

Twentse Schouwberg, Enschede.
A regional arts centre in Holland recently transformed to provide a 900 seat opera/playhouse and a smaller magnificently restored 19th century theatre. Our cover picture by Barend Gerritsen Fotograaf Bfn shows a concert performance in the larger auditorium. Iain Mackintosh describes the completion of this five year project on page 4.

CONTENTS

Double Dutch <i>Iain Mackintosh</i>	4
Amsterdam Again <i>Francis Reid</i>	9
Stage Design <i>David Fingleton</i>	10
Art Decor in Melbourne <i>Francis Reid</i>	13
ABTT Trade Show Report <i>James Laws</i>	17
Books	20
Product News	22

CUE

Technical Theatre Review 34

March/April 1985

£1.75

A PHOENIX INFREQUENT

Great movements in the arts, like revolutions, don't last for more than about fifteen years. After that the flame dies down, and people prefer a cosy glow.

Few of us would dissent from this view of Kenneth Clark in 'Civilisation', although a debate might centre on the accuracy of his fifteen year span and could extend to a search for a generalisation about the length of cosy glows.

Particularly as this seems to be the state in which we currently find our theatre – although with a glow whose cosiness has all the characteristics of a fade. Possibly a split fade with some rosiness lagging the cosiness but certainly an accelerating fade with all the inevitability of tragedy.

However fades to blackout are not irreversible and we await the next great movement in the cycle of theatrical progress. Where will it come from?

The last great movement in theatre – the one in the cosy glow of whose glories we now bask spanned a slot (? fifteen years) across the sixties and seventies. The climate was right, particularly Arts Council (finance), ABTT (architecture) and Royal Court (writers). While a new theatre was still establishing, reaction produced another overlapping great movement of alternative theatre. But both are now subdued flames, united in dissipating their creative energies in political squabbles about the relationship between arts and society.

From the cosy glow we await the rise of a phoenix. It is our hope against the darkening clouds of mankind's continually growing inhumanity to mankind. There is only one certainty – the next great movement in theatre will have to be dependent upon imagination rather than money. And not for the first time!

Cue is an independent magazine published bi-monthly by Twynam Publishing Ltd.

Available on subscription UK £10.50 per annum (6 issues) Europe and Overseas £13.00

Editorial Board

James Twynam (Managing)
Francis Reid
Jeremy Twynam

Editorial,

Advertising and Subscription Office:

Twynam Publishing Ltd.,
Kitemore, Faringdon, Oxfordshire SN7 8HR
Telephone 0367 21141