

NABA *Insights*

DIZIONARIO TEATRALE  
THEATRE DICTIONARY  
THEATER WÖRTERBUCH  
DICTIONNAIRE DU THÉÂTRE  
DICCIONARIO TEATRAL  
ТЕАТРАЛЬНЫЙ СЛОВАРЬ  
戏剧词典

A cura di / *Edited by*  
Margherita Palli

Quodlibet

NABA Insights  
a cura di / *curated by*  
Guido Tattoni, Italo Rota

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a cura di / *edited by*

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NUOVA  
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DI BELLE ARTI

NABA, Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti, è un'Accademia di formazione all'arte e al design: è la più grande Accademia privata italiana e la prima ad aver conseguito, nel 1981, il riconoscimento ufficiale del Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca (MUR). Con i suoi due campus di Milano e Roma, offre corsi di primo e secondo livello nei campi del design, fashion design, grafica e comunicazione, arti multimediali, nuove tecnologie, scenografia e arti visive, per i quali rilascia diplomi accademici equipollenti ai diplomi di laurea universitari.

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*NABA, Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti, is an international Academy focusing on arts and design. It is the largest private Academy in Italy, and the first one to have been recognized by the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR) in 1981. As a recognised Academy, NABA offers in its two campus in Milan and Rome academic diplomas equivalent to first and second level university degrees in the fields of design, fashion design, graphics and communication, multimedia arts, new technologies, set design, visual arts.*

L'Elenco dei vocaboli riporta, in ordine alfabetico secondo la lingua italiana, tutti i lemmi nelle sette lingue prese in esame. A ogni lemma è assegnato un numero identificativo progressivo, quelli in rosso segnalano la presenza di un'illustrazione esplicativa nella relativa sezione delle *Illustrazioni*. Gli *Elenchi alfabetici* restituiscono per ogni lingua l'elenco dei lemmi, seguiti dal numero identificativo generale.

The Word List includes, in alphabetical order according to the Italian language, all of the items in the seven languages that were examined. Each item was given a progressive identifying number; the numbers in red indicate the presence of an explanatory illustration in the section entitled Illustrations. The Alphabetical Lists include for each language the list of items, followed by a general identifying number.

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8  | Guido Tattoni<br>Direttore NABA<br><i>NABA Dean</i>                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 12 | Teatro, platea, palcoscenico,<br>macchine sceniche,<br>macchinisti, scenografi e<br>tanto altro<br><i>Theatre, Seating Area, Stage,<br/>Stage Machinery,<br/>Scene-Shifter, Set Designers,<br/>and Much More</i><br>Italo Rota |
| 26 | Uno sguardo sul contenuto<br><i>A Glance at the Contents</i><br>Margherita Palli                                                                                                                                               |
| 30 | Cercando il Là...<br><i>Setting the Tone</i><br>Franco Malgrande                                                                                                                                                               |

|     |                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 43  | Elenco dei vocaboli<br><i>Word List</i>                                                                                                                   |
| 151 | Illustrazioni<br><i>Illustrations</i>                                                                                                                     |
| 181 | Elenchi alfabetici<br><i>Alphabetical Lists</i>                                                                                                           |
| 249 | Riti, superstizioni...<br>usi e costumi nei teatri<br>del mondo<br><i>Rites, Superstitions...<br/>Customs and Habits in<br/>the Theatres of the World</i> |

Indice  
*Index*

## Teatro, platea, palcoscenico, macchine sceniche, macchinisti, scenografi e tanto altro

Italo Rota

NABA Scientific Advisor

Una delle più grandi emozioni della mia vita fu quando alla fine della prima rappresentazione di una commedia di Molière, di cui avevo disegnato le scenografie, vidi dal palcoscenico la platea piena di gente e, tra la scenografia e gli attori, intorno e sopra di me, le macchine sceniche che prendevano la loro parte di applausi.

La scenografia è l'attore più complesso della compagnia teatrale e non può esistere senza le macchine sceniche, i macchinisti, i maestri alle luci, gli attrezzisti, le sarte, i pompieri.

Un piccolo mondo che permette di andare in scena ogni sera con spettacoli prodotti in sede e tanti altri che arrivano anche da paesi lontani, dal Giappone come dalla Svezia o da dovunque. Una macchina complessa, multilingue, che deve saper accogliere e andare in scena nell'arco di pochi giorni. Questo manuale / dizionario è un piccolo aiuto per capirsi, comprendersi, per lavorare e continuare la tradizione del teatro. Chi parla di tradizione parla anche di innovazione e questo manuale racconta dello stato attuale del linguaggio, delle tecniche e delle tecnologie del teatro contemporaneo. Capirsi è fondamentale per immaginare un mondo condiviso, rispettoso delle diversità, e per dar voce e corpo all'innovazione artistica.



