



# 08. DESIGN & TECHNICAL RESOLUTION

(123)

Figure 172. Follow spot effect 2 kW (McGill, 2007).



## 8. I TYPICALSET CONSTRUCTION

The list of materials used in the construction of scenery is endless. New innovations, materials and applications are constantly introduced to the theatre. There are however certain materials that are considered to be standard, widely used, traditional stage materials. Parker & Smith (1974, 164) classify these materials as follows.

### 8.1.1 Structural materials

#### Timber

Timber is the most common framing and structural material. Timber used for scenery must be lightweight, straight, strong and cheap. In South Africa clear pine provides the best combination. Clear SA pine is preferred because it has few knots that cause weak spots in the wood that tend to split. Wood is combustible and must be protected with paint, varnish or fire and water resistant agents. Timber is recyclable and reusable.

#### Metal

Hollow, square and angle iron sections are used for the structural frames of platforms and panel scenery and to support standing scenery. Malleable iron pipes is used for battens to support hanging scenery, as a weight or bottom batten for a drop; for lighting booms and as structural elements (Parker & Smith, 1974, 168).

### 8.1.2 Cover stock

The material used to cover the structural frame of scenery is called cover stock. Depending on the use fabric or a hard surface material can be used.

#### Covering Fabrics (soft Scenery)

Structural frames are traditionally covered with canvas although any fabric can be used as covering. Fabrics like gauzes (scrimps), vision, square or sharks tooth mesh, Holt(1988, 33) and Hessian are often used to create textured or lighting effects. In South Africa unbleached Calico is most often used as a substitute because it is lighter, cheaper and more readily available. Fabric covering is fireproofed and sewn to size. A thin mixture of water and PVA paint is used to prepare the surface before it gets painted.

#### Hard surfaces

If the surface is such that it has to be walked on or withstand active handling, the frame is covered with a harder surface. Plywood is most commonly used because it is lightweight yet strong enough to supply a hard surface with a minimum of framing. Laminated wood is sometimes used as a substitute. Masonite, a very hard surface of compressed wood pulp, is also commonly used as a floor covering. Thin plywood is mainly used for platform tops. Double faced corrugated cardboard is an inexpensive hard surface covering (Parker & Smith, 1974, 170).

### 8.1.3 Hardware

#### Joining hardware

Joining hardware includes nails, screws, tacks, staples, and bolts used for joining wood or metal.

#### Stage hardware

Stage hardware refer to hardware made especially for the stage and designed to brace, stiffen, rig flying scenery and temporarily join units of scenery (Parker & Smith, 1974, 172).

### 8.1.4 Rope, cable, and chains

#### Cotton braid rope

This type of rope is used for lightweight rigging and as a trick line to trigger a mechanical effect from an offstage position.

#### Manila rope

Stranded manila rope is used for heave rigging.

#### Cable

Cable is used to hang scenery when the supporting wire will be in view. Cables are very strong for its small diameter and can support a heavy piece of scenery without being too prominent.

#### Chain:

in theatre chains are used for special rigging and as weights for draperies.

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### 8.1.5 Structural materials

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### 8.1.6 Free forms

Depending on the form, irregular three-dimensional pieces of scenery are created by constructing a framework from a structural material such as timber or metal. Contour pieces are often cut across the shortest dimension, fixed to a base shape and stiffened with cross bracing. The frame is wrapped in chicken wire so that it adapts to the shape of the frame. The final surface is then applied to the chicken wire. Usually unbleached Calico is dyed with a base colour, dipped in a water-and-wood glue mixture, tacked to the frame and allowed to dry. Once dry effect painting and texturing (saw dust) are applied. Free forms are also frequently made from fibreglass, polystyrene or polyurethane which is undesirable unless reused, because they are environmentally unfriendly. These pieces are lightweight, inexpensive and sturdy (Parker & Smith, 1974, 204).



Figure 176. Construction of steel frame, Johannesburg Theatre (Author, 2010).



Figure 173. Construction of a rostra, Pretoria State Theatre (Author, 2010).



Figure 174. Frames used for the painting canvas backdrops, Pretoria State Theatre (Author, 2010).



Figure 175. Canvas cyclorama suspended with cables, Johannesburg Theatre (Author, 2010).



## 8.2 MATERIALS

### 8.2.1 Approach

"A seamless package is frustratingly daunting. However, a broken system is usually one that attracts the most attention... breaks enable one to understand better how something should or could work." (Fuller & Haque, 2009)

When encouraging the reuse and re-purposing of buildings and materials Fuller & Haque, (2009) recommend the use of what they call "pre-broken" materials and buildings.

The fabric of the existing building could be considered as pre-broken. It is a utility industrial building that speaks of creating rather than an intimidating, pristine or precious building.

Pre-broken materials are materials that are discarded, unused, readily decomposed and are interrogate-able or hack-able. Because these materials aren't expected to last they encourage reuse and re-purposing and enable people to experiment and participate. Building with these materials requires constant innovation, replenishment and reconstruction and emphasises the ephemerality of architectural constructs, says Fuller & Haque, (2009).

### 8.2.2 Temporality

Materials chosen for this design were chosen based on their temporality or ephemeral feel. The inserted space is of a temporary nature and therefore the materials should speak of the transient nature of the design. Materials perceived as temporary materials will be easily distinguishable from the permanent fabric of the existing building and reinforce the concept of symbiosis between the temporary and permanent elements.

Materials already used in a temporary fashion in the Pretoria CBD were observed during the framework investigation and informed material choices.

Greef (2005, 3-6) is of opinion that South Africans reject the notion of temporary and reused materials mainly because of the perceived stigma of inferiority. By using these kind of materials in an innovative and fun way could greatly improve the public's perception and open them up to the idea. It also gives designers the opportunity to experiment with and test the use of these materials.

### 8.2.3 Availability & sustainability

Material was selected based on whether they could be sourced locally. Using available materials from the site and surrounding area are cheaper and faster. The embodied energy will also be less that if materials had to be transported over great distances. The local community could the also benefit and be involved in the collecting of materials.



### 8.2.4 Floor covering

# Interlocking, recycled rubber floor tiles qualify as a green product.

# Rubber tiles usually comes in square sizes from 300-500mm, it is a bit easier to install and can easily be mixed to create patterns. A tile can be replaced if needed.

# Sheets: Rubber sheets are better protected against moisture and water damage due to less seams than tiles.

\* Glued: The rubber tile or sheet gets glued to the sub-floor.

\* Interlock: The rubber tiles are manufactured with a locking system.

Pattern Options

\* Plain: Available in both tiles or sheets this floor has a smooth surface.

Recycled rubber flooring is suitable for indoor and outdoor use. It has outstanding slip-resistance, low VOC emissions, provides cushioned resilience and is very durable, stain resistant and has constant colour. (ECOsurfaces, 2005).

Installation and maintenance are relatively easy.

Rubber flooring is generally considered a low-impact, environmentally friendly building material. Flooring that contains recycled rubber is a cheaper and more durable choice than synthetic or virgin rubber says TVE (2002). The energy required to process the used tyres and chemicals is lower than that used to produce other resilient flooring says ECOsurfaces (2005). Additional recycling benefits can be realized if rubber flooring is installed without adhesive. The environmental impact of manufacturing the adhesive is eliminated and the air quality of the area where the adhesive would have been used is improved. Rubber tiles are flammable but they are 100% recyclable.

### Carpet

Styles Loop Pile: The loop pile carpet is an great all rounder both for residential and commercial use. This is due to the fairly low pile and tight weave which makes for easy cleaning and is also available in a wide range of colour combinations.

Dark colours: Deep colours create a cosier feeling in rooms, as well as disguising dirt and stains better than lighter shades. Dust and lint will show up more on darker colours, making a darker palette ideal for rooms that have high use.

This is a crucial part of the installation and serves a variety of purposes. Underlay or under felt drastically lengthens the life of your carpet and serves as a shock absorber, reducing the strain of impact on your carpet, this will also reduce pile crushing. Protecting your carpets backing from rubbing on the sub-floor is also an important function while allowing for airflow beneath your carpet. Sound and heat insulation are also added benefits.

Always use a good quality underlay, in South Africa the most common and cost effective underlay is the fibre underfelts which are classified in ranges by the gram per m2 of the underlay. The minimum recommended is the 800gsm but we recommend you ask your supplier for the 1000gms under felt which is most commonly used.

#### **Carpet Pile Fibres**

Blends: It is a popular practice to blend the above fibre types in order to use the best properties from each and also to reduce the cost of the more expensive fibre types like wool.

Polyester: Polyester is available in vibrant colours and has similar properties to Nylon, non-allergenic, moisture and wear resistant properties, high resistance to staining, does not fade easily and is also permanently anti-static, but lacks the same degree of durability.

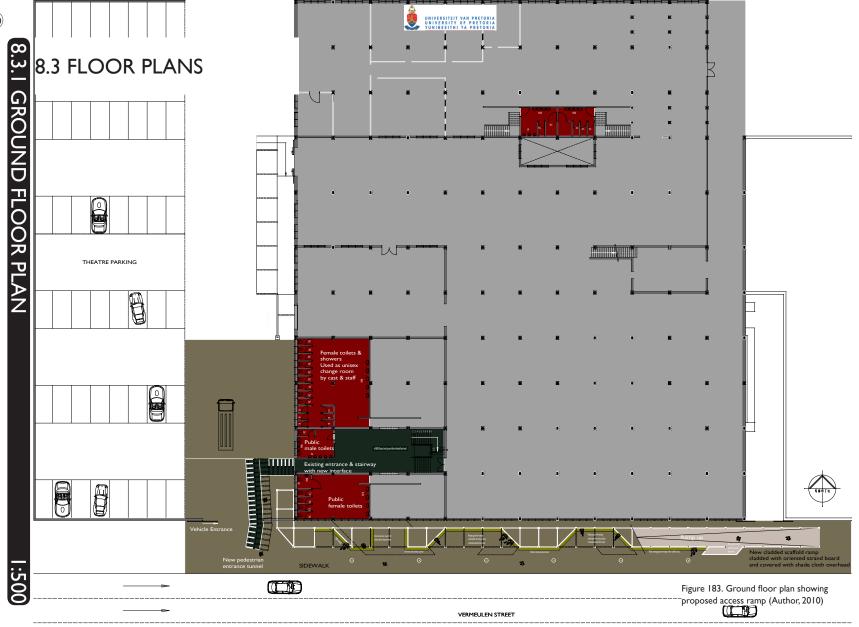
**Wool:** Unique, Natural, Soft, Luxurious and more, guarantees an exceptional experience. Wool also naturally has excellent properties like, water repellent, flame resistant, resistant to crushing, extremely durable and naturally antistatic, which improves soil resistance and ease of maintenance. Wool also has good sound and thermal insulation properties and gives unsurpassed comfort underfoot. This premium fibre is in a class of its own, as its price will reflect.



