

## **Michael Ramsaur**

President of OISTAT, The International Association of Scenographers, Theater Architects and Technicians, is a Professor of lighting design at Stanford University and serves as Director of Production. Honorary Professor at the Central Academy of Drama, Beijing, Consulting Professor at the University of Arts Belgrade in the Interdisciplinary MA Program in Theater. He also taught regularly at the Bavarian Theater Academy Munich. Michael has had a 40-year career in theater including lighting designs across the USA and for many theater companies in the San Francisco Bay Area including Broadway by the Bay where he is Resident Lighting Designer. He has been awarded Outstanding Lighting Design awards from the San Francisco Bay Area Critics Association, Dean Goodman Award, and Drama Logue Award.

### **Michael Ramsaur, U.S.A.** (*Lighting Designer, and Professor*)

President of OISTAT (International Organization of Scenographers, Theatre Architects and Technicians [www.oistat.org](http://www.oistat.org)) is a Professor of lighting design at Stanford University serving as Director of Production ([www.stanford.edu/dept/drama](http://www.stanford.edu/dept/drama)). He also serves as Honorary Professor at the Central Academy of Drama, Beijing; Guest Professor at the University of Arts Belgrade in the Interdisciplinary MA Program in Theater Design; taught regularly at the Bavarian Theater Academy, Munich Germany. Professor Ramsaur was awarded a Fulbright Grant to lecture at the National University of the Arts in Taipei, Taiwan. He has given lectures or workshop in 19 countries. Michael has had a 40-year career in theater including owning and operating San Francisco Theatrical Supply, a stage lighting sales and rental company. Lighting Designer for many theater companies in the San Francisco Bay Area of California, USA, including Berkeley Repertory Theater, San Jose Civic Light Opera, Lamplighters, TheatreWorks, and the Peninsula Civic Light Opera where he is the resident lighting designer. He has also designed for Exile Santa Fe New Mexico, Aspen Theater Company Aspen Colorado, California Center for the Arts Escondido, Art Institute Chicago Illinois, Center Stage Baltimore Maryland, and the Samuel Becket Center Dublin Ireland. Examples of his designs have been displayed at two United States Institute of Theater Technology Design Expositions, a theater design exhibit at the Trinton Museum San Jose, and at theatrical design exhibitions in Prague and Shanghai. He has been awarded Outstanding Lighting Design awards from the San Francisco Bay Area Critics Association (most recently for the 2006 production of *Miss Saigon*), Dean Goodman Award, and Drama Logue Award. His articles on lighting techniques have been published in three countries and he has created a computerized software program to aid lighting designers. Professor Ramsaur recently received a Fellowship from the United States Institute for Theatre Technology to do an international study of Lighting Design. He is a long time member of USITT, having served as Executive Committee and Chairman of the Northern California Section, the Lighting Design Commission, the Education Commission and International Liaison Committee. He is also a member of the United Scenic Artist Association (Lighting

Design USAA Local #829) the International Alliance Theatrical Stage Employees (Stage Hands IATSE Local #16), the Illumination Engineering Society of North America (IESNA), and the International Association Lighting Designers (IALD).

**Michael Ramsaur**

*(Professor and Lighting Designer)*

A Professor of Lighting at Stanford University, where he served 15 years as Chairman of the Department of Drama; Resident Lighting Designer for Broadway by the Bay in San Mateo California; and President of OISTAT, The International Association of Scenographers, Theater Architects and Technicians, Secretariat Office in Taipei Taiwan.

Michael also holds an appointment as an Honorary Professor at the Central Academy of Drama in Beijing and as a Consulting Professor at the University of Arts, Belgrade Serbia and he has taught regularly for the lighting program at the Bavarian Theater Academy, Munich. He has give guest lecturers and workshops in over 15 countries and organized the Scenofest at the PQ'03 and PQ'07. The PQ is the largest and most prestigious exhibition of Stage and Costume design worldwide. It is held once every four years and displays national and schools exhibits from 50 countries. The Scenofest was a program of lecturers, workshops, performances and tours during the PQ. Over 100 events were organized and over 1000 students from over 200 schools from over 40 countries participated.