## Theatre, Seating Area, Stage, Stage Machinery, Scene-Shifter, Set Designers, and Much More

Italo Rota

NABA Scientific Advisor

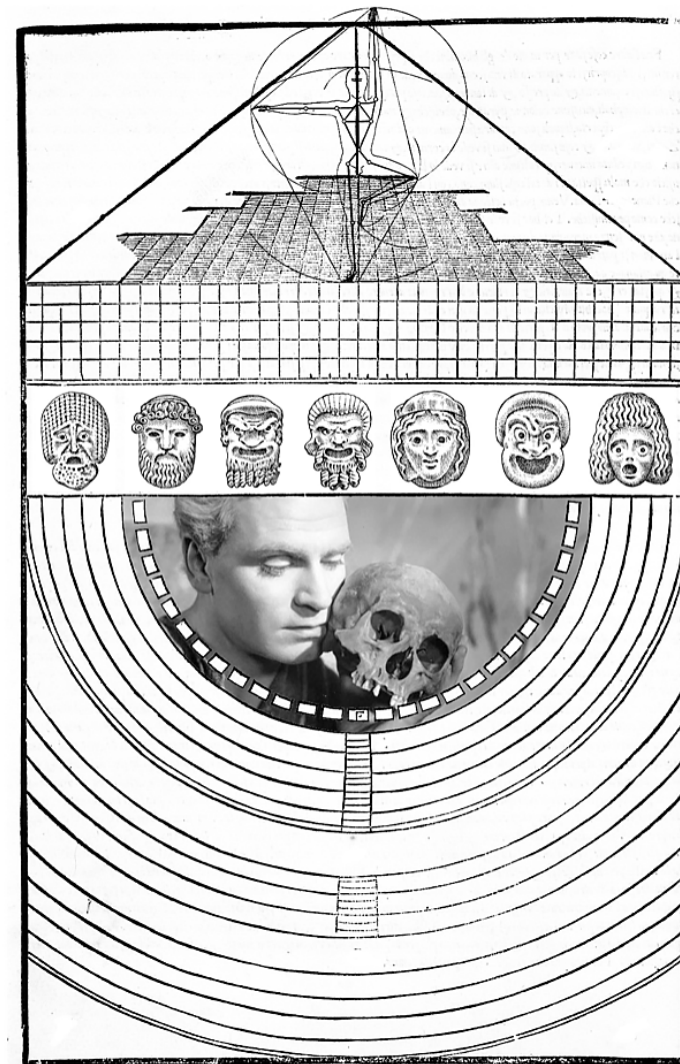
*One of the most emotional experiences in my life was when at the end of the opening performance of a play by Molière, for which I had designed the sets, I saw from the stage a seating area filled with spectators, and, between the set and the actors, around and above me, the stage machinery that was getting its own round of applause.*

*The set design is the most complex part of the theatre company and it would not exist without the stage machinery, the scene-shifters, the lighting technicians, the prop men, the dressmakers, and the firefighters.*

*It is a small world that allows you to go on stage every night with performances produced on site and many others that may even arrive from far-flung places, from Japan to Sweden, or from anywhere else. It is a complex, multilingual machine that must know how to receive and go on stage in just a few days. This handbook / dictionary is a small aid that helps us to interpret and to understand each other, to work and to continue the tradition of theatre. Anyone who speaks of tradition also speaks of innovation, and this handbook describes the current state of the language, techniques, and technologies of contemporary theatre. Understanding each other is of fundamental importance to imagining a shared world, one that respects diversity, and to offering a voice and a body to artistic innovation.*

Teatro dal greco  
 θέατρον (théatron),  
 “luogo di pubblico  
 spettacolo”, dal verbo  
 θεάομαι (theáomai),  
 “guardo”, la stessa radice  
 di θεωπέω (theoréo)  
 e θεωρία (theoría). In  
 precedenza, la parola in  
 greco antico théatron,  
 indicava anche la scena  
 o il palcoscenico, cioè  
 tutta la parte nascosta  
 al pubblico dal sipario.

*Theatre from the Greek  
 θέατρον (théatron),  
 “place of public  
 spectacle”, from the verb  
 θεάομαι (theáomai),  
 “look”, the same root  
 as θεωπέω (theoréo)  
 and θεωρία (theoría).  
 Previously, the word in  
 Ancient Greek théatron  
 was also used to indicate  
 the scene or the stage,  
 that is, the part hidden  
 from the audience  
 behind the curtain.*

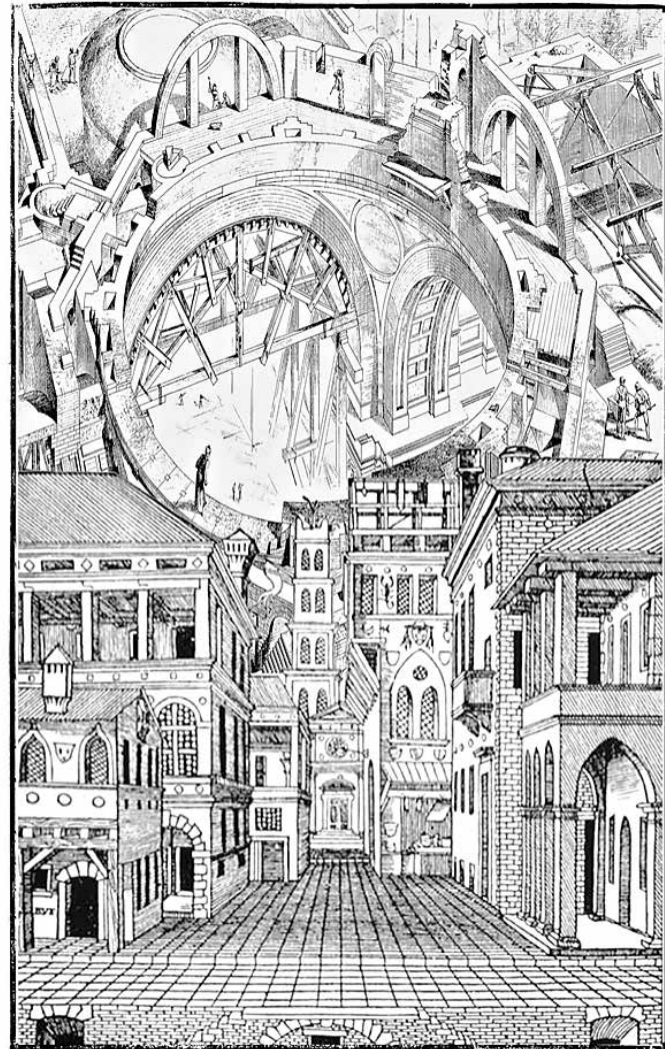


“La prospettiva è l'insieme delle tecniche intese a rappresentare le tre dimensioni dello spazio di una scena mediante un'immagine su una superficie piana. La prospettiva vale 80 punti di QI”.

Alan Kay

*“Perspective is the combination of techniques aimed at representing the three dimensions of the space of a scene by way of an image on a flat surface. Perspective is worth 80 IQ points”.*

Alan Kay



“Ciò che mi ci vuole è la prospettiva, l'illusione di profondità, creata da una cornice, una sapiente disposizione di forme sopra una superficie piatta. La prospettiva è necessaria. Altrimenti ci sono solo due dimensioni. Altrimenti vivi con la faccia pigiata contro una parete, un enorme piano di dettagli come quando in una fotografia vedi la trama di una stoffa, le molecole di un viso. La tua stessa pelle come un diagramma di futilità, una mappa attraversata da stradine che non portano da nessuna parte. Altrimenti vivi nel presente. Che non è dove voglio trovarmi”.