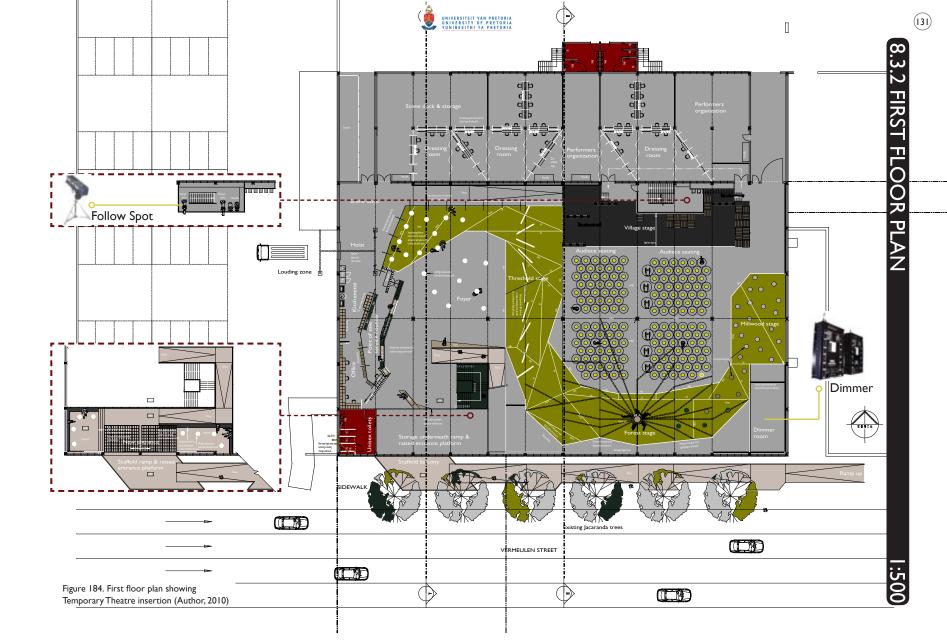
Figure 177. Local material inspiration (Author, 2010).

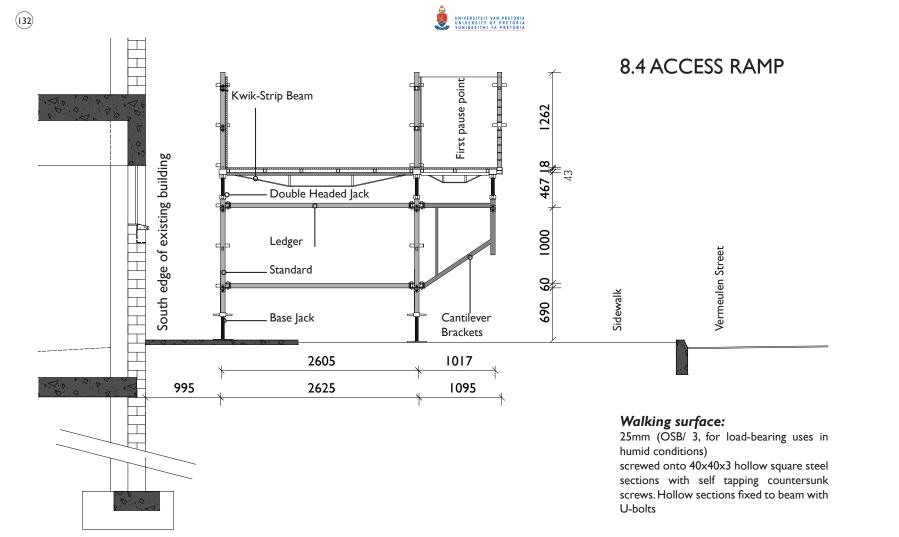
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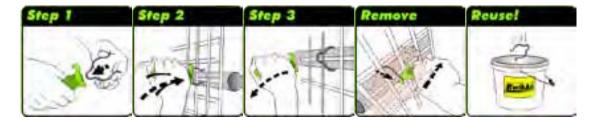


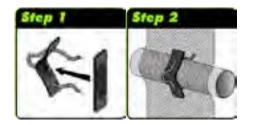
## 8.4.1 SECTION THROUGH SCAFFOLD RAMP



Figure 185. Section through scaffold ramp (Author, 2010)

### KwikAz clips





KwikAz pierces through scaffold sheeting/screening/ netting and locks into place over the scaffolding frame, giving a powerful, quick and reusable securing solution. A rubber strap enhancement to provide extra grip when attaching unsupported (no chain link) netting, shade cloth and screening.

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Figure 187. Example of new sliding door to be fitted in two existing window openings after windows have been removed (Marathondoors, 2010)

Figure 186.Diagrams illustrating how KwikAz clips work (Scaffold Industry Association, 2010)

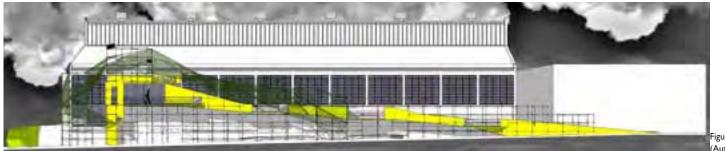


Figure 188. South facade (Author, 2010)

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## 8.4.2 SOUTH FACADE SHOWING SCAFFOLD RAMPWITHOUT TREES

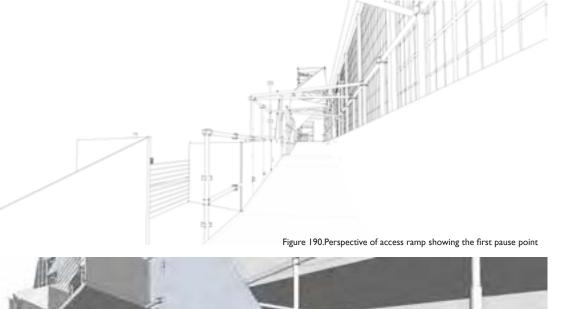




Figure 189. Perspective of space underneath the access ramp showing the secondary entrance, shade cloth wrapping & ticket sales counter (Author, 2010)

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## 8.4.3 PERSPECTIVES OF STREET INTERFACE & RAMP



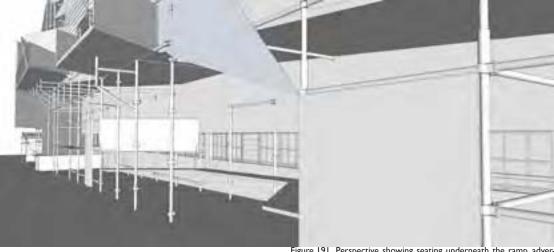


Figure 191. Perspective showing seating underneath the ramp, advertisement boards & covered space to be appropriated by informal traders (Author ,2010)



with clear varnish

Recycled plastic cold drink bottles stringed together with wire rope and hung from the

existing trusses

Scaffold interior entrance ramp structure cladded with 10mm oriented strand board, finished

270x270x270 cubes.

270x270x270 mm Building blocs constructed from nine pieces of 75ø cardboard tubes, cut to size and fixed together with clear silicon in

Cubes are fixed to each other with 4ø threaded rod through corresponding pre-drilled holes

Lit lettering created by fixing a compact fluorescent lamp inside selected tubes. The open ends of the tube are covered with a disc of white translucent acrylic sheet cut to size. Different coloured lamps will provide additional possibilities

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## 8.5 FOYER, SCREEN & COUNTER

8.5.1 PERSPECTIVE VIEW AS SEEN BYVISITORS ENTERING THE FOYER SPACE FROM THE STAIRS OR THE RAMP

**Tickets & info** 

Recycled rubber interlocking floor tiles over the existing concrete floor.

75ø Cardboard tubes fixed together with clear silicon in 270x270x270 cubes. Cubes are fixed to each other vith 4ø threaded rod.

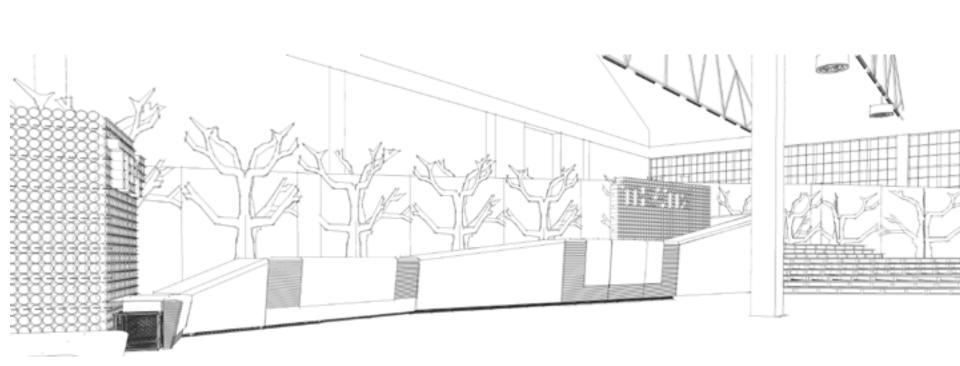


6mm Thick layers of acrylic sheet inserted between layers of X-board to transmit light from mini luorescent tubes fixed to he inside of the crates

10 mm Plywood Curved over X-board at seating and service areas.

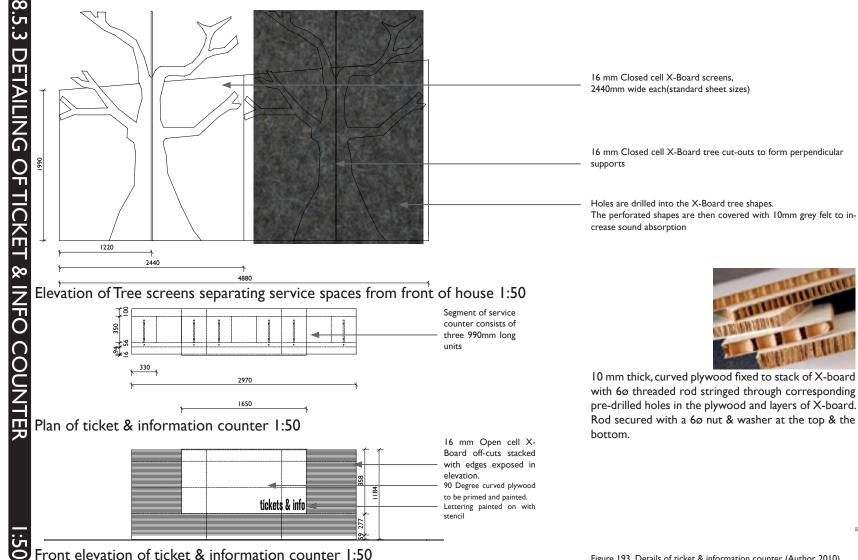
Figure 192. Interior perspective of foyer space (Author, 2010)

