News

New Lighting for Britain's Heritage

Versatile architectural lighting was needed for the new Sainsbury Wing extension to the National Gallery at Trafalgar Square in London – and Strand Lighting had just the answer.

The National Gallery, opened by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on July 9, houses many of Britain's art treasures. Each painting has to be considered individually, in lighting terms, since the age of many works of art renders them sensitive to strong light.

As a result, a system of Permus and Microdimmer architectural lighting controls was installed to provide local area flexibility where necessary throughout the new wing.

This allows staff at the National Gallery to set overall lighting levels with recordable presets for both public area and exhibit illumination.



A GREAT BARN OF A THEATRE



When visitors describe The Grange in Worcestershire, England, as 'a great barn of a theatre' it is not so much a reflection on its size as a simple fact.

James Wellman and David Swift have converted a 12th century barn next to Bretforton Grange, near Evesham, into one of Britain's most unique theatres.

Lighting equipment includes a 24-channel Permus dimmer rack, Prelude fresnels and profiles, Cantata followspot and an Action 24.

THINGS ARE LOOKING UP AT THIS HOSPITAL

where all know what it's like... there you are in a hospital outpatients' waiting area with nothing to look at but four walls and a few out-of-date magazines.

But all that has changed at Llandough hospital in Cardiff, Wales, thanks to some bright students, Strand colour filter, and Strand Lighting's local distributor, Light Relief.

Postgraduate art and design student Sara Cunningham from Cardiff Institute of Higher Education, with the help of pupils from St. Cyres Comprehensive school, came up with this design.

ICON COMES ALIVE WITH MINICUBES

modern 'kinetic' icon, commemorating the life of Brother Edmund Rice, founder of the Christian Brothers, has been given a new dimension with Strand architectural lighting.

The original icon, which is now in the shrine dedicated to Edmund Rice in St Anne's church, Liverpool, England, was designed and made by the artist Desmond Kyne.

A lighting system for icons has been devised by Brother Andrew Rock following experiments to find a suitable way of handling reflected lighting from painted glass and engraved metal.

Best results were obtained by using a number of 12-volt halogen lamps with dichroic



reflectors to provide an even light from different angles. He has now devised a system called 'Ikontrol' to demonstrate lighting effects for icons.



The Pope's annual 'Via Crucis' broadcast from the Coliseum in Rome on Good Friday provided a fitting uplifting occasion for the first public show of a new Quartzcolor luminaire.

This year the new Super Quasar MSR 2.5kW luminaire was included in the lighting rig. Excerpts from the broadcast were subsequently transmitted by many TV stations around the world.

Super Quasar is based on a single-ended MSR lamp to give a powerful narrow beam of light, which can be adjusted by drop-in lenses.