



The auditorium as it looked at the start of the century

the Palace theatre in 1932 there were two notices: one about no smoking in the auditorium and the other about hats. It read "Ladies are respectfully requested to add to the comfort of the audience by removing their hats." It was often necessary to add

one's own respectful request. With an icy stare and a great deal of no-enthusiasm she would then proceed to do so. This is where the likes of Iain Mackintosh score and they that sit behind him do not. It is obviously out of the question to request he remove his

head and tuck it under his arm, as that would muck up his own line of sight. If only that fine great halo of hair were a wig some may have muttered. It is indeed curious that theatres of the period which were so carefully tailored around unequal financial status, took no account of unequal physical stature. For Iain at 6ft.4 or so there can be no such thing as a bad theatre seat, except perhaps to sit upon. For myself at 5ft.9 a non-stepped area can be chancy but for my wife at 5ft.2 it is downright unwise. Other types of theatre breed different problems. In a courtyard with side gallery happily "papered with people" one man has only to lean right forward on the rail to better his own view, and they that dwell therein do begin to have bloody thoughts.

Iain concludes his CUE article by quoting the guru Peter Brook; "The science of theatre building must come from studying what it is that brings about the most vivid relationship between people." My inclination would be to substitute "violent" for "vivid". That done it would then be possible to set about designing a user-friendly theatre for all time though not for all productions. In doing this there can be no objection to any committee, so long as one is either the chairman or the secretary with the facility to cook either the meeting or the minutes.

# Introducing . . .

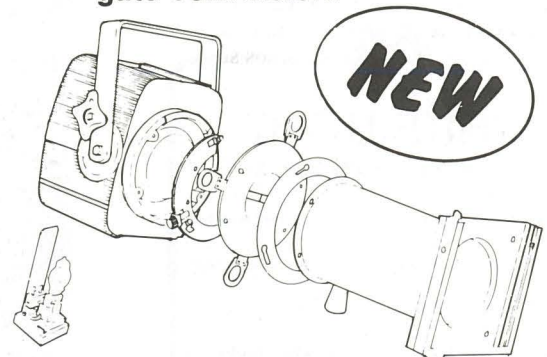
## THE NEW SILHOUETTE COMPACT LAMPHOUSE



PLUG-IN LAMP TRAY adjustable for 1000W T19 or the LATEST 1200W T29 lamps

**1000W**  
**1200W**

And an **ACCESSORY KIT** for **FAST FIT SNAP ON** Lens Tube and rotatable gate conversion.



**NEW**

- **SHORTER** - 195 mm long
- **LIGHTER** - 7.01 kg.
- **BRIGHTER** - New Reflector

**CCT** theatre lighting limited

WINDSOR HOUSE, 26 WILLOW LANE, MITCHAM, SURREY, CR4 4NA. UK. TEL: 01-640 3366