# 8.5.2 PERSPECTIVES OF TREE SCREEN, TERRACED PALLET SEATING & SERVICE COUNTER

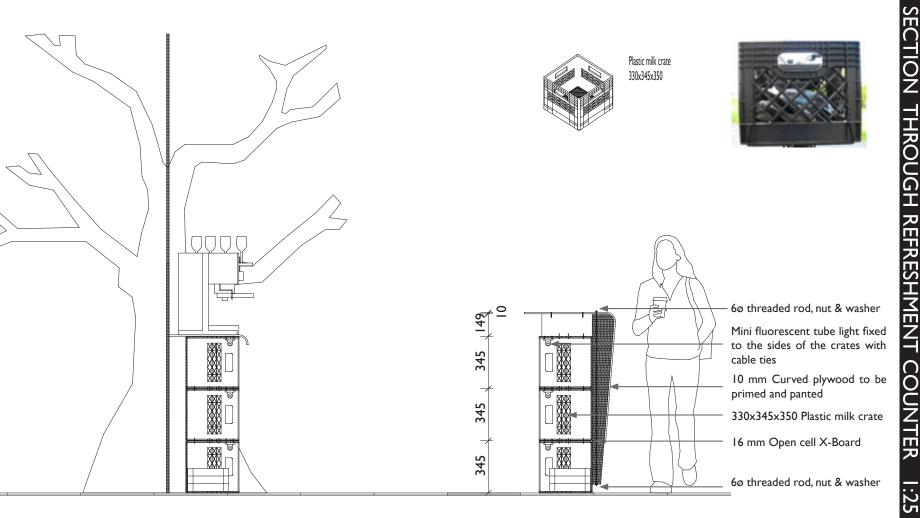












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The tube can be filled with fibre glass or any reused material with good sound absorption qualities and the open ends covered with a disc made of metal mesh with a layer of felt glued to it.

> 4ø Threaded rod connector stretching the 74ø diameter of the tube and held in place by the thickness of the cardboard wall of the tube through two corresponding holes.

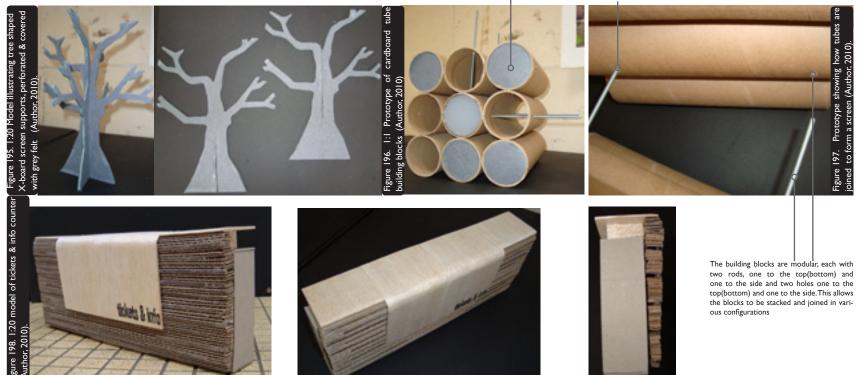




Figure 200. Model illustrating lighting effect of layers of open cell X-board & acrylic sheet lit from behind with a CFL (Author, 2010).



















## 8.6 LIGHTING

## 8.6.1 Existing lighting

The existing building is currently provided with 220 luminaires each with two fluorescent tube lamps. In total there are 440 lamps. Assuming that these lamps are basic T8, 58W lamps they add up to 25.5 KW

Fluorescent tube lights are discharge lamps that produce light through electric discharge when a current passes through an inert gas. These lamps use 5 times less electricity than a tungsten lamp, produce less heat and have a longer life. The light quality of these lamps is generally harsh and flat. Softer colours are available; Neon for example produces a warm red colour. Fluorescent light is diffuse and cannot be directed. These lamps can only be dimmed with an electronic dimmer. Fluorescent tube lights are mainly used for general lighting.

### 8.6.2 Replacement lamps

Luminous intensity of source = candela (cd) Luminous flux = lumen (lm) Illuminance (Lux) = lumen/m<sup>2</sup> = lux (lx) 1x = 1m/m<sup>2</sup>

On April 13, 2010 as part of the implementation measure for EU ordinance 245/2009, there will be an incremental phasing-out of products used mainly in street, industry and office lighting, namely inefficient fluorescent lamps as well as control gear and luminaires for fluorescent lamps and high-intensity discharge lamps.

The Temporary Theatre will replace these lamps with **OSRAM LUMILUX® Cool Daylight** fluorescent

lamps that have a longer service life that allows longer replacement intervals and therefore lower maintenance costs. It is also more ecologically friendly as a result of greatly reduced mercury content and full recyclability (Osram, 2010, 3).

### 8.6.3 Calculations

The recommended value of 50 Lux for the new occupancy class (A2:Theatrical and indoor sport) is much less than the 700 Lux recommended for the current occupancy class (D1: High-risk industrial). This means that the replacement lamps can have a lower Watt value. Alternatively fewer lamps can be used to achieve the necessary Lux value. Using fewer lamps will be more cost effective and when the theatre is used for other purposes more lamps can be added to suit the specific lux requirements. As a result electricity will be saved (SANS 204-2:2008).

Luminous intensity of source = candela (cd) Luminous flux = lumen (lm) Illuminance (Lux) = lumen/m<sup>2</sup> = lux (lx)  $Ix = Im/m^2$ 

### Existing DI occupancy

Lux = lm/m<sup>2</sup> 700Lux = lm/2124m<sup>2</sup> lm = 700x2124 = 1486800 lm

Basic T8, 58W = 5200Im

1486800/5200 = 285.9 286 lamps needed Even if calculated for occupancy DI which has the highest Lux requirement the 420 lams are excessive.

### New A2 occupancy

50Lux = lm/2124m<sup>2</sup> Lm = 50x2124 = 106200 lm

OSRAM LUMILUX® T8 = 5200lm 106200lm/5200lm = 20.42 21 OSRAM LUMILUX® T8 lamps will be needed for the temporary theatre.

### Other possible occupancies

A1: Entertainment and public assembly: 50 Lux A3: Place of instruction: 100 Lux A4: Worship: 100Lux B3: Low-risk commercial: C1: Exhibition Halls: 300 Lux C2: Museums: 300Lux

300Lux = lm/2124m<sup>2</sup> Lm = 300x2124 = 637200 lm 637200/5200lm = 122.54

A maximum of 123 OSRAM LUMILUX® T8 lamps will be needed for alternative occupancies which is still less than the 440 fluorescent lamps currently in use.



### LUMILUX® T8

Standard

15W

2

16W 18W 23W 38W 36W 58W 70W

- Up to 10% lower power draw than T12 lamps

LUMILUX\*

15W 16W 10W

→ 10W → 23W → 30W → 36W → 36W → 58W → 70W

 Operated on conventional control gear with starters and on QUICKTRONIC<sup>®</sup> electronic control gear

uns up 10



Figure 201. Existing fluorescent lighting (Author, 2010).

TAN STANIA



### 8.6.4 Stage lighting Instruments

### Dimmers

External dimmers are relied on to control the lighting level of lights that have no built-in electronics or dimming (Cadena, 2006, 49).



Figure 203. GM 48 x 2 kW Dimmer (Author, 2010).



Figure 204. 5m Z-Line truss (Dance South Florida, 2010).

## **Rigging Systems**

A rigging system is used to provide a safe and convenient structure on which to hang production equipment such as lighting, sound, video, and scenic elements (Cadena, 2006, 36).

## Floodlights

PAR lights (parabolic aluminized reflector) come in varying diameters and are used to light scenes, as top lights, and for special effects. The wide unfocused beam produces an intense oval pool of light with soft edges. An adjustable knob allows the lamp unit to be rotated within its casing, changing the orientation of the oval. The colour and intensity can be altered.

## **Profile Spot Fixtures**

A profile spot luminaire is a hard-edge fixture that can project an image by using a gobo. The beam can be focused and controlled. It is used to light the faces of actors, to control light spill or to project scenery or graphic images (Cadena, 2006, 373).

## Follow Spots

Follow spots are used to emphasize a moving actor by increasing the brightness of the light on him over the general intensity of the stage lights. The movement of the actor is followed by a single, freely mounted spotlight. In straight drama soft edge follow spots with reduced intensity are used so that the audience doesnt notice it and only feels the effect (Parker & Smith, 1974, 368).



Figure 208. Floodlight temporarily attached to Z-Line truss (Auther, 2010).



Figure 205. Parcan (Par 64) I kW (Mellor, 2009)

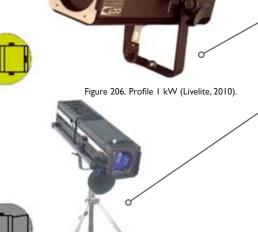


Figure 207. Follow spot 2 kW (Arts Council of Northern Ireland, 2010).

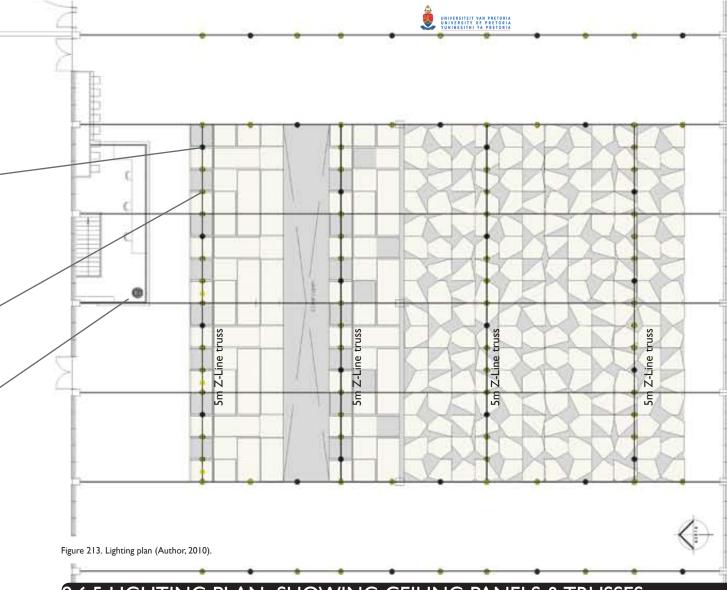




Figure 209. Floodlight effect 2 kW (Berne, 2010).



Figure 210. Follow spot effect 2 kW (McGill, 2007).



Figure 211.Gobo effect 2 kW (WeddingWire, 2010).



Figure 212. Profile spot effect 2 kW (Mellor, 2008).

# 8.6.5 LIGHTING PLAN SHOWING CEILING PANELS & TRUSSES

### NOT TO SCALE

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### 8.6.6 Light & Colour

### Colour experience

The expressive content of a colour can stimulate, relax or depress the feelings of the viewer. Reds quicken the heartbeat, greens are restful, and neutral hues can be depressing. The impression is registered in terms of colour and brightness. The experience of colour is a physiological, intellectual and emotional process. Tradition and personal frame of reference can also condition an emotional response (Parker & Smith,235).