Margaret Atwood

*“What I need is perspective. The illusion of depth, created by a frame, the arrangement of shapes on a flat surface. Perspective is necessary. Otherwise there are only two dimensions. Otherwise you live with your face squashed up against a wall, everything a huge foreground, of details, close-ups, hairs, the weave of the bedsheet, the molecules of the face. Your own skin like a map, a diagram of futility, crisscrossed with tiny roads that lead nowhere. Otherwise you live in the moment. Which is not where I want to be”.*

Margaret Atwood



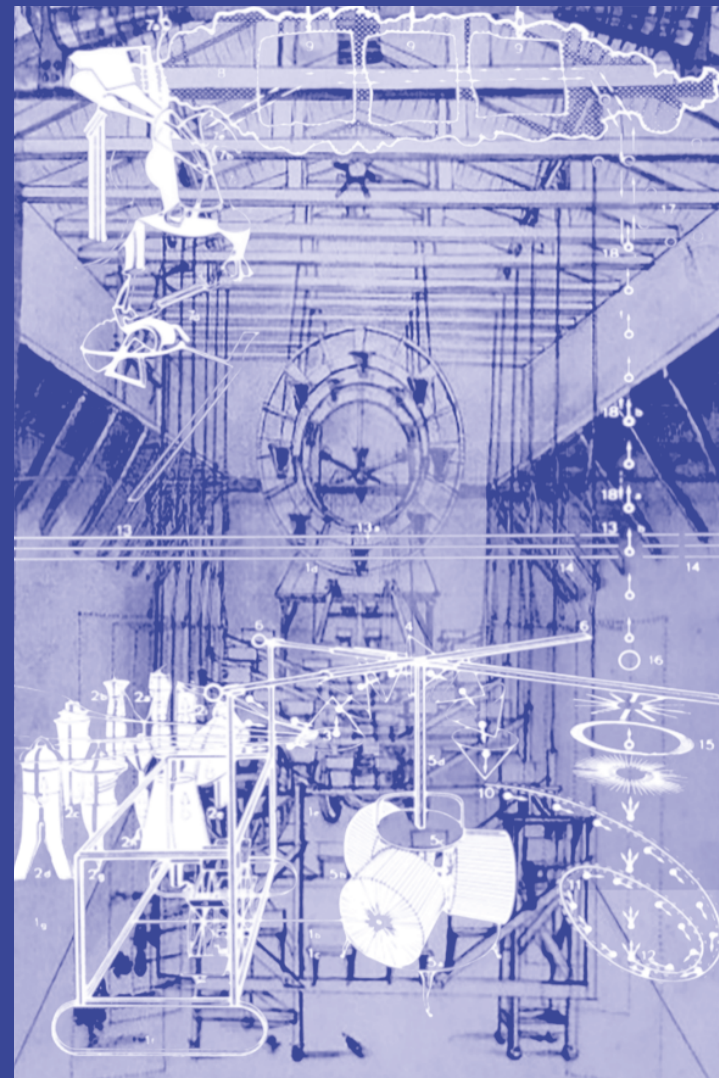


“Quell'oggetto, distolto dal suo contesto utilitaristico, e come spogliato ed esaurito, è investito della desolata dignità delle cose abbandonate. Buono a niente, o pronto per essere usato, aperto a ogni possibilità, esso è vivo. Vive, sul limite dell'esistenza, la sua vita assurda e imbarazzante. Quell'oggetto imbarazzante – è il primo passo verso l'arte”.

Marcel Duchamp

*“That object, divested of its utilitarian context, as if naked and exhausted, is invested with the desolate dignity of abandoned things. Good for nothing, or ready to be used, open to every possibility, it is alive. It lives, on the verge of existence, its absurd and embarrassing life. That embarrassing object – is the first step towards art”.*

Marcel Duchamp



ITALO ROTTA, IMAGE PROCESSING



|           | <i>Italiano</i>                          | <i>English</i>                                        | <i>Deutsch</i>                                   | <i>Français</i>                            |
|-----------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b>  | a destra                                 | downstage right, stage left                           | rechts (vom Publikum gesehen)                    | à droite, face cour, cour                  |
| <b>2</b>  | a sinistra                               | downstage left, stage right                           | links (vom Publikum gesehen)                     | face jardin, jardin                        |
| <b>3</b>  | abbaino                                  | overhead light                                        | Deckenarmatur                                    | lanterneau                                 |
| <b>4</b>  | abbassare                                | lower (to)                                            | senken                                           | baissier                                   |
| <b>5</b>  | abbassare (il volume del suono, la luce) | tone down (to) (sound), fade down (to) (light, sound) | tonen, einziehen (Licht), abblenden (Licht, Ton) | baissier le volume, réduire (lumière, son) |
| <b>6</b>  | abbonamento                              | season ticket                                         | Anrechtskarte                                    | abonnement                                 |
| <b>7</b>  | accendere                                | switch on (to)                                        | einschalten                                      | allumer                                    |
| <b>8</b>  | accendere (luce)                         | light (to), turn on (to)                              | einschalten, beleuchten                          | allumer                                    |
| <b>9</b>  | accentuare                               | accentuate (to)                                       | akzentuieren, betonen                            | accentuer                                  |
| <b>10</b> | accessori                                | properties (props)                                    | Requisiten                                       | accessoires                                |
| <b>11</b> | accordatore di pianoforte                | piano tuner                                           | Klavierstimmer                                   | accordeur de piano                         |
| <b>12</b> | acustica                                 | acoustics                                             | Akustik                                          | acoustique                                 |
| <b>13</b> | acuto                                    | sharp                                                 | sauber fokussiert, sauber abgerichtet            | aigu, net                                  |
| <b>14</b> | affittare                                | rent (to)                                             | mieten                                           | louer                                      |
| <b>15</b> | aiutoregista                             | assistant director                                    | Regieassistent                                   | assistant du metteur en scène              |
| <b>16</b> | allacciare                               | connect (to) (with, up)                               | verbinden, anschliessen                          | brancher, raccorder                        |
| <b>17</b> | allacciare (fondale allo stangone)       | tie (to)                                              | binden                                           | nouer                                      |
| <b>18</b> | allargare                                | expand (to), widen (to)                               | erweitern                                        | élargir                                    |
| <b>19</b> | allestire una scena                      | build the set (to), set the stage (to)                | aufbauen                                         | planter un decor, monter un scene          |

