

AT THE JOSEFSTADT THEATER · VIENNA

on to the stage is interrupted by the main curtain. This was solved with a special closed circuit TV system, whereby the progress of the technical work on stage can be observed from the lighting control room when the curtain is closed. The diversity of the repertoire (approximately five plays at the same time) and the high number of performances, at least nine a week, are important. The risk of a performance failure is inconceivable at the Josefstadt Theatre with a well established subscription system. Therefore the decision to install a dual computer system was taken so that in the event of

can be entered and stored per memory. The first line of information is displayed on the monitor when solicited together with the spotlight data. Thirty characters from the first line are inserted in the memory list as the main text. In addition to the standard lighting curve, two lighting setting curves can be specially extended and the required circuits assigned. Circuits are clearly numbered "geographically" with two main controllers. NON DIMS (=connected circuits only) are programmed also. All the data represented on the monitor such as memories, lists, texts and system

parameters are printed in A4 format by means of a matrix printer.

The dual floppy disc control and the sorting instructions necessary for this for transfer between store and floppy disc are inserted via the typewriter keyboard. The pin patch is located on the left hand control room wall with ten manual group controllers. Assigning of circuits to these controllers takes place via diode plugs. Lighting effects, which can be done on the effect module, are also assigned to any thyristor dimmer via the pin patch.

We refrain from describing all the facilities of the Galaxy lighting control equipment. This would be beyond the scope of the article. Anyone may simply request the appropriate information from the manufacturer!

In addition to the modules of the Galaxy control desk additional modules, which are made to match those of the Galaxy, were incorporated for the various extra functions.

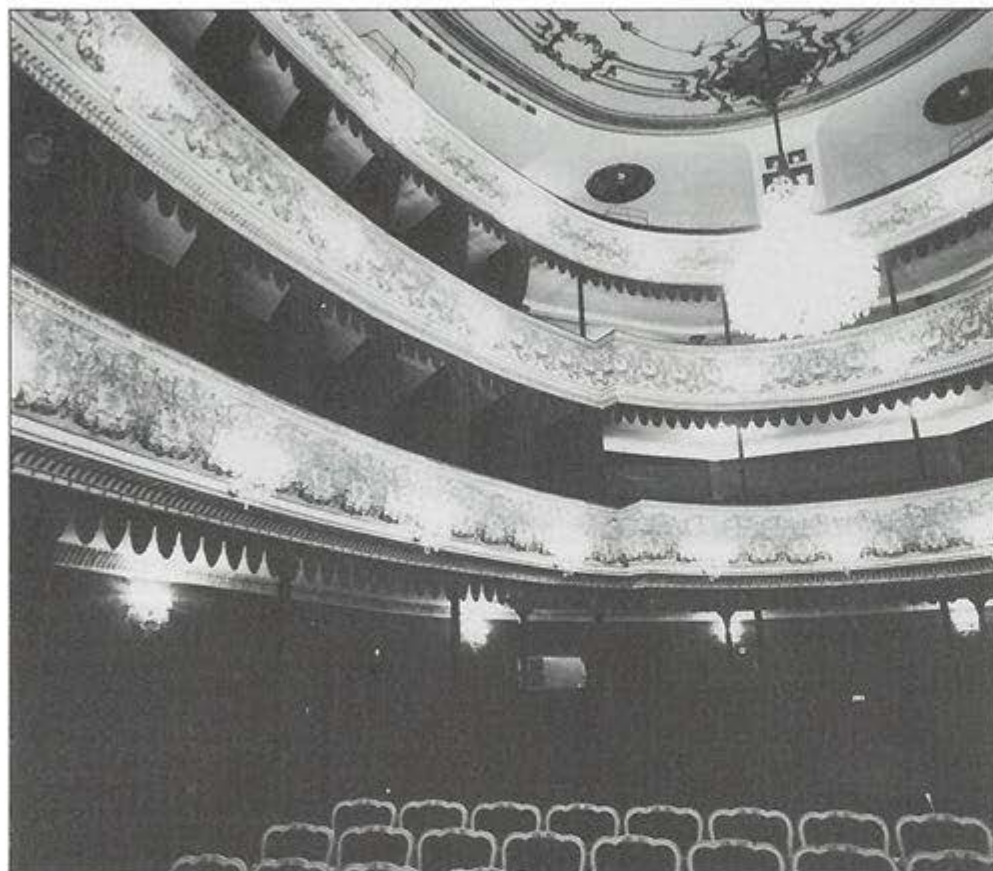
The extra functions incorporated are mainly conventional control units such as switches for effect lighting, indicator lights for mains ON, digital ammeters and voltmeters, buttons for camera control, on/off control of the light hoist, switch for working light, two-way communication system, telephone, radio equipment, monitoring equipment, etc. In particular worth mentioning is an analogue clock coupled with a digital stop watch with intermediate or split time keeping. Also worth mentioning is the switch-over equipment for orchestra or auditorium circuits to hand, direct or system. Manual control takes place by means of an additional incorporated fader. These faders are linked with micro-switches, which in turn transmit control instructions to a change-over contactor. In the event of current failure this change-over contactor switches the auditorium over to batteries. Switch-over only occurs however if a regulator is set at 'full' high.

An opto-acoustic cue system was developed for standard messages from house managers, conductors, sound control, etc. Often it is necessary to carry out certain switching operations at a precisely defined moment. For this purpose the lighting control has a light signal. An acoustic signal gives a short 'pip' tone to this light signal. If this light signal subsequently goes out a 'pip' tone sounds also. It will therefore signal each change by means of a pip tone.

An area of 2.8m long and 30cm deep is available for the installation of the dimmer racks. The racks were specially designed for the local conditions at Josefstadt. By means of a special construction it has been possible to accommodate 180 5kW dimmers in the smallest area. For the first time electronic switches with a switching capacity of 5KVA were also incorporated. These electronic switches on non dim modules are actuated just like dimmers on the lighting control desk.

The new lighting control equipment has been in operation since 20th August 1982.

Experience to date confirms the careful planning and in addition there is a certain reserve capacity to realise future lighting control requirements. ■



Beethoven's view of the auditorium.

a breakdown of one computer the second has the same facilities for rehearsals and performances.

How does this dual computer system work?

Two computer systems functioning completely independently are controlled simultaneously from the central Galaxy desk, i.e. should a fault occur in the first system during a rehearsal or performance the operator can switch over by simply pressing a button. Switchover takes place smoothly and is imperceptible to the audience.

The text information on the screen was also a decisive factor as regards the system selected. Naturally the auxiliary monitor simultaneously permits various information and these data can be clearly shown on the colour monitors. One complete page of text (20 lines of 80 characters)



Lighting Control Room - operator's view on to the stage