The six basic spectrum hues can be described in terms of their emotional response:

Yellow: Radiant, light giving, golden, saintly; in light values near white, virginal.

Orange: Festive, earthly, peasant colours, warmth, neutral shades, nature in the fall.

Red: Danger , active, passionate, full of inner warmth, fiery, strong, forceful, anger war.

Violet: Royal, piety, deeper shades, shadows, terror, chaos, a reddening colour.

Blue: Passive, receding, restraint, detached, deep, cold, purity, icy tints.

**Green:** Tranquillity, compassion, restfulness, nature in the spring and summer.

Black: Evil, dominance

### Coloured light and the actor

Startling colours will be avoided for the acting areas as it will adversely effect the faces and costumes of the actors. Often the acting area is lit with tints of pink and amber that is flattering to the faces of the actors but deadly to green materials. For the forest stage shades of green will be used in the scenery. These acting areas will be lit with clear light which appears warm when used in conjunction with cool colours on stage such as green.

Green light has limited use on the acting areas of the stage. Green adversely effects the human face; cheeks and lips appears muddy, blond and reddish hair look dead and any blemish becomes grotesque. Green light will only be used on the acting area of the destruction stage where a distorted effect is desired.

Green light will be used on the transitional scenery between the threshold and the forest and the forest and the destruction stage. On scenery green light is especially enriching (Parker & Smith, 394).

### Coloured light and the scenery

The lighting should enhance the scenery. Only tints of light will be used. Strong colours tire the audience and tend to distort the colours of the scenery. Light intensifies, brightens and makes the colour of paint appear lighter. The colour of scenery was chosen a shade or two darker than the desired colour.

On the background stronger colours can be used to

show the time of day, weather conditions and other effects. Delicate and precise shadings require different colours to be blended in stead of using a single colour medium (Parker & Smith, 395).

### Colour media

A gel or gelatin is the most typically used because the sheets are very thin, the colour range is extensive and it is the cheapest. The plastic like coloured sheet is bought and cut into the desired sizes and placed in the colour frame of a luminaire. They have to be replaced quite often but can last up to two years (Parker & Smith, 395).



### 8.6.7 Light as scenery

The most familiar form of light as scenery is projected imagery and live footage. However curtains and columns of light are also included in this definition.

At this point in time the use of projections have developed past a sensational novelty and extreme experimentation. Now designers can draw from previous crude and successful examples and apply projections more effectively, economical and subtly in order for it to be a supporting element rather than overwhelming and distracting.

For the purpose of this study projections will be employer as it embodies the concept of symbiosis between the temporary (ephemeral projected light image) and the permanent (tangible object, surface or plane projected on).

Projections will be used to reinforce the setting or milieu and to incorporate the original culturally idiosyncratic text into the space.

Because of the temporality of light and projections it is more flexible, multi- functional and sustainable. Although the equipment necessary are currently expensive and rely on electricity creating and projecting an image is quicker and less resource and labour intensive.

Projections are usually applied to the background; not as a substitute realistic background but as a medium of its own and best expressed in abstract or thematic terms becoming an additional actor.

Projection= light source + medium (slide/electronic) +

image+surface (called the screen but can be anything) Projection equipment can be placed in front of an opaque screen or behind a translucent screen normally used for shadow projection (Parker & Smith,440).

### Tips for a clear image

- Use dark colours in your setting.
- Keep reflective surfaces on the floor to a minimum
- Baffle reflected light from the stage with a black gauze in front of the screen. This is especially useful in back projection.
- Light actors from the side reducing damaging front light.
- Give the screen a black border to sharpen the projected image by contrast.



### 8.6.8 New temporary diffusers

The thesis investigates the temporary reuse of an existing building by means of insertion. The intention is to avoid too much major permanent changes and to utilize as much of what is existing as possible. To support this intention the design decision was made to use the existing lighting fixtures. As mentioned fluorescent light is mainly used for functional lighting. To create a more intimate theatre atmosphere that is in keeping with the text new, designed temporary diffusers will be suspended from the horizontal members of the existing angle iron trusses so that it hangs underneath the fluorescent tubes at varying distances.

The design of the diffusers is inspired by the way gobos work. A gobo, also known as a break up pattern is a mask used to create patterns, shapes or dappled light effects on the stage. A shape is cut into a disc of aluminium, stainless steel, or glass that is inserted in the focal plane of a luminaire. Gobos come in many shapes, but often include leaves, waves, stars or similar patterns (Cadena, 2006, 254).

The diffusers will be made from cardboard drums cut across the width into two cylinders of varying length. A circular disc of translucent acrylic sheet, cut to size is then loosely placed inside the drum. The metal reinforced edges of the drum have a smaller diameter than the rest of the drum. After the drum is cut there will be two cylinder pieces with one metal edge each. The diffuser will be suspended with the metal edge to the bottom so that the acrylic sheet will be held by the smaller diameter of the drum. Before installation, twig and leave shapes are lazar cut out of the acrylic discs. Shades of green and yellow acrylic will be used for the discs.



Figure 214. Aluminium gobo (West Bay Opera, 2006).



Figure 217. Gobo inserted in the focal plane of a luminaire (GoboMan, 2010).



Figure 218. Gobo inserted in the focal plane of a luminaire (Merrell, 2009)



Figure 216. Acrylic disc with lazar cut pattern (Author, 2010).



Figure 215. Cardboard drum found on site and cut into discs (Author, 2010).



"Of the original phenomena, light is the most enthralling. Leonardo da Vinci" (Cadena, 2006, 213)

Green lights distorts the human face while warm yellow livens the face creating a visible duality and separation among the audience



Figure 219. Insert acrylic disc into the drum (Author, 2010).



Figure 220. Elevation of hanging diffusers (Author, 2010).

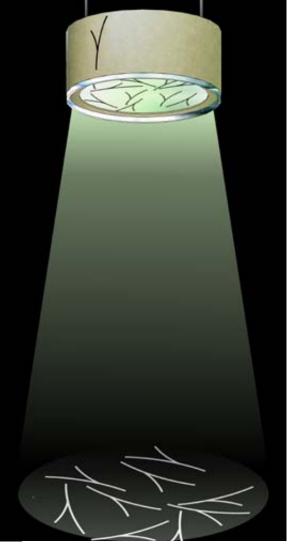
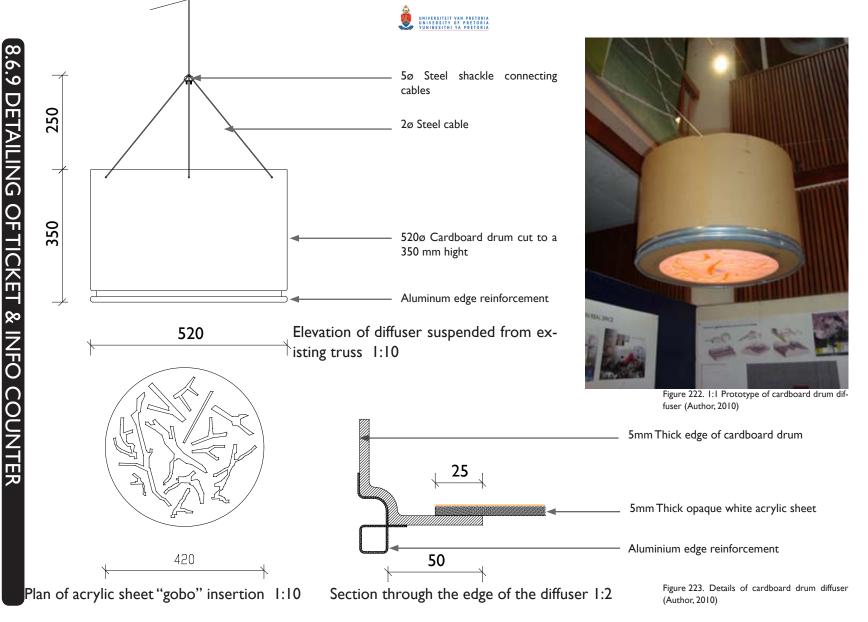
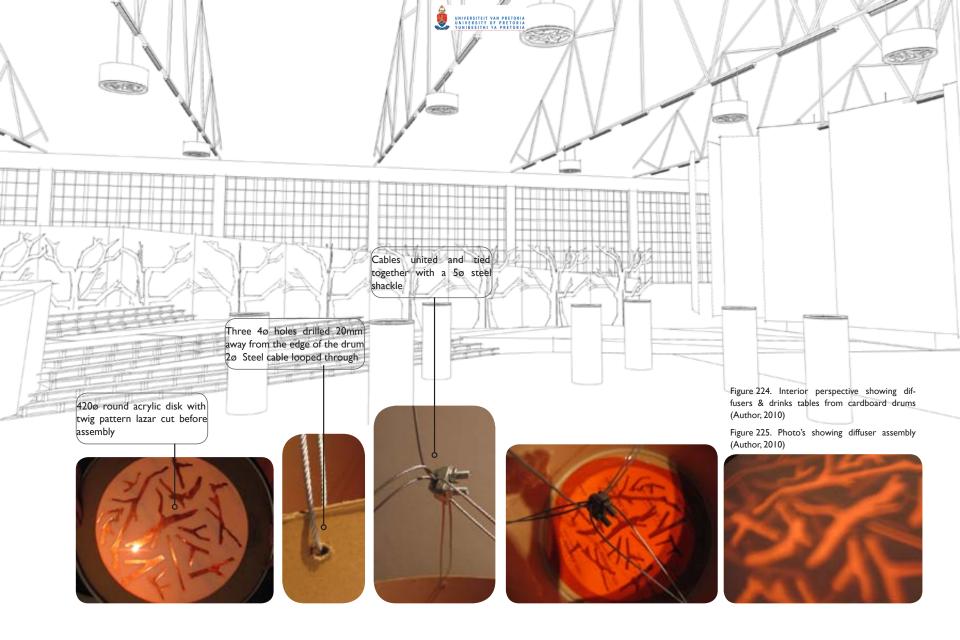
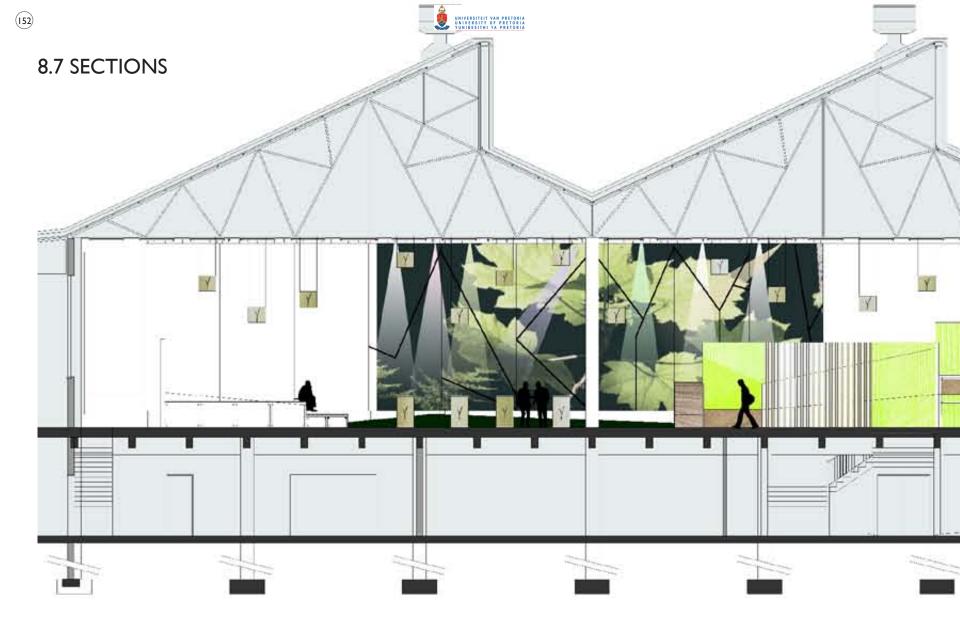


Figure 221. Lighting effect of diffusers (Author, 2010).



