Welcome to our 2013-14 Robe Review. It is a snapshot of some of the diverse and innovative projects and contexts in which our products have been used over the last year. This is a bumper-edition of the Robe Review ~ 132 pages of news, action and comment highlighting the dedication of many individuals, companies and organisations. It is the largest Robe Review to date, featuring a fantastic new design and look.

The last 12 months have been among the most exciting in Robe’s history. We have focused on building our team and adding the experience and energy of some highly talented people, ramping up several gears… in anticipation of launching the BMFL series.

We are very much looking forward to the next year and the future, to realising more dreams, expanding our community, and naturally, also to keeping firmly grounded!

We will be continuing the great communication we enjoy with our distributors, lighting designers, end users and all interested parties ~ current, potential and future.

Please enjoy reading!

Josef Valchář
General Manager, CEO

ROBE celebrates its 20th Anniversary in 2014

WE ARE ALL very proud of this landmark achievement, and this is a big shout-out to everyone who has made it happen over the years and shared the enormous passion, commitment and imagination that has helped develop and push our brand ~ and our ‘family’ ~ forward.

Thanks to all of you ~ your hard work and foresight is a constant inspiration.

Welcome to our 2013-14 Robe Review.
Robe was very proud to have its products specified and used imaginatively and with great impact on such a diversity of events worldwide over the last 12 months... and the highlights are really too numerous to list in any entirety.

However, if I had to pick a standout event, and a seminal moment for brand development, it was probably the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland.

Robe worked closely with Lighting Designer Tim Routledge to realise his design with the supply of over 500 additional fixtures to the Ceremonies which were produced by Jack Morton Worldwide, and have been hailed as the best to date of any Commonwealth Games.

It was also the highest profile soft-launch of the BMFL, with the pre-production models undergoing a rigorous beta testing process during their four weeks installed in the rig at Celtic Park ahead of the Opening. Tim and his team worked tirelessly under some serious pressure to ensure the lightshows for both Ceremonies were amazing as well as appropriate, and it was a very special moment for all in the company to see our new fixtures play such an instrumental and impressive role.

Other major events with large fixture counts included the launch of the Estádio Beira Rio in Porto Alegre, Brazil, ahead of the 2014 FIFA Soccer World Cup, which saw another dazzling lightshow, this time created by Patrick Woodroffe working with Sao Paulo based Lighting Designer Cesio Lima and leading Brazilian rental company, LPL.

In the US, Robe fixtures have graced the rigs on some of the highest profile Awards shows like the American Country Awards and the CMT Music Awards, in Mexico City and Mexico City, the Latin Grammy Awards, the Glama Awards and the TPI Awards. Robe were also handfuls-in-hand with the organiser of the industry’s own Total Production (TPi) Awards, presiding over 300 of the brightest lights to the event.

In Europe, Robe products were used to illuminate the majestic setting for the Summer Night Concert at Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna for the fourth consecutive year... And other magical Robe moments and settings have included helping India celebrate the landmark of being Polio Free for three years, and visiting the fabulous Beiteddine Palace in the mountains of Lebanon - on the rig at the 2014 Beiteddine Art Festival.
The two hour highly visual show, produced by global brand experience agency Jack Morton Worldwide (JMW) and directed by David Zolkwer featured a cast of 2,000 plus special guests including Rod Stewart and Susan Boyle, offering a snapshot of the history, character, culture, industry, quirkiness and humour of Scotland. It presented the 4,500 athletes from 71 participating nations to a live audience of over 40,000 plus around two billion TV viewers.

Joining the amazing brand new BMFLs were 28 of Robe’s new LEDBeam 1000s. Tim also used 183 x Pointes, 100 x LEDBeam 100s, 98 x LEDWash 600s and 60 x CycFX 8s, together with other lighting fixtures to create one of the most spectacular Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremonies ever.

