

NETHERLANDS/PRODUCTION

# ROBERT WILSON'S DE MATERIE OPENS THE HOLLAND FESTIVAL

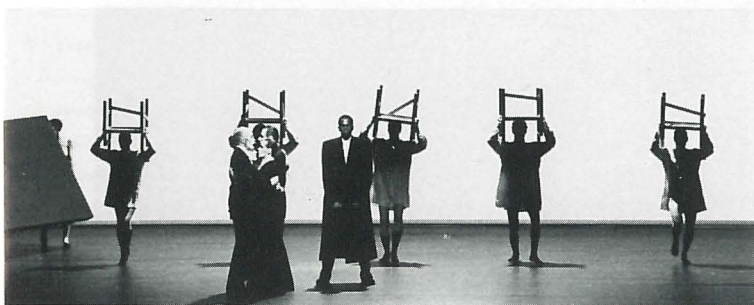
Dutch theatre followers and critics were as divided in their acclaim and disapproval of Robert Wilson's staging of *De Materie* as they were after the European renditions of such Wilson projects as *CIVIL warS*, *The Forest*, and *Einstein on the Beach*.

The world premiere 1 June 1989 of *De Materie*, an opera by Dutch composer Louis

Andreissen, opened the annual Holland Festival (two months of music and theatre) in Amsterdam. Attended, among others, by Queen Beatrix and her husband Prince Claus, it may have been the first time ever that the music made by scratching a balloon with dry fingers (the opening tones of *De Materie*) drew royal applause.

*De Materie* is a collection of words, sung and spoken, about historical events and people, like 17th-century nuclear theorist Gorlaeus, the building of a wooden ship, Piet Mondriaan, and Madame Curie.

As co-author, director, art director and lighting designer (with Jennifer Tipton), Wilson filled the soccer-field dimensions of the Amsterdam Opera House stage with a carefully designed emptiness. Among the set pieces in the varied scenes were 13 chairs, a hammock five meters above the stage, church pillars formed by hanging stage ropes, and the frame of a wooden ship.



1

Robert Wilson concentrated on straight and diagonal lines in his design of *De Materie* at the Amsterdam Opera House this past June. Among the images he created were 13 sitting ornaments (1, 2) and a hammock suspended five meters above the stage.



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## INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

### MOVERS & SHAKERS

In order to increase production runs, Eurolight has relocated to a new larger factory in Feltham. The new address is Unit 1, Maple Industrial Estate, Maple Way, Feltham, TW13 7AJ, England. The phone number in England is 01/751/6500. Fax is 01/751/3334. Telex is 888941 LCCI G...DHA has also moved to bigger premises. Their new location is 3 Jonathan Street, London, SE11 5NH. Telephone number is 01/581/3600. Fax is 01/582/4779. Telex is 935639 GOBOCO G...Luna Tech, Inc. (USA), manufac-

turer of the stage pyrotechnic system Pyropak, is opening a corporate branch in West Germany. The address is Luna Tech Euro, Schulberg 1, D-2331 Ascheffel, W. Germany. Tel: 49/4353-643. Fax: 49/4353-1014...Kim Little, assistant technical manager of the Barbican Center, has joined the ABTT Council. Miss Little replaces Council member John Toogood who, having served two consecutive terms, was not eligible for re-election. Other Council members Robert Corder, David Edelstein, Philip

Edwards, Robert Longthorne, and James Sargant were re-elected for another term...British lighting designer Chris Parry, who served as deputy head of lighting for the RSC for the past eight years, has been named Professor of Lighting Design for the Theatre at the University of California, San Diego...French signal processing equipment manufacturer SCV Audio has appointed Shuttlesound of London to handle UK distribution of its entire product line.

## DATES

### SEPTEMBER

**Light + Sound Show 89**, Olympia 2, London. 10 - 13 September. Contact: David Street, Lighting + Sound International, 10 Barley Mew Passage, Chiswick, London, England, W4 4PH, 1/994-6477, Fax: 1/994-1533.

**Euroluce 89**, Milan Trade Fair, Milan, Italy. 20 - 25 September. Contact: Cosmit, Corso Magenta 96, 20123 Milano, Italy, 02/4988361. Telex: 02/334394.

**International Organization of Scenographers, Theatre Architects, and Technicians Congress**, Hotel Warszawa, Warsaw. 27 Sept. - 1 Oct. Contact: Andrzej Sosnowski, OISTAT Teatr Wielki, 00-076 Warszawa, ul, Moliera 5, Poland, 26/30-01-294.

### OCTOBER

**Electrex Quebec 89**, Place Bonaventure, Montreal. 11 - 12 Oct. Contact: Deborah Dugan, Kerrwil Trade Shows, 395 Matheson Blvd., East, Mississauga, Canada L4z 2H2, 416/890-1846.

**SMPTE**, Los Angeles Convention Center. 21- 25 Oct. Contact: Ann Cocchia, SMPTE, 595 W. Hartsdale Ave., White Plains, NY 10607, 914/761-1100.

**ABTT North Trade Show 89**, Grange Arts Centre, Oldham. Contact: Ivor Dykes, 6 Back Mount Pleasant, Middleton Old Village, Leeds LS10 3TD, 0532/701281.

### NOVEMBER

**Lighting Dimensions International 89**, Nashville Convention Center. 17 - 19 November. Contact: Paula Harris, Lighting Dimensions International, 135 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010 USA, 212/353-1951. Fax: 212/677-3857.