In addition to serving as Chairman of the Education Commission of OISTAT for eight years, Michel is a member of the International Association of Lighting Designers, the Illumination Engineering Society of North America, the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Local #16, and the United Scenic Artist Association local #829, and the United States Institute for Theater Technology where he has served as the Northern California Section Chairman and on the Executive Committee. He has organized scores of USITT Conference programs and panels including the International Symposium at Long Beach, CA that included presenters and attendees from 14 countries.

Michael has given lecturers and presentations for Showlight Conference, Munich; ShowTech, Berlin, NOTT - Nordic Technical Theater Conference, Malmö University, Sweden, Podiumtechnologie, Themadag Lich, Stage Technology Theme Light, Zwolle, The Netherlands; International Federation for Theater Research, International Conference on Scenography, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland, Sahne Tasarimcilari Dernegi, Turkish Stage Designers Association, Istanbul Turkey; Theatrical Education Workshop, Taipei Taiwan, Prague Quadranalle, Prague, OISTAT Symposium on Theater Education, Bratislava, Czechoslovakia.

In addition to his lighting design work for Broadway by the Bay, Michael also designs for TheaterWorks in Palo Alto and has received many Bay Area Drama Critics Outstanding

Lighting Designs awards and nominations for his work with both companies, as well as Dean Goodman and Drama Logue Awards. He received a Santa Clara County Arts Council Partners Fellowship for Lighting Design in 1991 and his designs have been exhibited at Shanghai Festival of International Scenic Arts Design Exhibition, USITT Scenography Expositions, USA Exhibit at the PQ, and the World Stage Design Exhibit in Toronto.

Michael was also the Lighting Designer for “2004 Belgrade in Europe” at the Sava Center (a 5,000 seat theater with a 100’ wide proscenium) in Belgrade, Serbia. The production was a classical music concert with live television broadcast involving over 400 people on stage in celebration of 200 years independence of modern Serbian Republic.

Michael has also designed productions for Samuel Beckett Centre, Dublin, Ireland; San Francisco Lamplighters; Art Institute, Chicago IL; Center Stage, Baltimore MD; Berkeley Repertory Theater, Berkeley CA; The Aspen Theater Company, Aspen, CO; Exile, Sante Fe, NM; California Center for the Arts, Escondido, CA; San Jose Civic Light Opera, San Jose, CA; Scholar Opera, Palo Alto, CA; Viacom Cablevision, Mountain View, CA; West Bay Opera Association, Palo Alto, CA; Montalvo Theatre Co., Villa Montalvo, Saratoga, CA; Los Lupenos, White Barn Theatre, Irwin, PA; Ebony Showcase Theatre, Los Angeles, CA; and the Folkloric Dance Company, San Jose, CA; as well as for Chabot College, Hayward, CA Wooster College, Wooster, OH, Foxploration Theme Park, Rosarito Beach, Mexico and Apple Computer, Cupertino, CA.

He has published articles in journals in three countries and created the Lighting Design Software program Argus which assists lighting designers make decisions, and is used in the teaching of lighting design.

Michael has consulted on stage and lighting systems for the outdoor amphitheater venue at the Foxploration Theme Park, Rosarito Beach, Mexico; the Varna Festival for the city of Varna, Bulgaria; FM Productions, Brisbane, CA; the San Mateo Performing Arts Center; San Mateo, CA; Robinwood Enterprises, San Francisco, CA; the Stanford Fox Theatre, Palo Alto CA; the Varsity Theater, Palo Alto CA; Grace Lutheran Church, Palo Alto, CA; and the Dickens Fair, San Francisco, CA. He has also worked at the Wagner Opera Festival in Bayreuth Germany twice as well as the Frankfurt Opera in Frankfurt Germany.