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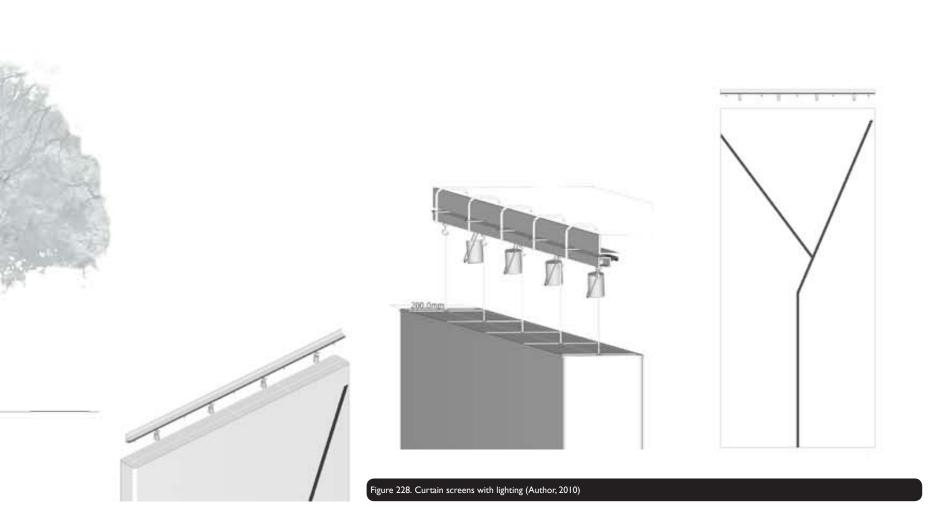
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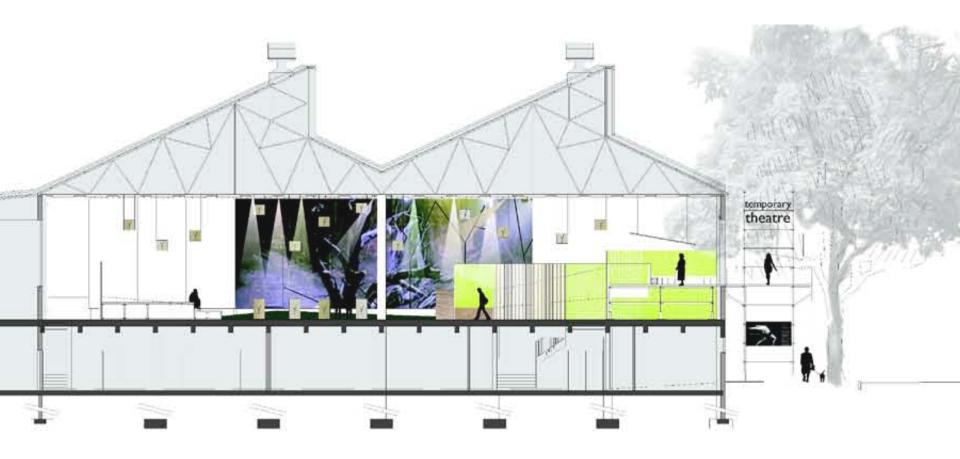


Figure 227. Section A-A showing Threshold stage with adjustable screens & changing projections to show destruction, I:200 (Author, 2010)









(156)



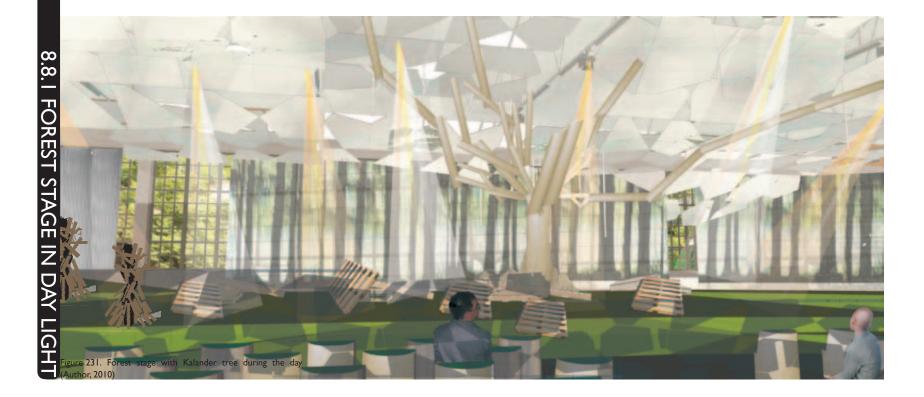
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1:200

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# **8.8 INTERIOR PERSPECTIVES**

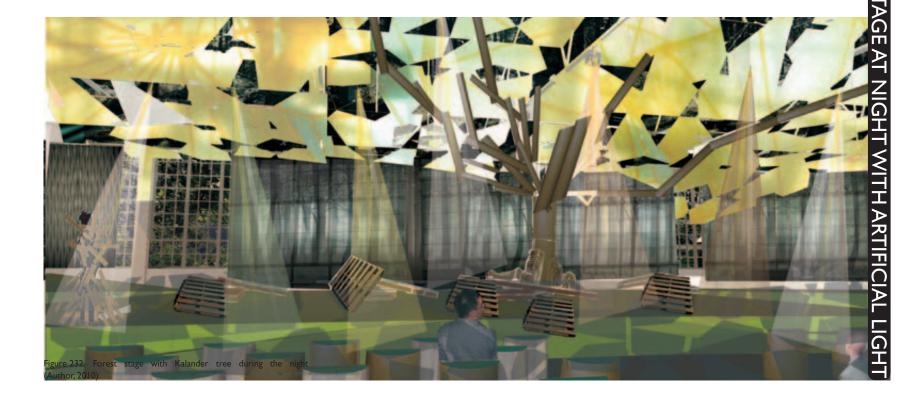
"Maska, you used to tell us that the spirits live in the trees" (1986, 240) "He would hide in the forest so that nobody would ever find him. Surely God could not have seen down into the forest from up in the sky, even the sun has to struggle to shine to the ground. Only specks of sunlight got through that roof of the tree tops" (Matthee, 1984, 47)





"By the time it was dark they were back in the forest. It was like a thick blanket closing around your body, warming you against the cold," (Matthee, 1984, 61)

"They came to know the shrubs of the underbrush: which were medicine and which were not; which berries you could eat and which not." (Matthee, 1984, 18)



8.8.2

FOREST





At the beginning of the play 'living trees' (extra's in costume) are standing inside the cardboard drum tree stumps

As the play progress they gradually exit the stage leaving the red painted stumps exposed to depict the gradual destruction of the forest

"Where Harrison or his men stopped them today, they felled tomorrow because the Government were putting pressure from the west for more and more wood for railway lines, wood for jetties, wood for harbours, wood for the mines, wood for making wagons that had to take man and his possessions north! Wood for tables, wood for chairs and cupboards and beds! Wood! Wood! Wood!" (Matthee, 1984, 109).

"...where diggers' axes had hacked out everything to make space for the tents and houses, and to provide firewood." (Matthee, 1984, 109)

Saul follows old foot in circles through the forest. Eventually Oldfoot leads him to Millwood to show him the destruction. This is also where Oldfoot gets shot by a gold prospector

Figure 233.Perspectives of the Threshold stage showing destruction (Author, 2010)



"Everybody was shooting, everybody was felling. Harrison's control was not strict enough; where he warned them off today, they cut open the roof of the forest that should have protected the seedlings tomorrow. Or they shot the cows that should have calved in the spring. Harrison says, the way they're felling now, there will be little more than fifty years left for the forest...How long for the elephants."(Matthee, 1984, 109).

Figure 234. Concept model for 'Living tree costume' (Author, 2010)



And nobody ever told him that the village was not in the forest." (Matthee, 1984, 53)

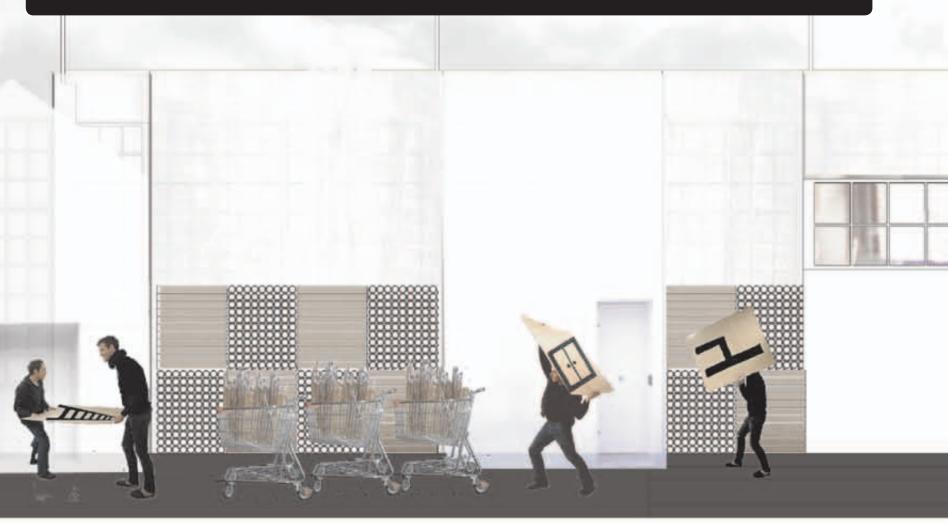
"They came out of the forest on the eastern side of the town. One moment the forest was still around and above them, the next moment it started thinning out, getting lighter...more sun and then suddenly the world was lying open. Naked. Like someone without a hat. Without a roof. He wanted to turn round and run back to the shady shelter of the forest. The sun was hurting his eyes." (Matthee, 1984, 54)