|  | <i>Español</i>                                                    | <i>Русский</i>                            | 中文                             |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|  | arrojes (izquierda del actor), a la derecha, arrojes (de la sala) | правая сторона сцены (из зала)            | tái yòu 台右                     |
|  | a la izquierda, topes (de la sala)                                | левая сторона сцены                       | tái zuǒ 台左                     |
|  | lucos del techo                                                   | верхнее освещение                         | dǐngdēng 顶灯                    |
|  | disminuir, bajar                                                  | опускать, спускать                        | jiàngdī 降低 (至)                 |
|  | atenuar, bajar, apagar, bajar el volumen (luz, sonido)            | регулировать, прижать (свет, звук)        | diàodi 调低 (音量), jiànnà 渐暗      |
|  | abono de temporada                                                | абонемент                                 | jìpiào 季票                      |
|  | prender, conectar, encender                                       | включать, зажигать                        | dákāi 打开 (开关)                  |
|  | encender (luz), prender                                           | включить свет                             | zhàomíng 照明, kāi dēng 开灯       |
|  | acentuar                                                          | акцентировать                             | jiāzhòng 加重                    |
|  | utilería                                                          | принадлежности, аксессуары, комплектующие | pèijiàn 配件                     |
|  | afinador de pianos                                                | настройщик (фортепьяно)                   | gāngqín tiàoyīnshī 钢琴调音师       |
|  | acústica                                                          | акустика                                  | yīnxiǎng 音响                    |
|  | nítido                                                            | высокий (муз.)                            | qīngcuì de 清脆的                 |
|  | alquilar                                                          | брать в аренду                            | zūlín 租赁                       |
|  | asistente del director escénico                                   | помощник (ассистент) режиссера            | zhùlǐ dǎoyǎn 助理导演              |
|  | conectar                                                          | соединять, поделючать                     | liánjiē 连接 (到)                 |
|  | atar                                                              | вешать задник на штанкет                  | kǔnzā 捆扎                       |
|  | expandir, ensanchar                                               | расширять                                 | kuòdà 扩大                       |
|  | montar la escena                                                  | устанавливать, монтировать декорации      | wǔtái bùjǐng 舞台布景, zhì jǐng 置景 |

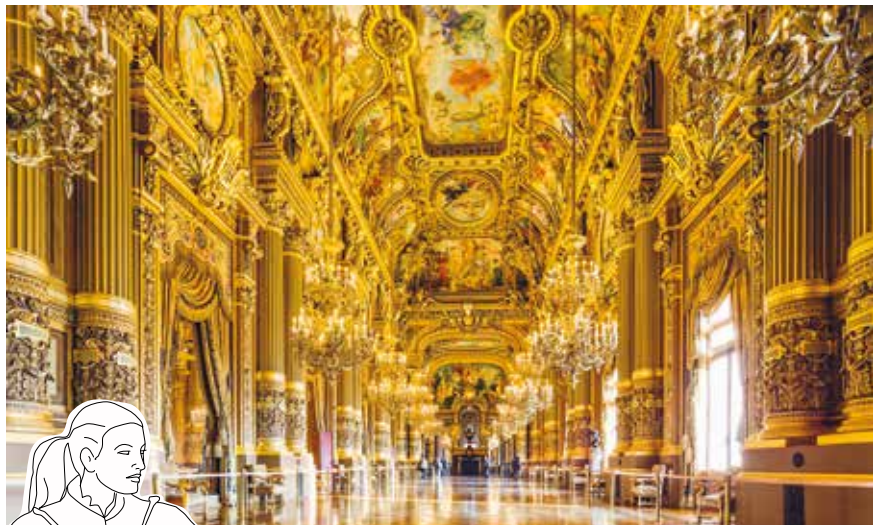
note / notes

|            | <i>Italiano</i>      | <i>English</i>                           | <i>Deutsch</i>                                      | <i>Français</i>                                |
|------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>214</b> | compositore          | composer                                 | Komponist, Tonsetzer                                | compositeur                                    |
| <b>215</b> | compressore          | compressor                               | Kompressor                                          | compresseur                                    |
| <b>216</b> | computer             | computer                                 | Computer                                            | ordinateur                                     |
| <b>217</b> | comunicato stampa    | press release                            | Pressemitteilung                                    | communiqué de presse                           |
| <b>218</b> | concentrato          | focused                                  | konzentriert                                        | concentré                                      |
| <b>219</b> | concezione           | conception                               | Konzeption                                          | conception                                     |
| <b>220</b> | conferenza stampa    | press conference                         | Pressekonferenz                                     | conférence de presse                           |
| <b>221</b> | consolle (luci)      | lighting board,<br>lighting console      | Kontrolltisch,<br>Lichtregelanlage                  | pupitre de contrôle,<br>pupitre du jeu d'orgue |
| <b>222</b> | conto                | account                                  | Konto, Rechnung                                     | compte                                         |
| <b>223</b> | contraente           | party                                    | Kontrahent, Partner                                 | contractant, partie                            |
| <b>224</b> | contralto            | contralto, alto                          | Altstimme, Altistin                                 | alto                                           |
| <b>225</b> | contrappeso          | counterweight                            | Gegengewicht                                        | contrepoids                                    |
| <b>226</b> | contratto            | contract, agreement                      | Vertrag, Kontrakt,<br>Übereinkommen,<br>Verabredung | contrat, convention                            |
| <b>227</b> | controbilanciare     | counterweight (to)                       | ausbalancieren                                      | équilibrer                                     |
| <b>228</b> | controllo            | control                                  | Kontrolle                                           | contrôle                                       |
| <b>229</b> | controllo degli alti | treble control                           | Diskantkontrolle                                    | contrôle des aigus                             |
| <b>230</b> | controllo dei bassi  | bass control                             | Bass-Regler                                         | contrôle des basses                            |
| <b>231</b> | controllo dei suoni  | sound control                            | Tonkontrolle                                        | contrôle du son                                |
| <b>232</b> | controllo del volume | volume control,<br>master volume control | Hauptausgangsreglung,<br>Lautstärkekontrolle        | contrôle du volume                             |