The BMFLs were positioned along the very highest layer of lighting, on a specially rigged platform at the back of the venue’s seating bowl, from where the 1700W lightsources easily cut through to illuminate all the pitch action, a good 85 – 100 metres away. They were also clearly visible in daylight during the first half of the show. “Super-bright, very fast and with a great selection of colours, gobos and other effects,” states Tim.

Also on this level were 96 x LEDWash 600s, primarily used for lighting the underside of the seating stand roof.

At floor level, Routledge used the majority of his Pointes in 16 clusters of six (in weather domes) positioned all round three sides of the field providing most of the low level eye candy. “As always, the Pointes were hugely versatile and worked very hard.”

At the back of the stage was a 95 metre wide by 10.5 high LED screen with another 40 Pointes on a goal-post style truss structure that were used for illuminating the field of play action, animated beam effects and specials like ‘crowning’ the Commonwealth flag when at the top of its mast. The flag itself was lit with eight dedicated LEDBeam 1000s around the base.

“Once the LEDBeam 1000s were in a semi-circle behind HM The Queen’s Arrival Stage. After she went up to the Royal Box, the screen was removed and the LEDBeam 1000s formed a powerful nucleus for generating aerial looks. For some sections running along the front of the stage were the LEDWash 600s, that their light elements they were used as an anchor point on camera.”

At one metre intervals running along the front of the stage were the 100 x LEDBeam 100s - their tiny size meant they were neat and unobtrusive on camera.

Sixty CycFX 8s were strategically rigged in Vom 2, the main Athlete’s Parade entrance into the stadium, utilised for vibrant chases boosting the vibe and excitement as the athletes walked out to a tumultuous Scottish welcome.

Immediately above each of the two entrance/exit voms were another ten Pointes and six LEDWash 600s.

Routledge worked with a control team of three - Lead Programmer Jonathan Rouse, Programmer Tom Young and the project’s Design Associate and follow spot caller Chris Henry.

“Robe was extremely enthusiastic about the project and offered some fantastic opportunities to work with new and innovative technologies,” concluded Tim.
The Closing Ceremony was staged at Hampden Park Stadium, a completely different venue from the opening, with a much more music-based presentation and a complete contrast to the Opening.

The vibrant energy-pumping show included appearances by some of Scotland’s finest music stars including the evergreen Lulu, rockers Deacon Blue and trendy Glasgow electro-synth band Prides.

However it was Pop Princess Kylie Minogue who took the headline slot and played a show-stopping set to the delight of the audience.

The production faced many pressures - an incredibly tight get-in schedule for lighting which had to be achieved in two overnight sessions - was one. Programming time, which was even more pressured due to logistical constraints and only having enough time for two hours of full dark-programming… was another!

There was also no time for a full run through never mind a dress rehearsal, so the lighting department relied heavily on WYSIWYG visualisation, their own collective experiences and some hard-core pre-programming to produce another incredibly dynamic and slick looking result.

Limited positions to fly trusses and create lighting positions was another issue along with the trials and tribulations of daylight programming, but Tim and his team and the other technical departments all rose to the occasion.

Tim again used his full complement of 64 x BMFL Spot™, highly impressed after their performance at the Opening Ceremony, with 50 units installed in a long parallel line on two upstage trusses where they could have maximum impact.

The remaining 14 were positioned on the stage floor at the back, right behind the main artist performance area. Their incredible brightness registered even as the show was starting in daylight, and as well as creating plenty of razzmatazz for the music sets they also looked great in static looks for the various closing speeches.

A back wall of lights was installed behind the main stage area with 50 CycFX 8™ rigged in a vertical matrix pattern, which looked great for live effects and camera-candy. On the floor either side of the stage at the back were 28 x LEDBeam 1000™.

30 x LEDWash 600™ together with 2-lite blinder and strobe were used as the main backlights, and delineating the perimeter of the shooting star shaped thrust were 96 x LEDBeam 100™.

Around the field of play, 30 x 4 metre high metal masts were erected and strung with over 500 metres of festoon in a star shape, with two Pointes also on each of the masts.