Villagers "traveling" through the audience from the Forest stage to the Village stage to sell the "chopped wood"

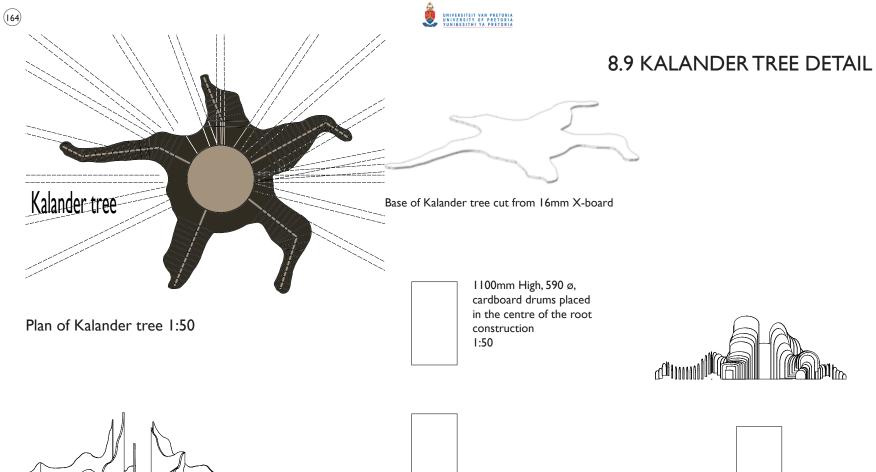




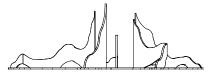
"He stayed behind the wagon when they came to the first houses. Far apart to start with. Then closer together. Square and white, their roofs neatly made of thatch. And the fear that was in him was not the same fear as for bigfeat, it was different, he was surrounded by it, he was in it." (Matthee, 1984, 55) "...enormous.Wood was stacked up everywhere, wood wherever you looked! Mountains of wood. Next to a large shed men were loading some of the wood on other wagons..." (Matthee, 1984, 56)

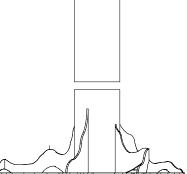






Vertical root profile shapes cut from 16mm X-board and fixed perpendicular to the base with wood screws ,from underneath the base, in a radial fashion 1:50







#### ...enormous'

"Standing with his feet almost in the water of the Homtini...The most beautiful...Towering above all other trees. Giant roots anchored it to the ground like giant arms. Grey bark hung like dry strips of skin"

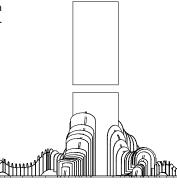
"The old man's beard, moss in its branches hung like thin green hair, waving eerily in the wind." (Matthee, 1984, 74)

... something tells me that tree is alive! If he was dead he could not have grown and if you live, you can feel and if you feel you'll be afraid to go dead"

Figure 237. Detailing & assembly of the Kalander tree (Author, 2010)

Perpendicular bracing from corrugated cardboard sheets cut to root section profiles and slotted over vertical element provide thickness to the roots 1:50





160x100x3mm Clear acrylic, lazer cut slot connectors joining the 75ø cardboard tubes to each other and to the drums to be disassembled easily

1:50



(165)

160x100x3mm Clear acrylic connectors joining the 75ø cardboard tubes together 1:20



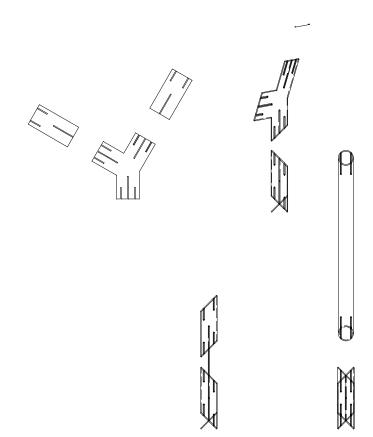


Figure 238. Joining of cardboard tubes to create branches (Author, 2010)





Figure 239. 1:1 Prototype to show assembly & disassembly of the Kalander tree (Author, 2010)  $\,$ 

(166)



When the Kalander tree is felled and during the coarse of the play the Kalander tree is diassembled and transported to the Village stage where the "wood" is sold

(167)







"By the time it was dark they were back in the forest. It was like a thick blanket closing around your body, warming you against the cold," (Matthee, 1984, 61)



# 8.10 ACOUSTICS

Theatres used for drama depend on good speech intelligibility and acoustic intimacy around the audience. The affects of sound occur in two ways; the quality of generated sound that the audience wants to hear and annoyance with unwanted sound (noise).

## 8.10.1 Existing building

When using an existing building not designed as a theatre there will be shortcomings regarding acoustics. Sensitive spaces may be located adjacent to a noise source for example a busy road, or the building might have poor sound insulation. The Temporary Theatre is located parallel to Vermeulen Street which is quite busy during the day but much quieter during the night. Some of the noise disturbance is alleviated by positioning the theatre space on the first floor and the useful mass provided by the heavy traditional brick construction (Lord & Templeton, 1986, 41).

"Subjectively people will be more tolerant of prevailing acoustical conditions in an existing building than in a new one, and there may be more tendencies to have to compromise standards where existing fabric is dealt with. It may be more cost effective to employ corrective measures like sound reinforcement rather than drastically modifying a sound fabric" (Lord & Templeton, 1986, 41).

This statement supports the intention of the study to utilize the existing and avoid drastic permanent changes.

## 8.10.2 Reverberation time

For the audibility of speech clarity is a prime requirement. To achieve this, the audience must receive strong sound reflections immediately after the direct sound. For clear speech in a theatre, the desired reverberation time is between 1.0 s and 1.5s (Spring, 1999, 2). "The reverberation time is defined as the time taken for an interrupted sound to fall in level by 60 dB. The reverberation time is probably the most significant measurable factor determining the acoustical character of a room"

## 810.3 Existing acoustic character

### Reverberation time calculations

Room dimensions: 59m x 36m x 9.17m = 19470m<sup>3</sup> Wall surface area: 631 + 111.656(2) = 854.312m<sup>2</sup> (bricks - plastered) 197 + 164.22 + 413 = 774.22m<sup>2</sup> (windows) 108m<sup>2</sup> (concrete - plastered) Floor surface area: 2124m<sup>2</sup> Ceiling surface area: 885+767+236 +413 = 2300m<sup>2</sup>

Total absorption for 125Hz =646.76 m<sup>2</sup> With people = 946.76 m<sup>2</sup> Reverberation time (RT60)

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{RT60=0.161}(\mathsf{V/A})\\ \mathsf{RT60=0.161}(19470\ \mathsf{m^3/646.76\ m^2})\\ \mathsf{RT60=4.84\ sec.\ with\ people\ -\ 3.3\, l\, sec}\\ 4.84=0.161(19470\ \mathsf{m^3/A})\\ 4.848=3\, l\, 34.67\\ \mathsf{A\ must\ be\ 2089.78}\\ \mathsf{Critical\ distance\ Dc}\\ \mathsf{Dc}=0.057.\ \sqrt{\mathsf{V/RT60}}\\ =\ 0.057.\ \sqrt{\mathsf{V/RT60}}\\ =\ 0.057.\ \sqrt{\mathsf{19470\ m^3/\ 3.31}}\\ =\ 0.057.\ \sqrt{\mathsf{5882,2}}\\ =\ 0.057x76.7\\ =\ 4.4m \end{array}$ 

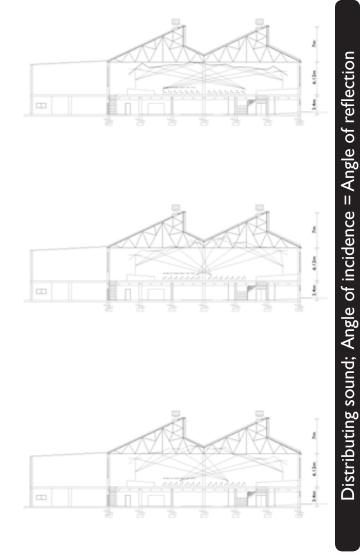
Existing acoustics

Floors	125Hz	250Hz	500Hz	1000Hz	2000Hz	4000Hz
Concrete	.01	.01	.015	.02	.02	.02
2124m²	21.24 m <sup>2</sup>	21.24 m <sup>2</sup>	31.86 m <sup>2</sup>	42.48 m <sup>2</sup>	42.48 m <sup>2</sup>	42.48 m <sup>3</sup>
Walls	125Hz	250Hz	500Hz	1000Hz	2000Hz	4000Hz
Plaster on masonry	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05
854m <sup>2</sup>	8.54 m <sup>2</sup>	17.1 m <sup>2</sup>	17.1 m <sup>2</sup>	25.62 m <sup>2</sup>	34.16 m <sup>2</sup>	42.7 m <sup>2</sup>
Concrete (sealed or painted)	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
108m <sup>2</sup>	1.08 m <sup>2</sup>	1.08 m <sup>2</sup>	2.16 m <sup>2</sup>	2.16 m <sup>2</sup>	2.16 m <sup>2</sup>	2.16 m <sup>2</sup>
Windows	125Hz	250Hz	500Hz	1000Hz	2000Hz	4000Hz
Ordinary glass in steel frame	.35	.25	.18	.12 92.88 m <sup>2</sup>	.07 54.18 m <sup>2</sup>	.04 30.96 m <sup>2</sup>
774m²	270.9 m <sup>2</sup>	193.5 m <sup>2</sup>	139.32 m <sup>2</sup>			
Ceilings	125Hz	250Hz	500Hz	1000Hz	2000Hz	4000Hz
Plasterboar 12mm in suspended ceiling grid	rd 0.15	0.11	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.08
2300m <sup>2</sup>	345 m	<sup>2</sup> 253 m <sup>2</sup>	92 m <sup>2</sup>	92 m²	161 m <sup>2</sup>	184 m <sup>2</sup>
People	125Hz	250Hz	500Hz	1000Hz	2000Hz	4000Hz
Highschoo		3	4	5	5	4
150	300 m <sup>2</sup>	450 m <sup>2</sup>	600 m <sup>2</sup>	750 m <sup>2</sup>	750 m <sup>2</sup>	600 m <sup>2</sup>

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8

Figure 243. Table showing the sound absorption coefficient values of existing materials (Author, 2010)



dows are usually the weakest part of the envelope where sound insulation is concerned. Larger rooms with large reflective surfaces can cause echoes and excessive reverberation (Lord & Templeton, 1986, 42).