|  | <i>Español</i>                                       | <i>Русский</i>                                             | 中文                                     | note / notes |
|--|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------|
|  | compositor                                           | композитор                                                 | zuòqǔ jiā 作曲家                          |              |
|  | compresor                                            | компрессор                                                 | qìbèng 气泵                              |              |
|  | ordenador                                            | компьютер                                                  | diànnǎo 电脑                             |              |
|  | comunicado de prensa                                 | сообщение в печать                                         | méitǐ tōnggǎo 媒体<br>通稿                 |              |
|  | puesto a foco,<br>concentrado                        | сфокусированный                                            | jízhōng 集中 (精神)                        |              |
|  | concepto                                             | концепция                                                  | gòusī 构思                               |              |
|  | rueda de prensa                                      | пресс-конференция                                          | xīnwén fābùhuì 新闻<br>发布会               |              |
|  | mesa de luces, consola                               | пульт управления<br>(освещением), пульт<br>светорегулятора | dēngguāng kòngzhì tái<br>灯光控制台         |              |
|  | cuenta                                               | счет                                                       | zhàngmù 账目                             |              |
|  | contratante,<br>contratado, parte                    | сторона<br>(юридическая),<br>партнер                       | qìyuē gē fāng 契约各方                     |              |
|  | contralto                                            | контральто (голос)                                         | nǚ diānyīn 女低音                         |              |
|  | contrapeso                                           | груз прижимный,<br>контргруз                               | píng héng wù 平衡物                       |              |
|  | contrato, acuerdo                                    | контракт,<br>соглашение, договор                           | hétóng 合同, héyuē<br>合约                 |              |
|  | contrapesar                                          | уравновешивать                                             | pèi zhòng 配重,<br>píng héng zhòng 平衡重   |              |
|  | control                                              | контроль,<br>регулировка,<br>управление                    | jiǎnchá 检查                             |              |
|  | control de agudos                                    | дискант-контроль                                           | gāoyīn kòngzhì 高音<br>控制                |              |
|  | control de bajos                                     | контроль басовых<br>сигналов                               | diānyīn kòngzhì 低音控制                   |              |
|  | control de sonido                                    | звуковой контроль                                          | shēngyīn kòngzhì<br>声音控制               |              |
|  | control de volumen,<br>regulador total de<br>volumen | регулятор света,<br>регулировка<br>громкости               | yīnliàng kòngzhì 音量<br>控制, zǒngkòng 总控 |              |

Illustrazioni  
*Illustrations*





OPERA (OPERA HOUSE) NATIONAL DE PARIS, ATLANTIDE PHOTOTRAVEL VIA GETTY IMAGES

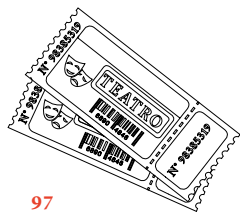
377

Foyer / Foyer, lobby, focus

Il Foyer dell'Opéra Garnier / The Foyer of the Opéra Garnier



556

Maschera (di sala) /  
Stage door man

97

Biglietto /  
Ticket

© TEATRO ALLA SCALA

516

Locandina /  
Playbill

ALAMY FOTO STOCK

831

Sala / Auditorium

Sala del Teatro Regio, Torino. Il lampadario  
"la nuvola" è stato progettato da G. Sarfatti /  
Auditorium of the Teatro Regio, Turin.  
The "La nuvola" chandelier designed by G.  
Sarfatti.

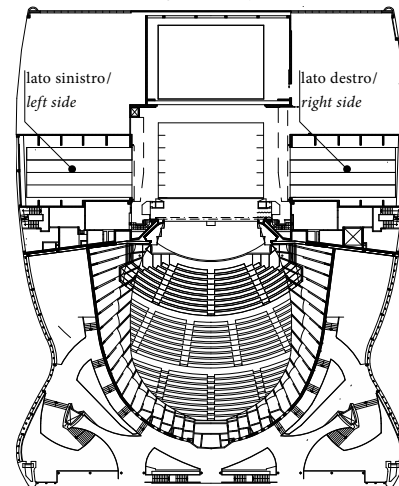
584

Modellino (di scenografia) / Set model

Modello dell'Opéra Garnier realizzato sotto la  
direzione di Richard Peduzzi (Musée d'Orsay) /  
Model of the Opéra Garnier made under the  
direction of Richard Peduzzi (Musée d'Orsay).

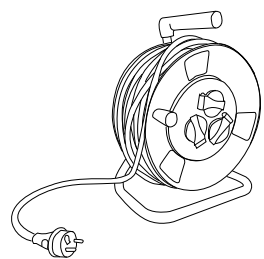
669

Pianta del teatro / Theatre plan

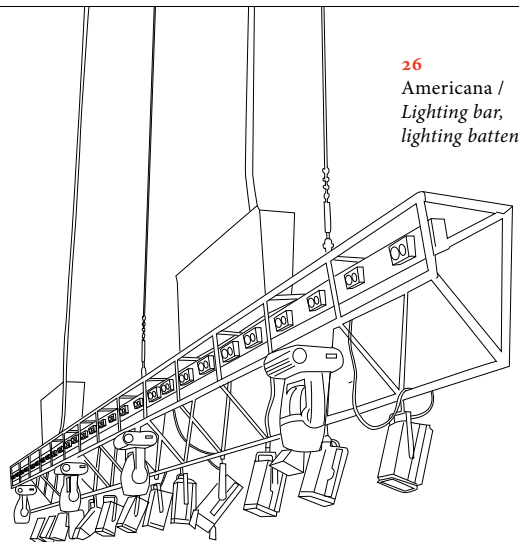
Pianta del Teatro Regio, Torino (progetto di  
C. Mollino) / Plan of the Teatro Regio, Turin  
(progetto di C. Mollino)Lato destro e sinistro del palcoscenico sono  
da intendersi sempre visti dal pubblico / Both  
the right and left side of the stage are always  
considered as being viewed by the audience.