As with the opening, the Robe fixtures were tech’d by a crew from PRG led by Rich Gorrod, who also looked after other lights supplied by the company as main lighting contractor.

Tim worked with his same FOH team of Lead Programmer Jonathan Rouse, Programmer Tom Young and Design Associate / Follow Spot Caller Chris Henry, and closely with Andy Loveday, JMW’s Technical Manager (Systems) for Ceremonies and Ben Holdsworth, JMW’s Production Manager for Lighting & Rigging.

Praising the Games

Eleven days after the highly acclaimed Opening Ceremony for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games… it was time for the Closing Ceremony, with lighting again designed by Tim Routledge, featuring Robe’s BMFLs together with Pointes, LEDBeam 1000™, LEDWash 600™, CycFX 8™ and LEDBeam 100™.

The morning it was positioned on the stage floor in the back right corner by the main performance area. Three immense yet spectacular semi-rigid cases, the backdrop to the main stage area, looked great against the sky, so it was decided to leave them in place for the closing ceremonies.

The lighting design was again along the lines of the Opening, with an emphasis on pyrotechnics, but with a much more music-based presentation with a complete contrast to the Opening.

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Photo Credit: © Louise Stickland

Eleven days after the highly acclaimed Opening Ceremony for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games… it was time for the Closing Ceremony, with lighting again designed by Tim Routledge, featuring Robe’s BMFL Spot™, CycFX 8™ and LEDBeam 1000™.
The show was broadcast live across the Univision network with a staggering 9.8 million viewers tuning in to all or part of the three hour telecast.

Colina has lit the Latin Grammys for the last seven years. Each year he and set designer Jorge Dominguez collaborate to produce a stunning visual concept, and this was the first time he had used Robe’s Pointe.

“They are bright, versatile, the prisms are amazing, the colours are wonderful and they look simply fantastic on camera!” he declared.

The fixtures came highly recommended by ‘Lighting Designer to the Stars’ Tom Kenny, who also lights many high profile Awards shows.

With Ricky Martin arguably the highest profile Latin mega-star on the planet, Colina wanted his performance to leave a high impact impression!

The fixtures were triple stacked in multiples of six on three 20 foot long upstage trusses, each of which were flown about five feet apart. These trusses were lowered in as Martin and his band took to the stage… and brought the house down!

The lighting equipment was supplied by Atomic Lighting of Pennsylvania.

Carlos Colina, Lighting Designer for the 2013 Latin Grammy Awards, staged at the Mandalay Bay Events Centre, Las Vegas, USA and produced by Univision, decided to make a point for Ricky Martin’s live appearance at the event… installing 18 Pointes for the superstar’s acclaimed rendition of “Más y Más” together with singer songwriter Draco Rosa (who won Album of the Year).

Photograph: Sven Frenzel

Czech Olympic House during the London 2012 Summer Olympics.

AV Media was an official event technology supplier to the Czech Olympic Committee and Czech Olympic Team, and also supplied lighting, sound and AV solutions to events during the Capital 2012 Brennan Olympics.

The company also has over 100 Robe moving lights in its rental stock and is a big fan of the Czech manufacturer!

The facilities available in the park included a main stage for entertainment, five ski slopes and 75 snow cannons, 90 square meters of ice for skating, a cross country skiing course, a laser shooting range for the biathlon, two Ice hockey rinks – the national sport is something taken very seriously by all Czechs – a curling sheet, snow park, bob-sleigh and other attractions, sports equipment sales and rental services and coaches / consultants.

Lighting for the main stage, the skating area, ice hockey rinks and for some scenic bridges was created by AV Media’s Milan Fronek and Project Managed for the company by Filip Klein.
ROBERT WOODROF... - who needs no introduction as a creator of internationally renowned lightshows - brought his vast experience of producing stadium events to Brazil where he collaborated closely with Sao Paulo based Lighting Designer Cesio Lima on the project. The 531 Robe moving lights were specified and supplied by leading Brazilian rental company LPL.