The most important kind of external noise affecting

buildings is transport noise from road traffic, aircraft

and railways (Appleton & Aveline, 1999, 4). The win-

### Possible solution

**Problem:** Noise

Possible cause

Screen or add absorption (Lord & Templeton, 1986, 43). Noise level can be reduced by lining the room surfaces with an efficient acoustical absorbent material (Spring, 1999, 3)

For speech the wall behind the audience must be absorptive and the surfaces behind the actors should be reflective (Appleton & Aveline, 1999, 4). In the case of the Temporary Theatre the walls behind the audience is also the wall behind the actors. From the calculations it is clear that more absorptive material is necessary. Absorptive material will be applied to available surfaces in the form of carpets felts and fabric. The largest floor surface will be covered in rubber tiles. Rubber is a resilient material which will act as an absorber because the interlocking tiles are placed on the concrete floor and not fixed to it with a rigid connection.

Because the theatre has large standard steel frame windows with opening sections it will be a futile exercise to try and insulate the space. The design will aim to reduce the noise level by placing barriers that intercept the line-of-sight between a sound source (the street) and the audience. As a rough guide, screen-type barriers I to 4 m high and mass about 10 kg/m2 can give transmission losses of 5 to 20 dB (Spring, 1999, 6).

### Problem: Poor reception at rear

#### Possible cause

Lack of useful reinforcement of sound source (Lord & Templeton, 1986, 43).

Normal conversation is audible over a distance of up 10m. Raised conversation is audible up to 24m (Lord & Templeton, 1986, 29).

The volume and quality of the unamplified sound is dependent on the volume, shape, size and internal finishes of the auditorium, and on its resultant reverberation time (Appleton & Aveline, 1999, 4).

### Possible solution

Add reflective surfaces. Flat surfaces is effective in distributing sound but easily cause a "flutter echo" or "standing wave". Reflective Concave surfaces concentrate sound in some places causing deficiencies of the reflected sound in certain places called dead spots (Lord & Templeton, 1986, 42). Convex surfaces are the best surfaces for distributing sound. They provide a wide-spread of reflected sound. Reflections can be controlled by irregularities such as columns and trusses or through the use of absorptive materials (Acoustics. com, 2004).

## 8.10.4 New temporary, sound reflective ceiling panels

The ceiling suspended at calculated angles will reflect and disperse sound into the audience to reinforce the sound and make sure that desired sound is audible. The reflective ceiling panels will be suspended from the existing steel trusses with adjustable cables at the corners. The panels will be made of white, translucent acrylic sheets cut into irregular (forest) and regular shapes (village) and tied together with cable ties through predrilled holes. The ceiling will cover the audience and progress from irregular to regular. Assemble will be done on the floor surface below and then hoisted into place. The resilience of the suspended acrylic sheets together with gravity will cause the sheets to sag in the middle forming convex surfaces that will reflect and disperse the sound. The resilience of the sheet is inhibited by the convex shape it takes on and thus loses its absorptive qualities.



(173)



system (Author, 2010)

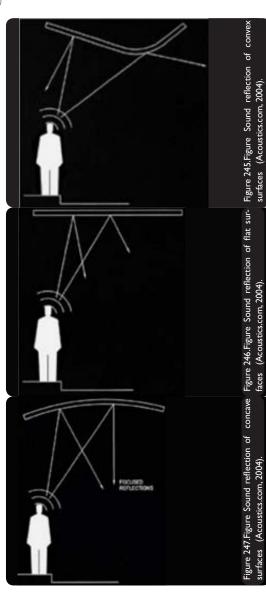








Figure 248. The set for a dance called "California." Polycarbonate panels are joined with plastic zip ties and suspended above the stage with cables (Cramer, 2004).



Figure 249. A focal point for Mash-Up!, an eight-week-long series of experimental events and performances (Ferrara, 2005).



Figure 250.Figure 1:20 Model illustrating acrylic materiality of ceiling panels (Author, 2010).

(174)

8.10.5 Configuration & assembly

Marking the dimensions of on the floor.

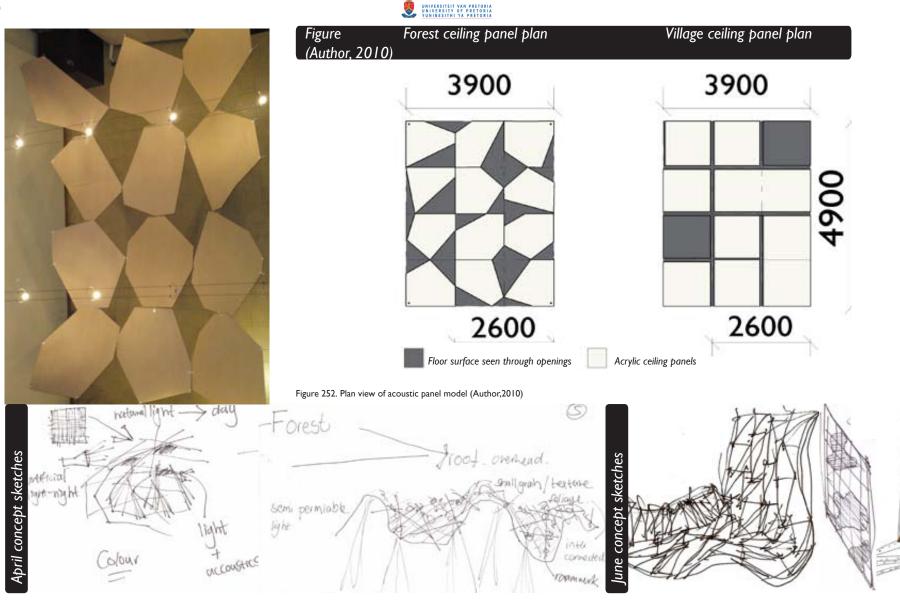


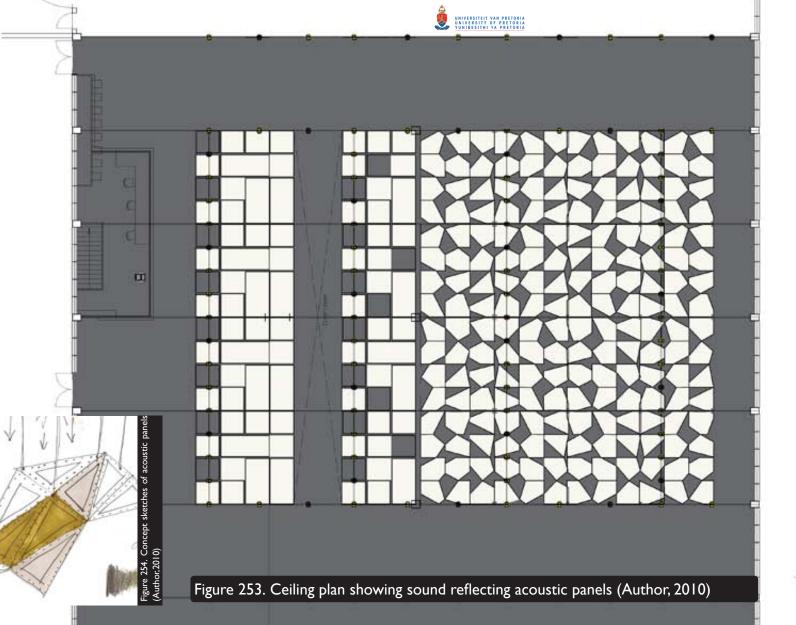
Filling the marked area with cardboard. Tracing and cutting out the shapes. Marking holes in the corners. Tying pieces together with cable ties. Attaching strings of fishing line from the cable ties to the outside.

Lifting and suspending the panel from existing hooks and ballustrades.



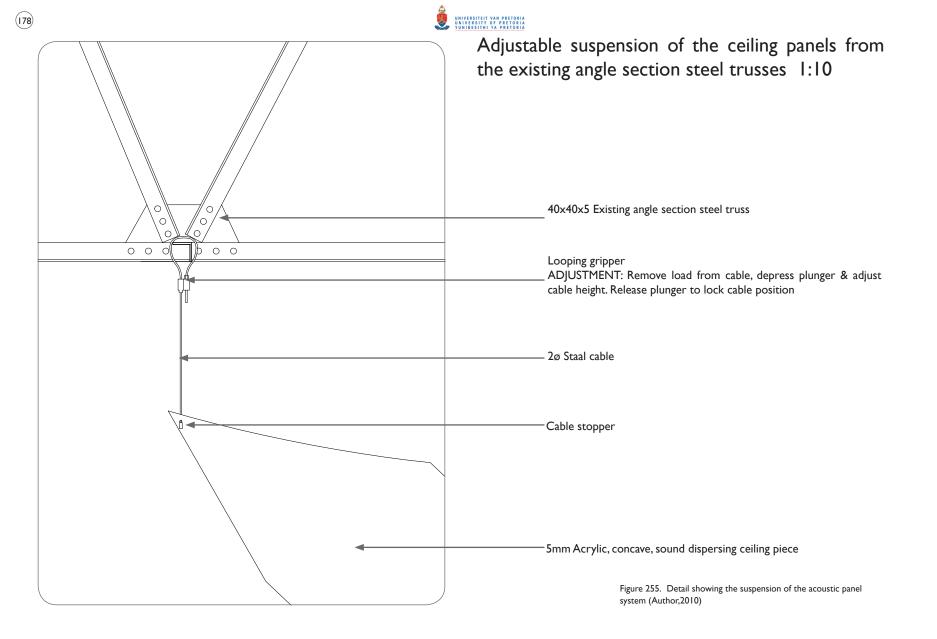
Figure 251. Assembly of the model testing the acoustic panel system (Author, 2010)







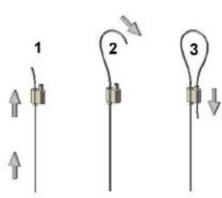
(177)







Cable ties used to join the 12 individual pieces of each panel



STEP 1: Insert cable into looping gripper STEP 2: Pass cable through or around anchor point STEP 3: Insert cable back into

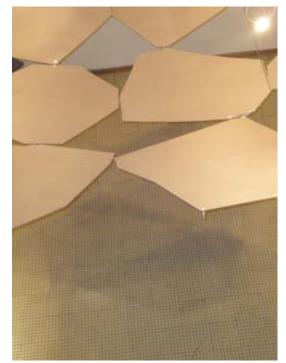


Figure 258. View from above ceiling model showing shadows created on the floor surface underneath (Cable grippers,2010)

Figure 256. Cable ties (Author, 2010)

Figure 257. Diagram illustrating how a looping gripper works (Cable grippers, 2010)

