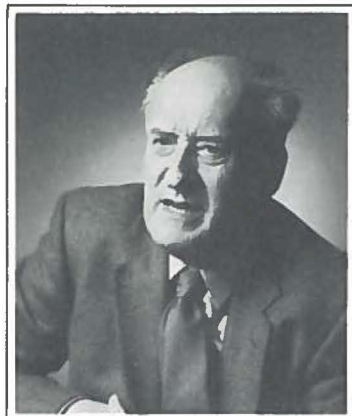


FROM THE EDITOR



TRAINING IN TELEVISION LIGHTING

There is a world-wide problem in training the television lighting director, by the very nature of the work. Few books are available and most training processes are unimaginative and not comprehensive.

In September '82, in conjunction with the BBC Training Centre at Evesham, which has the best lighting training facilities in the world, the Society of Television Lighting Directors mounted an International Seminar - "Training the Lighting Director". Two seminars were run in parallel for practitioner and non-practitioner. One of the highlights of the weekend was the first lecture on Basic Lighting Techniques given by Alan Bermingham, then senior lecturer with the BBC.

Following approaches by several broadcasting organisations the society has now recorded a condensed version of Alan's lecture on video-cassette. After establishing the need for lighting by demonstrating the difference between illumination and lighting, Alan discusses hard/soft sources; keying angle, modelling, texture, technical requirements, sufficient light, colour temperature, contrast ratio, multi camera techniques; artistic considerations; basic portraiture, lighting the presenter.

These cassettes will be invaluable to those organisations unable to provide formal lighting training for the increasing number of staff called upon to light simple situations and will provide a solid grounding on which to build for those who wish to develop the craft further.

"An Introduction to Basic Television Lighting" is available on VHS, Beta or low-band U-matic formats on either PAL or NTSC systems from Clive Gulliver, 18 Cherrywood Gardens, Flackwell Heath, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP10 9AX, United Kingdom, at £150 for PAL and £175 for NTSC. Terms - Cash with order.

CALLING ALL SCHOOLS



- Please let us hear from you! Tabs has regular correspondents who keep us informed about professional theatre technology at home and overseas, about television around the world and about the mysteries of power flying and double purchase hemp lines.

The main gap - as one or two readers have quite vigorously pointed out - is that we never have anything about school productions from the technical point of view.

How we wish we did!

If any of our readers have been involved in an educational drama which was interesting technically,

or that they were proud of from the lighting angle, then we would very much like to hear from them.

Probably any reader who teaches drama is a natural author but, if they are not, I can probably arrange to send one of our local correspondents to interview them and, should the location of the interesting show or project be out of range of the Editorial Pentax, then I can also send a photographer.

I believe the world of educational drama - a world which a high proportion of our 14,000 round the world readers belong to - is waiting to hear from one of YOU!

A.B.T.T. APPOINT THEIR FIRST FELLOW

The second but by far the longest serving and most influential Editor our magazine ever had was Fred Bentham, who of course remains one of our regular contributors.

Fred had been given the unique and very well deserved honour of being awarded the first Fellowship of the Association of British Theatre Technicians.

Our photograph, courtesy of "The Stage", shows Fred, Mrs Bentham and Robert Nesbitt at the award ceremony held at the ABTT's premises one evening last December.

The present occupier of the Editorial chair adds his own humble congratulations!



Robert Nesbitt, Ilse and Fred Bentham, photographed with an early Light Console - formerly in the Theatre Royal, Bristol - at the ABTT award ceremony where Fred Bentham became the first Fellow of the Association.



SOUTH AFRICAN STAGE LIGHTING AWARD WINNER

The ACF Merchandise Lighting Designer's Award for 1983 was won by Joe Freedman of Durban for his work on NAPAC's production of "The Wizard of Oz" at the Alhambra Theatre.

Joe Freedman is a worthy winner having grown up in the theatre starting as an apprentice with African Consolidated Theatres 32 years ago. He had previously operated spots at 7/6d a show! He toured South Africa and Rhodesia with many great names - Danny Kaye, Sophie Tucker, Cliff Richard and Beryl Grey - as well as with such shows as the Folies Bergere and the Moulin Rouge.

His work in Johannesburg included controlling the lighting for the Old Vic Theatre Company, Margot Fonteyn dancing Swanlake, the Scala Opera and the Royal Ballet in addition to a number of long running locally produced shows including My Fair Lady, Fiddler on the Roof, The Pyjama Game and the Minstrel shows.

As ACT activities declined, Joe joined the Natal Performing Arts Council in 1972 as chief of lighting and electrics at the Alhambra Theatre - the only theatre that can handle large production in Natal. He is a virtuoso on the MMS and is looking forward to the new challenges which will be presented with the opening of the Opera House Complex in Durban in 1986.

CALLING ALL M24 USERS!

There are still a few copies left of "Ted & Terry's Tips" issue 1. If you own an M24, simply return the registration card and we'll put your name on the mailing list.

Issue 1 includes hints on taping memories, earthing, and news of the latest M24 publication. Issue 2 will give some ideas on special effects, and there may even be a competition.

Don't worry if you've lost the registration card. Send details to the Engineering Service Department, and they will be happy to re-place it.

