

# THE FESTIVAL THEATRE EDINBURGH - ONE OF THE LARGEST IN EUROPE

The Festival Theatre Edinburgh has recently been equipped with a Galaxy™ Nova, EC90™ digital dimmer combination, plus a full rig of Strand luminaires.

Some 128 Alto™ 2.5kW, 132 Cantata™ 1.2kW and 20 Prelude™ profile spotlights provide the bulk of the lighting, together with 36 Cantata PC spots, 4 Prelude™ PC's and 4 each of Cantata and Prelude Fresnels. Of the more specialised lighting there are Pollux™ 5kW Fresnels, 500W and 1kW Beamlights™ plus a complement of Nocturne™ floods.

The Galaxy Nova (see page 11) is a 768 channel version and dimming comprises 10 large racks of EC90 MDplus - a total of 448 x

16A and 70 x 32A dimmers. House lighting can be controlled either by the Galaxy, or by three EC90 push-button wall stations situated in the auditorium. The equipment was supplied to Glantre Engineering whose project coordinators Mike Rowntree and Mark Davenport, worked with Simon Roose and Alan Luxford at Strand.

Theatre Projects acted as theatrical consultants, under the experienced guidance of Alan Russell. Architects were The Law and Dunbar-Nasmith Partnership. Graham Raith was the representative of the Edinburgh Festival Theatre responsible for what is believed to be one of the largest deliveries of theatre product in Europe.



Edinburgh Festival Theatre.

## ROYAL OPERA HOUSE CHOOSES STRAND GALAXY NOVA

In the last issue of *Lights!* (Volume 5 Issue 1) we reported on the long relationship between Strand and London's famous Savoy Theatre. Through no less than five major refurbishments the theatre has been equipped with the very latest lighting technology from Strand.

In this issue we are pleased to report that the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden has chosen a new Strand Galaxy™ Nova lighting control system for delivery, in accordance with the theatre's planned schedule, in August this year. This is noteworthy because it was 1934 that Strand undertook its first large scale installation at the Royal Opera House for Sir Thomas Beecham. Later, in 1964, the first big installation of thyristor dimming in 1964 was also at this venue. So the latest vote of confidence in a return to Strand controls is most welcome and continues the tradition of selecting the very best equipment to match the Royal Opera House's own renowned high standards.

The Strand Galaxy Nova is probably the most advanced control system and a successor to Galaxy systems in use at many of the world's most demanding venues. Constructed in modular form allowing a high degree of customisation, Galaxy Nova has numerous top range

features, including bi-directional communication with EC90™ MDplus and EC90Supervisor™ digital dimmers, direct control for colour scrollers and up to 249 automated spotlights. The new

Galaxy Nova will complement the ROH's touring system. Alan Luxford, Project Sales Manager, and Bill Richards managed the Strand involvement for Lighting Manager, Paul Watson.



The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

## BOLSHOI THEATRE

The word "bolshoi" means "big" in Russian, and that is certainly the word that best describes the latest Strand project in Eastern Europe, the world famous Bolshoi Theatre, home of the acclaimed Bolshoi Ballet.

On August 26th, the curtain will rise on a new season where for the first time the lighting will be controlled by a 827 channel Galaxy™ Nova and 762 EC90™ MDplus status-reporting digital dimmers. But the specification doesn't end there.

The Galaxy Nova will have a full tracking back-up, in this case that involves two control desks, two electronics crates and full automatic changeover providing 100% security.

Custom Russian language software means that all control system and dimmer fault reporting messages will be in Cyrillic - a first for Galaxy.

An 827 channel button mimic completes the line-up, providing a geographic auxiliary control facility.