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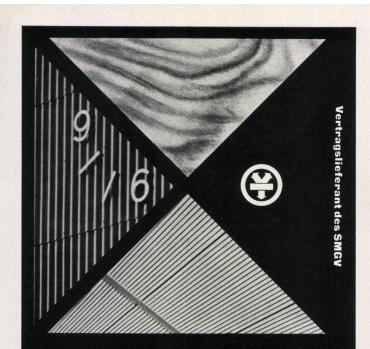
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an open-air arena theatre is added, and a concert hall. The three units are connected by a covered gallery opening into a court for large sculptures. It is the task of this University Center to train students in the different disciplines

court for large sculptures. It is the task of this University Center to train students in the different disciplines and to provide a permanent creative interplay between architecture and theatre, theatre and literature, music and painting with continual cross-currents. The theatre is disposed as a typical pedagogical studio. The auditorium seats only 300, generally students collaborating in the production in some capacity. Sometimes, performances are open to the public.

## Karamu Center, Cleveland, Ohio (page 15)

On the area of a block, i. e. a building unit of approx. 120 metres square, in the Negro Quarter of Cleveland, the initiative of Russel and Rowen Jelliff has created a Civic Center for Negroes, the progressive spirit and activity of which is characterized by its interior organization and architectural configuration.

Cleveland's Karamu bases on purely idealist principles and is not a profit-making concern. The theatre building is the heart of the entire complex, which is not yet fully completed. The principal auditorium, seating approx. 500, possesses an excellently appointed peep-show stage with all the standard technical equipment.

The court of the Karamu complex houses a very simple installation, free from any attempt at showiness, for open-air performances. The stage is a recessed part of the wall of the building to which entrances directly from the building are provided on either side.

# **Project for a municipal theatre (opera and plays) for Zurich** (page 16)

The project for the municipal theatre derives from stereometric formation. The auditorium, seating approx. 2000, is broad and contains a steep-gradient pit permitting the distance to the stage to be greatly reduced. The orchestra pit can be covered over so that the stage is directly connected with the auditorium, and the former can be used as a peep-show or spatial stage. Burckhardt dispenses with a conventional curtain and replaces it by the application of light and counter-light.

#### Stage with rotatable cyclorama Project for a theatre in Berlin Zeughaus (page 27)

The circular curtain is also an iron curtain, cyclorama and sound screen in combination with the lateral adjoining panels. The latter can be easily slid back to make room for the shifting of stage trolleys. If a second lateral stage were added, scenery could be changed without necessitating intervals since the stage trolleys could continually be loaded with new scenery.

#### Impington Village College Cambridgeshire England (page 20)

Built as a multi-purpose theatre, it is used by the younger students during the afternoon, and by the older in the evening. In daytime auditorium and stage are used for school meetings, dancing and gymnastic lessons, rehearsals and performances in connection with dramatic training. Public performances, community poetry readings, lectures, discussions, cinema and dancing performances are held there.

#### Theatre in Baden, Aargau (page 21)

A small play and opera house destined to achieve an effect of intimacy, its stalls seating 400, circle 150. For congresses, for which the theatre is also designed, and concerts with larger attendance, the seating capacity can be raised to approx. 750. The lobby adjoining the rearmost row of stalls can be partitioned off by movable walls and used for exhibitions. Flat steps lead to the park direct from the lobby pavilion; the condition of the ground in this area permits open-air performances in which the steps represent the stage and the lobby pavilion, as it were, the backstage.

#### Teatro Carlo Felice, Genoa (pages 22-23)

The new theatre consists of three individual units: the auditorium, the new public passage and the underground cinema.

The auditorium is bounded by the outer walls, the roof and the artificial floor (3 metres above road level). Freely suspended in this room, like huge sculptures, are the slightly inclined flat circular stalls, the ring of boxes the oblique fan of the circle, delimited by the polygonal side walls which define the space.

Waits which the stage opening is the stage with an area of 46 metres width and 37 metres depth; it is equipped with excellent technical installations such as lowering and rotatable floor elements, a turntable. lateral sliding platforms which can be placed on the stage when built up with new scenery. In addition, scenery can be built up 8 metres below the stage, on a previously lowered platform, which is then mechanically lifted to stage level.

