



SMOKE PROJECTION SCREEN: A-PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

ONE: FRAMEWORK

THIS IS OF STANDARD STEEL SCAFFOLDING CONSTRUCTION. THE DESIGN WILL BE DETERMINED BY WHATEVER WIND LOADS IT MUST SUSTAIN.

TWO: SCREEN

THE SIZE IS APPROX 12 FEET BY 18 FEET AND 8 INCHES DEEP. IT IS A WOOD FRAME WITH CLEAR P.V.C. STRETCHED OVER ONE SIDE AND TRANSLUCENT P.V.C. OVER THE OTHER. THE SMOKE WILL CIRCULATE BETWEEN THESE TWO SURFACES OF P.V.C. ENTERING THROUGH A SERIES OF INLETS AT THE BASE OF THE SCREEN AND THEN DRAWN OUT THROUGH THE "CHIMNEYS" AT THE TOP.

THREE: SMOKE AND STEAM

AT THE BASE OF THE SCREEN THERE ARE A NUMBER OF INLETS. ONE OF THESE WILL CONNECT DIRECTLY TO THE STEAM MACHINE. THIS IS A STANDARD PRODUCTION UNIT COMMONLY USED TO STRIP OFF WALLPAPER. IT CONSISTS ESSENTIALLY OF A LARGE DRUM WHICH IS FILLED WITH WATER AND IS PROPANE HEATED FROM A PRESSURISED CYLINDER. THE OTHER INLETS WILL CONNECT TO A NUMBER OF CANNISTERS SITUATED ON A LEDGE JUST BELOW THE SCREEN. INTO THESE PYROTECHNIC COLOURED SMOKE DEVICES CAN BE PLACED SUCH AS 'STRAID' THEATRE WHITE SMOKE AND 'SCHEMULLY' ORANGE DISTRESS SIGNAL SMOKE.

CONDENSATION IS ANOTHER EFFECT UTILIZED BY THE USE OF STEAM.

FOUR: PROJECTION

16MM OR 35MM MOVIE. THE PROJECTOR WILL BE PLACED FACING THE CLEAR P.V.C. SIDE OF THE SCREEN. THUS THE IMAGE WILL PROJECT DIRECTLY ON TO THE STEAM OR SMOKE AND THEN IMPINGE ON THE TRANSLUCENT SIDE OF THE SCREEN. THIS TRANSLUCENT SIDE WORKS IN EFFECT LIKE A BACK PROJECTION SCREEN AND WHEREAS THE IMAGE PASSES THROUGH THE CLEAR P.V.C. THE CLOUDY TRANSLUCENT MATERIAL HOLDS IT AND VISIBLE ON BOTH SIDES. THUS THE FILM CAN BE VIEWED FROM EITHER SIDE OF THE STRUCTURE WITH IT HAVING A DISTINCT DIFFERENCE IN CHARACTER. SEEN FROM THE TRANSLUCENT SIDE (IE AS A BACK PROJECTION) THE SMOKE WILL APPEAR AS A SHADOW PATTERN WITHIN THE IMAGE. FROM THE OTHER SIDE THE IMAGE WILL REGISTER ON AN 8 INCH DEEP PLANE OF SWIRLING SMOKE OR STEAM (IE THE IMAGE TAKES ON A REAL THIRD DIMENSION)

THE FILMS TO BE SHOWN ON THIS STRUCTURE SHOULD BE CHOSEN FROM THE FOLLOWING: (A) HISTORICAL EPICS IN COLOUR. (B) OLD HOLLYWOOD MUSICALS. (C) NEWSREELS OF NATURAL DISASTERS SUCH AS FLOODS AND EARTHQUAKES. (D) ABSTRACT FILMS SUCH AS THOSE BY MOHOLY NAGY AND HANS RICHTER.

FILMS WITH SOUND TRACKS ARE PREFERABLE AND SPEAKERS SHOULD BE PLACED ON THE GROUND UNDER THE SCREEN.