

The Dragon

At the Deustches Theatre.

About 300 feet in front of the Deustches stand small heads of Max Reinhardt and Otto Brahm. Inside this splendid (yet intimate two balconied redvoloured walls and seats- whew) theatre is a plaque of dignitaries who worked or visited the theatre ( I think)..Stanislawski and Danchenkos names were on it.

A SUPER Production directed by Europes Benc Besson. One of the best Europe has to offer.

A macbre adult fairy tale.

A fairy tale for adults ala Von Albright

4 Scenes - 3 sets

1= House in fairy tale like setting.

2= Dragon Liar BIG D DOOR.

3= The Wedding Scene and Return of Lancelot.

Serious playing. Lancelot as if he were unimpressed by the horror of the Dragon ( who is God)...The others, as if they were walking on pins and needles in fear of the dragon.

Relationships: Daughter and Father

Son and Sneezing Father

Everyone and the Dragon

Dragon= visual splendor

Visual tricks:

- set shakes lights go on and off as the man in the cape gestures.
- sound effects produced by onstage drum clarinet and violin. in the wedding scene- drum is small kettle drum.
- Dragon -man in cape- mustaches and cape fly off as he tries to impress Lancelot with his power.
- Preperation for entrance of Dragon in second scene is fantastic and fizzles because a puff of smoke and the dragon is an old old old old ( physically and vocally) man sitting in the dragons chair. He does not come in through the Big D DOOR which is the focal point until he is seen but just appears after a sudden blackout- sitting on the chair. His exit is up the stairs and the big D door opens automatically to let him through...Preperation however is garish- red rug roled from throne up the stairs leading to the big D door.
- Lancelot given huge sword- stands at high as his breast, he takes it. He will slaughter the dragon. A black cloth is lowered like lightning from the flies. It momentarily covers Lancelot who is holding the large sword. When the black cloth is lifted, Lancelot is no longer seen...Lancelot incidentally looks more like a cowboy than a knight, in costume.
- The appearance of the dragon. Marvelous sight! 3 heads. Each working independently of the other. Lights in the eyes. Darting tongues. Sound effects of fire and roars. The dragon appears through the big D doors..We see the marvelous sight for about one minute after which feet appear, and wings flap for a moment--lights go out and only lights are the three heads with eyes beaming...Shinning from the bobbing heads.

Dragon:



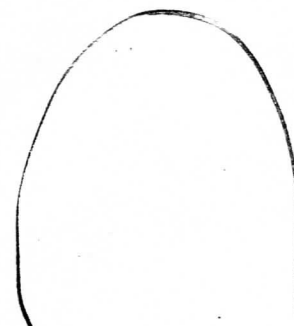
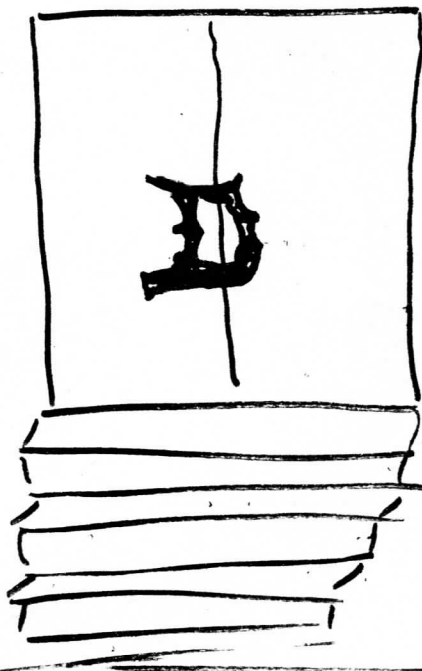
A shot is heard, one head falls to the floor. Another shot is heard, the second does the same the third head falls after the thirds shot---but they revive with roaring sound for the last seconds before the end of the act.



FLAPPING WINGS

FEET CLAWS

Big D BRASS DOORS



Throne of Dragon

The head fall from the flies and are ever present in the first scene following the first act.



Scene 4= Marvelous banquet scene.

Silver doors :  
 a number  
 of them  
 ( These will  
 fly open  
 by mysterious  
 wind which precedes  
 Lancelots entrance  
 in this final act.)



- Awful orchestra describes on page 11
  - Lilys and flowers look decayed..white..made of silk
  - Grotesque
  - Butlers, dressed in period moving slowly as if under-  
 water= placing golden and silver goblets on large  
 table right.
- Floor plan for Banquet scene=



Long curtain calls---THEY CHANGED THE ENTIRE SET AND  
 THE BIG SURPRISE WAS THAT THE DRAGON AGAIN APPEARED  
 THREE HEADS AND ALL- TOOK HIS CURTAIN CALL!

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All people are afraid of the dragon. He is God. In the last scene he sends messages but is an absentee God...Lancelot is unperturbed by it all. He will conquer. He falls in love with the girl in white--that is so strange to him....He gets sword. He disappears. Reappears in the last scene- He sees his girl marrying another. He is disturbed, moved...She tries to comfort him. He takes her arm finally and says the only words I understood all evening:" Its a good world."....but how he says it tells you he is swallowing bitterness.

Beno Bessons Perversion: A dark comedy. Seriousness of Lancelots task. He is stable. His only moment of wonder is when he falls in love with the girl- who is like Dresden China doll... Call it illustrated Literature Grotwoski..but it was sensational. No confession. no confrontation but it is more than just illustrated literature..What more..? I dont know. Yet!