plus the usual copying of cues, submasters, effects and set-up memories.

The power of the GSX with *Genius* is impressive by itself, and for many users the *Genius* foundation software answers all their needs and more. But what happens when a new show requires more dimmers, and you need more channels? Simply purchase as many *Genius* 25-channel upgrade packs as you need to make up the difference.

What do you do if the lighting designer wants a selection of effects, up to 30 effects memories, audio control of effects and macros, scroller control? You buy a copy of *Kaleidoscope*, the GSX with *Genius* extension program which adds a wide range of effects, and direct 'intelligent' control of scrollers. *Kaleidoscope* gives accurate scroller control that is not possible from ordinary DMX 512 intensity control desks used for this purpose. See the specification summary opposite.

The options don't finish there. GSX with *Genius* is capable of much more through its connectivity with other systems. And this is available



Designer's Remote for band beld control.



Loading software.



Attractive and ergonomic console.

for the price of the second extension program called *Communiqué*. *Communiqué* is for applications where the GSX is to be operated as part of a lighting network. *Communiqué* provides an additional 12 external submasters, macros triggered by external +10V signal or by configurable serial input or ASCII control and ASCII remote go, MIDI, MIDI Show Control, plus DMX-input to accept another desk's control signal.

The awesome power of a fully expanded GSX, is explained in our "Digital Theatre" brochure which opens up to show GSX connected to digital dimming, System Wide Control, remote control facilities and MIDI. Space doesn't allow us to go into any more detail except to say contact your dealer for further information or fill in the enclosed reply card, and make sure you see GSX with *Genius* soon. Strand lighting will be showing GSX with *Genius* at 22 major trade shows around the world in 1994, so make sure you get along to one.