PH. REGER BERTAND/ALAMY FOTO STOCK



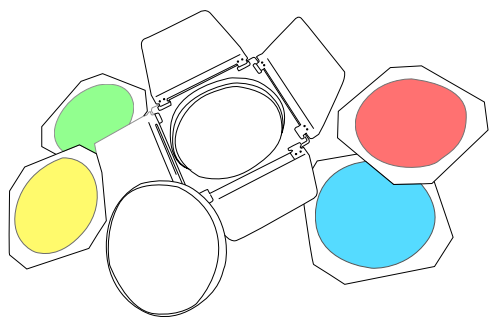


**172**  
Cavo di prolunga /  
Extension cable



**26**  
Americana /  
Lighting bar,  
lighting batten

**101**  
Bilancia luci /  
Batten lights, strip light, sub pipe



**974**  
Telaio per le gelatine /  
Colour frame



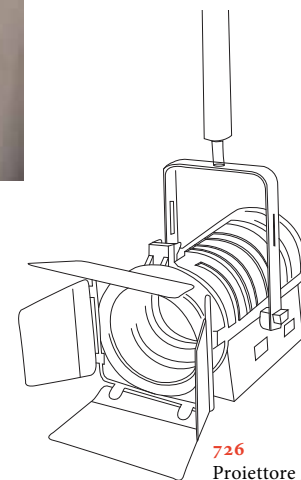
**361**  
Filtro colorato (per luci) /  
Filter, gel



**419**  
Illuminazione dello spazio scenico /  
Acting area lights



**329**  
Elettricista /  
Electrician, lighting  
technician



**726**  
Proiettore /  
Spotlight (spot)

Elenchi alfabetici  
*Alphabetical Lists*

|     |          |
|-----|----------|
| 182 | English  |
| 192 | Deutsch  |
| 202 | Français |
| 213 | Español  |
| 224 | Русский  |
| 236 | 中文       |





# English

## A

accentuate (to) **9**  
 account **222**  
 accountant **28**  
 acoustic field **140**  
 acoustics **12**  
 act **63**  
 act (to) **776**  
 act drop **886**  
 acting **774**  
 acting area **907**  
 acting area lights **419**  
 actor / actress **64**  
 adapt (to) **324**  
 adhdesive **197**  
 adjust (to) **783**  
 administrative personnel **27, 661**  
 advertisement **746**  
 advertising cost **260**  
 advertising material **563**  
 agreement **226**  
 air conditioning **50**  
 aisle **257**  
 alarm bell **137**  
 allowance **448**  
 alternating current (AC ~) **251**  
 alto **224**

amplifier **30**  
 amplifier capacity **146**  
 amplifier step **562**  
 amplify (to) **29**  
 anvil **447**  
 apparatus **41**  
 apparition **42**  
 applause **44**  
 apron **73**  
 apron stage **737**  
 arc-lamp **727**  
 architect's scale rule **842**  
 archive **47**  
 archive recording **782**  
 arena stage **965**  
 arrange (to) (music) **53**  
 arrangement (musical) **52**  
 article in the programme **54**  
 artistic director **289**  
 assistant director **15**  
 audience **748**  
 audio **944**  
 audio man **968**  
 audiovisual technician **967**  
 auditorium **831**  
 auditorium attendant **234**  
 auditorium lights **533**  
 authority **71**  
 awl **753**

## B

back cloth **371**  
 back half of the stalls **686**  
 back masking **913**  
 back stage **794**  
 back-projection **793**  
 backdrop **371**  
 backing **876**  
 backing flat **372**  
 backlighting **421**  
 backstage **378**  
 balcony  
   dress circle  
   upper circle  
   balcony  
   gallery **81**  
 ballet dancer **83**  
 ballet-master **543**  
 banana plug **919**  
 bar **662**  
 baritone **87**  
 barn door **283**  
 bass **89**  
 bass control **230**  
 baton **77**  
 batten **145**  
 batten clamp **34**  
 batten flyline **749**  
 batten lights **99, 101**  
 battery **91**  
 bay area **767**  
 bayonet **79**  
 bayonet-socket **1042**  
 beam **770**

beam angle **37**  
 begin (to) **445**  
 behind **284**  
 behind the scene **378**  
 bell **136**  
 big, bigger **404**  
 billing **747**  
 bitumen **167**  
 black **604**  
 blackout dimmer **784**  
 blackout fabric **623**  
 blanket **236**  
 blind bracket **388**  
 block **103, 818**  
 bloom **320**  
 board **641, 957**  
 boat **90**  
 bobbins **106**  
 bolt **118**  
 book leg **764**  
 boom **393**  
 boomerang **993**  
 border (top masking) **895**  
 bow **442**  
 bows list **182**  
 box **161**  
 box (in the auditorium) **631**  
 box office **96**  
 box office manager **789**  
 box office takings **441**  
 rail line **433**  
 break **651**

breast line **812**  
 bridge **648**  
 bright, brighter **184**  
 bring up (to) (lights, sound) **590**  
 broom **859**  
 brush **655**  
 build (to) **261**  
 build the set (to) **19**  
 bulb **486**  
 bulletin board **78**  
 bungee **478**  
 burlap **473**  
 bus **70**  
 business manager **288**  
 by air **656**

## C

cable (electric) **169**  
 cable sleeve **409**  
 cable tie **478**  
 call **43**  
 candelabrum **142**  
 canteen **144**  
 canvas **970**  
 capstan winch **989**  
 carabiner **595**  
 carpenter **345**  
 carpenter's rule (rule) **571**  
 carpenter's shop **346**  
 carpenter's square **923**  
 carpet **952**

carpet batten **92**  
 cashier **163**  
 cast **164, 308, 510**  
 castlist **308 510**  
 cat-walk **692**  
 ceiling **684**  
 central arch **46**  
 central line **241**  
 chandelier **485**  
 change (electric) **206**  
 channel **141**  
 character **150**  
 character part **825**  
 charcoal **151**  
 chipboard **1010**  
 chisel **843**  
 choir **250**  
 choreographer **247**  
 choreography **246**  
 circuit **193**  
 clamp **591**  
 clear (to) **878**  
 cloak room **412**  
 closed **189**  
 closed circuit tv **196**  
 cloth **970**  
 cloth (material) **984**  
 cloud projector **540**  
 coach **707**  
 coat-tail **86**  
 cold light **524**  
 colour **201**  
 colour changer **123**  
 colour frame **974**