# 8.11 SEATING \_ CARDBOARD DRUM SWIVEL CHAIR

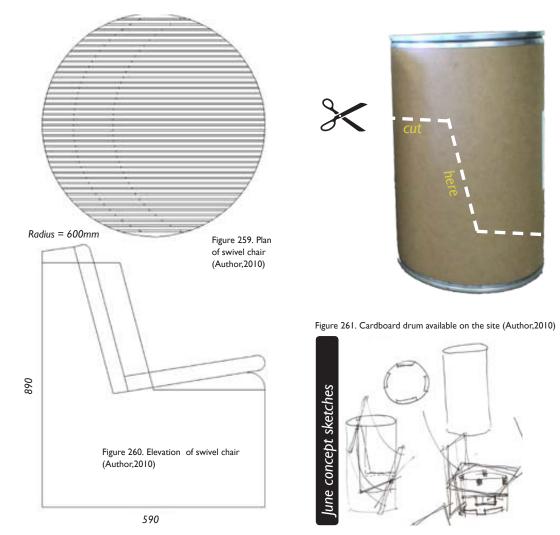
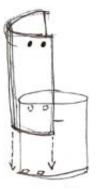




Figure 262. Chair profile cut from tube resulting in two identical pieces that fit onto each other (Author, 2010)







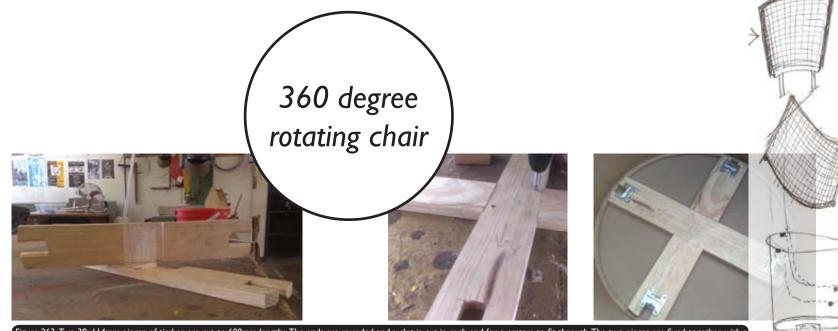


Figure 263. Two 38x114mm pieces of timber are cut to 600mm lengths. The ends are rounded and a slot is cut in each end for a casters to fit through. The two pieces are fixed together with a shiplap joint and secured with wood-glue and wood-screws. A caster is placed in each slot and fixed to the wood with wood-screws. Matching holes are cut in the base of the drum to accommodate the casters. The assembly is placed in the bottom of the drum (Author, 2010).









The chair will be manufactured on site from the cardboard drums in which printer toner is packaged and delivered. The profile that is being cut out will allow two chairs to be made from one 1100mm high, 600dia. drum. The sharp edged angular profile will also resemble the stumps of cut down trees. The casters that cant swivel themselves are attached in such a way that the chair can only rotate and not move back and forth easily to help keep the chairs in place and avoid distraction.



Figure 264. The wood members are fixed to the base of the drum with wood screws and washers. Four pieces of timber are cut to size and a groove is made in each, to fit over the connections of the casters. These pieces are then fixed over the casters and screwed to the wood underneath. This is done to secure the casters in place (Author, 2010).





Figure 265. Sheets of cardboard was cut according to the chair profile and stacked next to each other inside the chair to create a seating surface. A 450 x 1000 mm rubber mat is woven from 40mm wide strips of the inner tube of a vehicle tyre. A 400 x 950 x 40 mm piece of foam is covered with a felt cover that can be removed and washed. The covered foam is attached to the rubber mat by pressed-it clips. The 'pillow' is then placed onto the seating surface of the chair to increase comfort & acoustic absorption. The pillow itself can also be used as temporary movable seating with the rubber mat as durable substrate providing a non-slip grip (Author,2010).







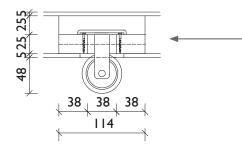


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to fit through

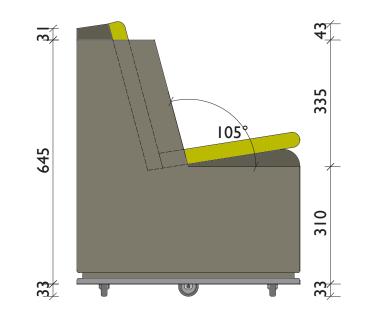
Caster screwed onto the

25mmx I I4mm plywood cross support into which a slot is cut for the caster

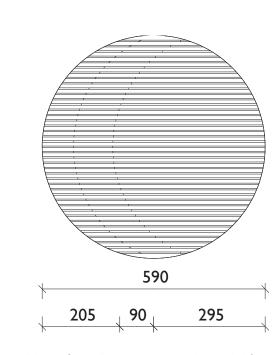


Detail of caster connection 1:5

Figure 266. Detailing of cardboard swivel chair (Author, 2010)



Elevation of cardboard swivel chair 1:10

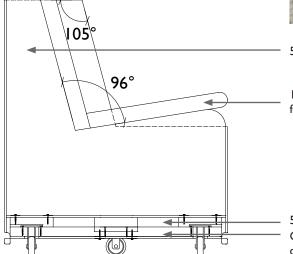


Plan of cardboard swivel chair 1:10





Figure 267. 1:1 Prototype of cardboard swivel chair with upholstered covering (Author, 2010)



590ø Cardboard drum cut to specifications

1000mm x 400mm Upholstered covering made from recycled rubber, foam and felt

5mm Masonite coveringbase, screwed onto 25mm plywood over castor Caster screwed onto a 25mmx114mm plywood cross support into which a slot is cut for the caster to fit through

Longitudinal section through cardboard swivel chair 1:10



# 8.12 FIRE SAFETY

General requirements according to SANS 0400 Part T

Compliance of the Temporary Theatre

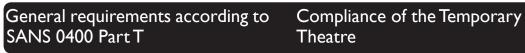
	Escape routes & doors	l	Escape routes & doors
•	45 Maximum travel distances to nearest escape door	minimum	th of the building exceeds 45m and therefore a of two escape routs have been provided in the sign. The added ramp entrance will further ease n.
•	Exit door shall open in the direction of travel along the es- cape route		existing exit doors already open in the direction of e new door that exit to the ramp is a sliding door.
•	Walls of corridors forming part of an escape route must be constructed of non-combustible materials		ing walls of corridors forming part of an escape constructed of non-combustible materials
•	The floor of any escape route must have a slip resistant surface.	tiles that face and	ing concrete floor screed will be covered in rubber increase the slip resistance of the interior floor sur- varnished OSB board will be used for the surface of or and exterior ramp.
•	The maximum number of people per escape route is 190. Escape routes for 190 people must have a minimum width of 1800mm.	(exit 4).T 150 patr existing e	ing escape routes are 2900mm (exit 6) and 2185m the planned occupancy for the Temporary Theatre is ons and shouldn't exceed 200 including staff. The escape routes are thus sufficient. The new exit via nm wide scaffold ramp will provide an accessible oe.
•	Rooms with a population of more than 25 must have at least 2 exit doors opening in the direction of travel along the escape route and with an aggregate width not less than the required width for the escape route.	There are for the ra	e two existing exit doors.A third one will be provided mp exit.
	Emergency routes shall discharge at ground level directly to a street or public place or to an approved open air space leading to a street or public place.	has hand charge in	ing stairway forms part of an emergency route. It drails on each side throughout its length and dis- to a corridor that is part of the route and then into space. The ramp discharges into the street.



Figure 268.Existing fire escapes routes (Author, 2010).



	Markings, signposting & Emergency lighting	Markings, signposting & Emergency lighting
•	Emergency routes shall be clearly marked and signposted to indicate the direction to be travelled in the case of emergency.	
•	Emergency routes must be provided with artificial lighting and when the building is occupied there must be a minimum illuminance of 50 lux on a horizontal plane 100 mm above the floor.	will be provided with such lighting.









# Occupancy specific requirements Compliance of the Temporary requirements according to SANS Theatre 0400 Part T

	Escape routes		Escape routes
•	Aisles must have a minimum clear width of 1100mm and allow unobstructed movement to the escape routes.	•	The width of the aisles between the chairs is 1800mm to allow actors to move and perform along them.
•	Distance from the front edge of any seat to the front edge of the seat immediately in front of, or behind must be a minimum of 675 mm.	•	To allow the chairs to rotate 360 degrees and for people to have enough legroom the seats are spaced 841mm away from each other which is further than in a typical theatre. As a result there is ample space between the seats.
	Fire-fighting equipment		Fire-fighting equipment
•	Fire hydrants One per 1 000 m² or part thereof	•	For occupation A2 fire hydrants aren't required. The fire hy- drants required for the previous occupation will be an added benefit.
•	Portable extinguishers Occupation A2: 1 per 200m <sup>2</sup> Occupation D2: 1 per 100m2 (Previous occupation: D2 Moderate risk industrial)	•	In accordance with its previous occupation the space has more portable extinguishers with bigger capacities than needed for the new occupation.
•	Hose reels Any building of two or more storeys in height or in any single storey building of more than 250 m <sup>2</sup> in floor area must have hose reels at a rate of 1 for every 500 m <sup>2</sup>	•	There are already enough fire hydrants provided for the existing buildings floor area of $2972m^2$ ( $3000m^2/500m^2 = 6$ )
•	Sprinkler system	•	For occupation A2 without a fly tower a sprinkler system isn't required. The existing building does have a sprinkler system that will provide extra safety in the case of fire.



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## Occupancy specific requirementsl requirements according to SANS 0400 Part T

Compliance of the Temporary Theatre

•	Escape routes & doors 45 Maximum travel distances to nearest escape door	Markings, signposting & Emergency lighting
•	Exit door shall open in the direction of travel along the es-	<ul> <li>The Temporary theatre will be entirely non-smoking and "No smoking" signs of approved size shall be prominently displayed.</li> </ul>
•	cape route Walls of corridors forming part of an escape route must be constructed of non-combustible materials	• Such signage is not provided in the existing building and will be added in order to comply with the requirements. The possibility of battery powered devices will be investigated.
•	The floor of any escape route must have a slip resistant	
•	surface. The maximum number of people per escape route is 190. Escape routes for 190 people must have a minimum width of 1800mm.	<ul> <li>The existing building wasn't intended for use during the night and therefore new emergency lighting independent of the normal mains supply will be installed.</li> </ul>

### Rules that don't apply

Sub rules TT49.2, TT49.4, TT49.5 and TT49.6 don't apply in the case of places used solely for amateur productions or stages without a fly gallery. The Temporary theatre will mainly be used for amateur productions and won't have a fly tower. This provides certain design advantages: the existing separation or lack thereof between the audience and the stage and the stage and the dressing rooms is allowed. Fire shutters aren't required, the stage floor may be of timber, an automated roof ventilation system, communication and alarm systems aren't needed and the dressing rooms don't need direct access to an emergency route. Any Decorative material, wall, partition, horizontal slab and ceiling don't have to be of a non-combustible material.

- Rooms with a population of more than 25 must have at least 2 exit doors opening in the direction of travel along the escape route and with an aggregate width not less than the required width for the escape route.
- Emergency routes shall discharge at ground level directly to a street or public place or to an approved open air space leading to a street or public place.