## **Country theatres in Upper Italy** (pages 24-26)

The point of interest peculiar to North Italian rural theatres is the practical conditions that have led to their existence. There are small communes of 2—4000 inhabitants which deem it important to have such buildings an active function. The idea that the working-man too, develops an activity besides his daily toil, is a fundamental factor in the structural realization (in the first place, the buildings are used — apart from sporadic cinema performances). The funds for the buildings, whose costs varied between 6.5 and 12 million lire (45 000—80 000 Swiss francs) — a remarkably low figure — were collectively raised by contributions of the commune, the church and private persons. The execution was entrusted to young, progressive architects. The results are positive and may be termed exemplary.

#### Music tent in Aspen, Colorado (page 29)

The fundamental principle of the structure rests in the fact that the ground was first hollowed out in the shape of an amphitheatre. Thus the possibility was created of keeping the platform (stage) on a normal level, of obtaining optimum vision and of achieving a natural acoustic screen against the outside. The rear wall of the platform was formed by a kind of folding plywood panel acoustically modulating sound in its small units, this being associated with an oblique sound screen above the platform which serves as a sound-directing medium.

### Park theatre in Grenchen (page 17)

This is a standard task set by the situation of smaller towns in Europe for which a theatre serving exclusively for that purpose is not feasible for financial reasons. Here the requirements were: hotel, large restaurant premises and hall for a multitude of purposes. This latter must be used as a whole as well as in various subdivisions. Many events require a fluctuating connection to the restaurant premises and the hotel, others are confined to the auditorium proper and its annexes. The theatre auditorium is the heart of the structure, and the primary requirements for a theatre are fulfilled: the stage section with lateral space, stage-machinery loft, technical installations permitting production of modern works of all types; a sunken and coverable orchestra pit, excellent visibility in the auditorium with circle by means of which the number of seats can, together with the lateral annexes, be brought near a thousand.

## **Project for a multi-purpose theatre** (pages 18—19)

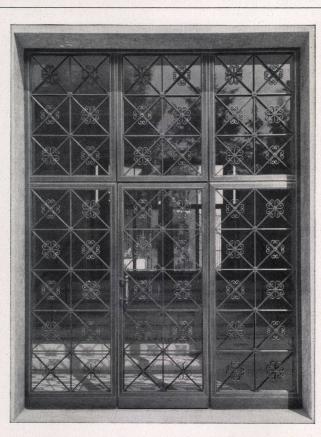
The building is composed of two sections: a wing measuring approx. 23x23 metres housing auditorium, lobby, vestibule, office and so on, and a wing of approx. 14x14 metres housing the stage and ancillary rooms. The building serves a variety of events —

The building serves a variety of events theatre performances, concerts, meetings, social events and banquets. The plan is determined by the subdivision of the room into different segments so that the size of the room always corresponds to the number of participants. The maximum of 630 seats is achieved by lowering the wall between pit and lobby. Lobby, vestibule and hall are connected direct to the garden by means of large windows.

#### New Astoria Cinema and Dance-Hall, Zurich

### (pages 32-33)

The task of the architect was to accommodate a cinema seating 500 and a dance hall in the existing "Astoria" office building in Zurich. Primarily, acoustic and optical requirements determined the form of the cinema audience. The groundfloor was given a curved shape, and successive rows of seats are raised by 12 cm; the curve of the ceiling is parallel with the floor and made of a row of segments. Two loudspeaker sets were arranged below and over the screen consisting of a brickwork Schluß s. S. 54



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wall with plaster covering. Between performances, a chequer pattern is projected on the screen, which replaces the usual curtain.

curtain. Lighting of cinema: Invisible, indirect, behind the round plates connected with the wire structure on the side-walls at a distance of approx. 15 cm therefrom. Thus the wall is lighted within the area of the wire structure, which appears as a dark system of lines and planes. The dancing hall and bar are a spatial unit without subdivision. A lighted case for beverages with two lateral plases mosaic names domiwith two lateral glass mosaic panes domi-nates the entrance. Above the dance-floor the double ceiling, which is there somewhat lowered, is provided with cir-cular multi-coloured sources of light.

New Etoile Cinema, Zurich (page 34) The cinema is accommodated in a new hotel building projected within the old city assanation scheme. In order to keep clear of the green area in the adjoining court, the cinema auditorium was placed underground. The entrance rooms facing Marktgasse, which had to be kept within narrow limits, are placed on the ground-floor, together with the box office, which, in order to save space, was built into a wall, while the lobby with the cloak-room are on a somewhat lower level. The interior lay-out of the auditorium was determined by optical and acoustic prin-ciples. The screen is the central point. The lower edge of the screen is freely visible from every seat.

Number of seats						450
Space between re						83 cm
Width of seats .						55 cm
Projection distar						24 m
Screen distance						23 m
Projection area			4	,4	×	3,30 m

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