column **199**  
 company **207**  
 complimentary ticket **98**  
 compose (to) **213**  
 composer **214**  
 compressor **215**  
 computer **216**  
 conception **219**  
 conductor **290**  
 conductor's podium **688**  
 connect (to) (with, up) **16**  
 connected in parallel **439**  
 connected in series **198**  
 console **902**  
 contract **226**  
 contralto **224**  
 control **228**  
 control board **760, 960**  
 coordinating selector **874**  
 copy **237**  
 copyright © **239**  
 cord (el) **174**  
 cornice **249**  
 corridor **257**  
 costume **262**  
 costume assistant **57**  
 costume design **355**  
 costume designer **263**  
 counterweight **225**  
 counterweight (to) **227**

counterweight cage **847**  
 counterweight fly line **990**  
 counterweighted flyline **170**  
 counterweighted set **170**  
 curtain call **182**  
 curtain music **706**  
 crack a note (to) **642**  
 cramp **591**  
 crew **922**  
 critic **266**  
 criticism **264**  
 criticize (to) **265**  
 cross-section **951**  
 crossbar **1004**  
 crosspiece **1004**  
 cue **866**  
 cue board **761**  
 cue button **205**  
 cue light **868**  
 cue light panel **759**  
 cue list **511**  
 cue mike **579**  
 cueline **93**  
 current (el) **254**  
 curtain **881**  
 curtain call **617**  
 curtain chain **601**  
 curtain cue **869**  
 curtain heading tape **807**  
 curtain line **94**  
 curtain neat **809**

curtain operating line **360**  
curtain pull **360**  
curtain rod **59**  
curtain track **935**  
customs papers **311**  
cut (to) **948**  
cut-out **815, 914**  
cut-resistant gloves **410**  
cutter **949**  
cyclorama **191**  
cyclorama battens **100**  
cyclorama lights **484**  
cyclorama track **936**

**D**  
damping the bass **892**  
dance carpet **953**  
danger **659**  
dark, darker **862**  
day of performance **392**  
decor **849**  
demagnetize (to) **891**  
designer **723**  
desk light **526**  
diaphragm **559**  
dim (to) (lights) **401**  
dimmer **286**  
dimmer rack **286**  
dimmer room **132**  
dinner **177**  
direct (to) (lampbeam) **752**

direct current (DC =) **252**  
direction **296**  
direction notes **609**  
direction table **959**  
directional microphone **577**  
director **779**  
director box **629**  
disappearance trap **111**  
disconnect (to) **301**  
distortion **307**  
divo / diva **310**  
dock doors **696**  
dome **270**  
door **694**  
door-frame **934**  
down **437**  
downstage **438**  
downstage left **2**  
downstage right **1**  
drafting **302**  
drama **912**  
drape (to) **313**  
drapery **314, 639**  
drawing (scenic) **304**  
drawing triangle **923**  
dress form **548**  
dress rehearsal **741**  
dresscircle **715**  
dresser **263, 838**  
dressing room **134**  
dressmaker scissors **373**  
drill (el) **999**

drill bit **750**  
drop (to) **489**  
drop curtain **885**  
dustpan **637**  
dye (to) **985**

**E**  
earmuffs **268**  
earphones **267**  
earth **566**  
echo chamber **133**  
echo fade out **326**  
edit (to) **777**  
effects light **417**  
effects spot **731**  
electric **331**  
electric company **178**  
electric plugboard **712**  
electrician **329**  
electro magnet **332**  
electronic control **233**  
elevating stage **635, 693**  
elevator **55**  
emerald green **1026**  
emergency exit **695, 1020**  
emergency light **519**  
employ (to) **451**  
empty reel **107**  
entrance **334**  
epilogue **337**  
evening **875**  
execution **339**

exhibition **341**  
exit (from stage) **1017**  
exit (to) **1016**  
expand (to) **18**  
expansion bolt **1036**  
expression **342**  
extender **736**  
extending brace **114**  
extension cable **172**  
extension cord **736**  
extra **210**

**F**  
fabric **984**  
fabric placed under a tulle on the floor to paint it **370**  
fade down (to) (light, sound) **5**  
fade out (light, sound) **305**  
fade up (to) (light, sound) **69**  
fader **501**  
false proscenium **697**  
fan **1024**  
fast, faster **771**  
fee **625**  
feed cable **171**  
felt (cloth) **236**  
female contact **920**  
festoon **353**  
field (electric) **139**  
filament **358**

file **505, 773**  
fill light **525**  
film projector **732**  
filter **361**  
financial manager **288**  
finish (to) **366**  
fire curtain **887**  
fire hydrant **415**  
fire plug **415**  
fire-alarm **867**  
fire extinguisher **344**  
fire-hose **547**  
fireman **1033**  
fireproof **416**  
first reading **500**  
fix (to) **367**  
fixed caster **826**  
flag (to) **870**  
flames effect **322**  
flash **368**  
flashlamp **992**  
flashlight **487**  
flat **354, 914, 971**  
flat awl (brad awl) **754**  
flats **972**  
flies **894**  
flipper leg **765**  
floats **795**  
flooded spotlight **523**  
floodlight **805**  
floor lamp **483**  
floor outlet **708**  
flounce **84**  
fluff **1041**

fly (to) **899**  
fly bar **929**  
fly gallery **82, 649**  
fly line **170**  
fly line break (on winch) **380**  
fly line lock **380**  
fly-bar **1003**  
flying **901**  
flying equipment **1039**  
flying line **988**  
focal-point **756**  
focus **377**  
focused **218**  
fogger **535**  
fold (to) **677, 900**  
folding rule **571**  
foliage border **110**  
follow spot **872**  
foot light **795**  
forbidden **309**  
forbox **593**  
fore **795**  
fore-stage **737**  
forwarding agency **893**  
foyer **377**  
frame **975**  
frame (to) **446**  
framed **453**  
framing shutters **559**  
freight elevator **588**  
french brace **860**  
french curtain **883**  
frequency **381**

frequency filter **363**  
fresnel spotlight **730**  
frieze **379**  
fringe **621**  
front lights **420**  
front cloth **889**  
front drop **888**  
front of house light **728**  
front of house loudspeaker **23**  
front projection **735**  
fully focused **212**  
furniture caster **820**  
fuse **385**  
fuse box **845**  
fuse box (including circuit) **846**

