

Tspot

by PHILIP ROSE

This autumn the first factory made supplies of RSE's new T Spot go on sale and will start lighting in many theatres in Britain and overseas. One of the first will be the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, new home of Scottish Opera.

During development we took the unusual step of making a small batch by hand to gauge lighting designer and user reaction and to get some feedback on one or two functional options we had open to us. One unexpected result of this was to pre-sell all the first manufacturing run.

relationship of the reflector, gate and lenses are the result of a special computer program written by our own engineers to ensure optimum performance under a wide range of use conditions.

Set up controls have been carefully designed to be practical under all the likely "acrobatic" circumstances of rigging.

RSE's unique double shutter system is used and the two sets of four shutters provide a useful and creative mixture of hard and soft focusing. The angular movement of the shutters should please the most

be screwed to the front.

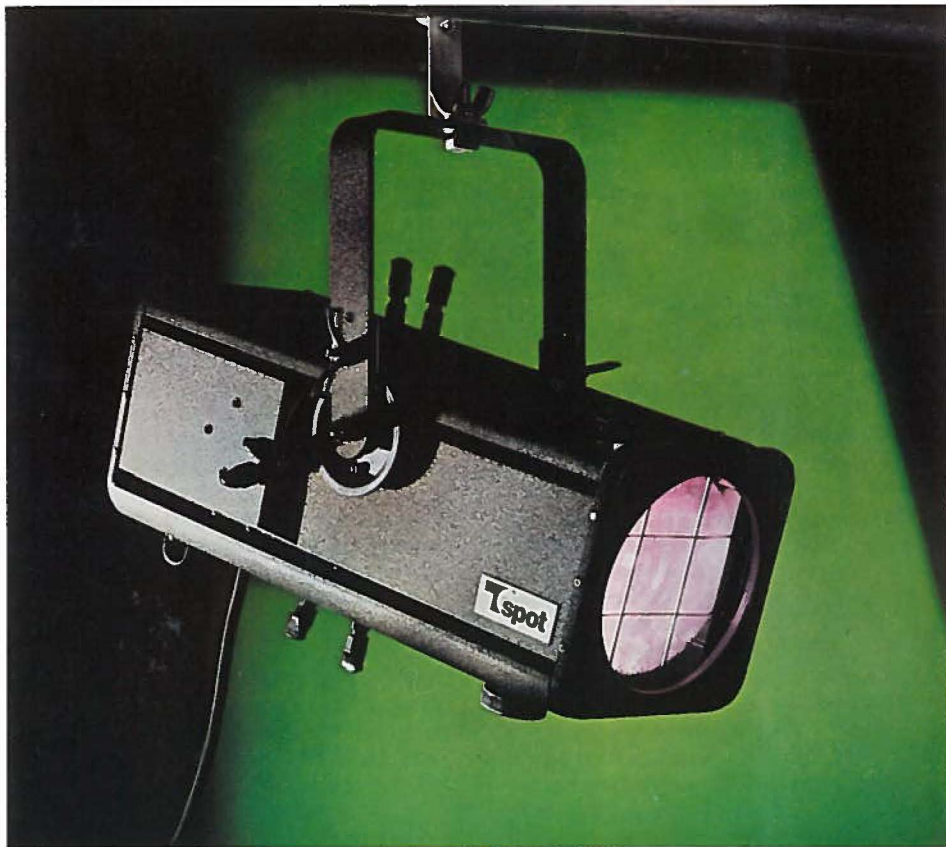
The lamp tray "plugs" into the rear base of the spot and adjustment screws provide for optical trimming, although the lamp assembly will be jig set at the factory before shipment. It is more than likely that some users will want to keep spare lamp trays handy to permit replacement without disturbing settings during a run.

Various other accessories are available, including a "bridge" fork when very acute angles of depression are necessary—in large Continental theatres for example. Also, for our European colleagues there will be a mesh lens guard and their beloved fork plate.

Much attention has been given to temperature, and although we cannot escape the fact that it will be warm here and there, the skin and all those places that have to be touched remain remarkably cool. As for that bane of us all—light leaks, they have just about been banished.

The first series will be available in three lens forms. The basic unit has a single lens giving a maximum beam angle of 22°. There are two wide angled versions, 30° and 38°, either of which is achieved by the addition of another lens. All lenses are high temperature plano convex. As for performance, the computer designed reflector gives peak beam candelas 40 per cent up on anything presently available, using the 1 kW Halogen lamp. Following not far behind the first three will be a long-throw narrow angle version, about which more anon.

The author is Director of Marketing for Rank Strand Electric.



From the first cautious showing of a lab mock-up to a lighting man or two a year ago and the hand built demonstrators, reaction has confirmed our own belief that we have a winning new spotlight.

One hope we had in mind when embarking on the development was that the new series would, amongst other things, satisfy that oft expressed wish for a 1 kW profile as successful as the Pattern 23. There is little doubt T Spot will be so and much besides. This at a price which these days is a pleasant surprise and to the impeccable RSE quality.

The elegance and apparent simplicity of the outside encloses a cleverly designed and efficient optical system. Using the well proven 1 kW Halogen lamp the form and

demanding of designers. Gobos and circular apertures can also be used.

The lens carriage, which takes single or double lens combinations depending on the optical characteristics required, has a fine smooth movement and is controlled from a large "cool" exterior locking knob. There are two positions in which the fork (yoke) can be fitted depending on how the spot is to be rigged. The change is quick and simple to achieve with a screwdriver. Two large clamping discs are fitted, one each side, although only one is necessary to firmly hold the unit at whatever tilt is required. A clever piece of design puts the colour frame runners inside the body and a remote controlled colour wheel or the new RSE semaphore colour change system can

The Phoenicia International Trade Trophy awarded to Rank Strand Electric, was presented at a recent ceremony to Jack Waller (Export Manager) by the President of Malta.