**G**  
gallery **387 673**  
gap in the masking **40**  
gate **975**  
gauge **911**  
gauze **390**  
gear **124**  
gel **361**  
give patina (to) **650**  
glue **197**  
go on tour (to) **348**  
gobo **280**  
gold lacquer **622**  
gradation **398**  
grade (to) **400**

grating **405**  
greenroom **800**  
grid **406**  
grid (gridiron) **894**  
grid block **818**  
grommet **809**  
ground **566**  
ground cloth **954**  
ground paint **436**  
ground plan **668**  
ground row **815**  
grounded **567**  
group **408**  
guest appearance **775**  
guide **414**

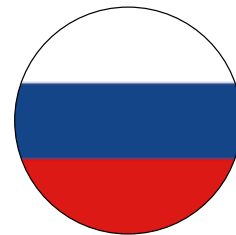
**H**  
hairdresser **646**  
half beam **573**  
half hitch **607**  
half portal **720**  
half spread beam **349**  
hammer **555**  
hand lamp **481**  
hand microphone **576**  
handle **552**  
handrail **546**  
hang up (to) **899**  
hanging **901**  
hanging cable **988**  
hanging electrical outlet **710**  
harness (flying) **425**

L'arte è uno dei mezzi  
che uniscono gli uomini.

*Art is one of the means of  
intercourse between man and man.*

Lev Tolstoj

## Russia / *Russia*



1. Mariinsky Theatre, Sankt-Peterburg
2. Bolshoi Theatre, Moskva;  
Maly Theatre, Moskva
3. Perm Opera and Ballet Theatre, Perm
4. Omsk State Music Theatre, Omsk
5. Novosibirsk Opera and Ballet Theatre,  
Novosibirsk
6. Buryat State Academic Opera and Ballet,  
Buryaia





Teatro Mariinskij, Sankt-Peterburg.



**Auguri prima dell'inizio spettacolo**  
“ни пуха ни пера” (ni pùha, ni perá!)  
significa “non venire spennati”.

**Curiosità**  
Quando si costruisce un nuovo teatro, il primo ad entrare deve essere un gatto.  
Il gatto che attraversa il palcoscenico prima della recita porta bene, durante lo spettacolo porta male.  
Se la prova generale è stata perfetta, ci saranno problemi alla Prima.  
Tre opere teatrali che portano male:  
il *Macbeth*, di William Shakespeare, *Il maestro e Margherita* di Bulgakov e *Vij* di Gogol.

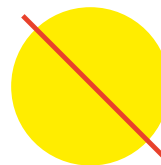
**Expressions used before going on stage**  
“ни пуха ни пера!” (ni pùha ni perá!)  
means “don’t come plucked”.

**Curious facts**  
When a new theatre is built, the first to enter it must be a cat.  
A cat crossing the stage before the performance is good luck, but if it does so during the performance then this brings bad luck.  
If the general rehearsal was perfect, then there will be problems on opening night.  
These three plays bring bad luck: *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare, *The Master and Margarita* by Michail Bulgakov, and *Vij* by Nikolai Gogol



**Inno nazionale**  
Inno di Stato della Federazione Russa in russo: Государственный гимн Российской Федерации (*Gosudárstvennyj gimn Rossijskoj Federácii*), conosciuto anche come *Inno della Federazione Russa* (in russo: Гимн Российской Федерации, *Gimn Rossijskoj Federacii*), è l'attuale inno nazionale della Russia, adottato con decreto presidenziale del 20 dicembre 2000. Il testo dell'inno è stato scritto da Sergej Vladimirovič Michalkov, già autore dei testi degli inni sovietici del 1944 e 1977, padre dei registi cinematografici Nikita Michalkov e Andrej Končalovskij.

**National anthem**  
The State Anthem of the Russian Federation in Russian is Государственный гимн Российской Федерации (*Gosudárstvennyj gimn Rossijskoj Federácii*), also known as the Anthem of the Russian Federation (in Russian: Государственный гимн Российской Федерации, *Gosudarstvennyj Gimn Rossijskoj Federatsii*), is the current Russian national anthem, adopted by presidential decree on 20 December 2000. The lyrics for the anthem were written by Sergey Vladimirovich Mikhalkov, previously the author of the Soviet anthems of 1944 and 1977, and father of the filmmakers Nikita Michalkov and Andrei Konchalovsky.



**Colori da non usare**  
Giallo.

**Colours that should not be used**  
Yellow.

**Dire, non dire, fare non fare**  
Durante le prove non si legge mai l'ultima frase del copione. In palcoscenico si entra con il piede sinistro, in camerino con quello destro. Non si portano mai in scena i fiori freschi, solo dopo la recita, per ringraziare.  
Nel mondo teatrale russo, nel caso in cui il copione cada per terra, chi lo ha fatto cadere deve subito raccogliarlo e poi sedersi sopra, anche se fosse appena caduto nel fango: si deve fare!  
Non fischiare o bestemmiare in quinta.  
Mai entrare con il cappotto o con la giacca pesante in palcoscenico.  
Trovare un chiodo in palcoscenico porta fortuna.  
Mai guardare nello specchio del camerino, stando dietro un attore.  
Non mangiare o bere in palcoscenico, soprattutto i semi di girasole. Far cadere il pettine in palcoscenico porta male.  
Mai aprire l'ombrello in palcoscenico.

**What to say, not say, do, not do**  
During rehearsals the last line of the script is never read. You must walk on stage with your left foot first, and into your dressing room with you right foot first. Never carry fresh flowers onto the stage. This can only be done after the performance, to say thank you.  
In the Russian world of theatre, if a script falls to the floor, the person who allowed it to fall must immediately pick it up and then sit on it, even if it fell in mud. This simply has to be done! Never whistle or swear in the wings.  
Never enter the stage wearing a coat or heavy jacket. Finding a nail on the stage brings good luck.  
Never look into a mirror in the dressing room from behind the actor who is putting their makeup on.  
Never drink or eat on stage, especially sunflower seeds.  
Dropping a comb on stage brings bad luck.  
Never open an umbrella on stage.