The stadium - the second biggest in the south of Brazil, home to the Sport Club Internacional team and legendary in the history of Brazilian football - has undergone massive redevelopment at its picturesque location beside the River Guaiba to bring it in line to host key matches during the 2014 FIFA World Cup. The opening Ceremony for the 'new' venue was a very special moment, and so there was a huge pressure on all the technical departments and Show Director Edson Erdmann to deliver a landmark event that would be etched forever on the consciousness of Brazilian sporting enthusiasts.

A cast of 500 actors and dancers entertained the crowd and the four hour extravaganza ended in style with a set by Fatboy Slim - surrounded by Robe LEDBeam 100s!

Over 500 Robe fixtures were in action for the stunning Opening Ceremony lightshow designed by Patrick Woodroffe to celebrate the official re-opening of the refurbished 56,000 capacity Estádio Beira-Rio (Riverside Stadium) in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

FRANCOIS van der Merwe of the Wizardry Group was asked by Johannesburg based visual design and concept practice Dream Sets to design lighting for the 13th edition of this high profile event, which was presented by Metro FM DJ Phat Joe and TV host Pearl Thusi.

He included 140 Robe lighting fixtures on the lighting scheme to achieve spectacular results.

Dream Sets – who have their own stock of Robe fixtures – were the event’s technical production suppliers. The lighting equipment was supplied by them and MGG for producers Blue Moon.

The set, designed by James Macnamara, was derived from the triangular geometry and style of the South African flag with 3D aspects across the back made up from several distinctive back-lit ‘light-box’ areas.

Van der Merwe’s lighting design needed to integrate the set in a seamless visual picture that worked equally well on television as for the large live audience.

He is a big Robe fan and has been using the brand constantly in the work for the last few years. He comments, “The different Robe fixtures all work very well together and as always gives us plenty of scope to create an interesting and exciting show.”

The 2014 Metro FM Awards were staged at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli Conference Centre in Durban, South Africa in March celebrating 20 years of democracy as a country through music and the very best of the urban genres, with 19 Awards and a star-studded line-up of eight A-list live performers. It was broadcast live on the South African Broadcasting Corporation’s SABC 1 TV channel.
An all Robe moving light rig was specified for the 2014 Beiteddine Art Festival in Lebanon – a vibrant, high profile annual summer music and cultural event with an all-star line-up of local and international artists - staged against the magnificent backdrop of the 2000 year old Beiteddine Palace in the mountains about 70 km South of Beirut.

1684's diverse range of performances included Joss Stone, Katie Melua, Kazem Al Sahir, Bel Canto tenor Juan Diego Florez and a collection of special performances and collaborations. It was opened by a show from Lebanese diva, Magida El Roumi. The 4000 capacity outdoor auditorium created for the event was completely sold out for every show.

The lights were supplied by Sound On Stage Events, a leading technical production company based in Dubai and working in both territories. They have supplied audio to the prestigious event for the last 14 years, but this year for the first time were also asked to provide lighting, which included production lighting design for the festival. Sound On Stage Events General Manager Elie Battah says, “we shipped all the equipment in from Dubai.”

Since 2011 Sound On Stage Events has enthusiastically embraced the Robe brand and been steadily investing in more products. “It was a huge honour to be asked to design and supply lighting as well,” comments Rawad, “And of course we wanted to make a really good impression and ensure that the event received the best possible production elements”.

The design needed to be flexible and adaptable to deal with the numerous different styles of performance. Clearly Sound On Stage Events made a real impression with the lighting, as Chief Organiser Noura Jumblatt confirmed, “This is the best lighting that we have had to date”.

The show has now become the benchmark event staged in Lebanon and attracts artists and performers from across the world. While some performers have their own LDs, they are lit by Lucas Rey as Programmer/Operator. Lucas has been using Robe for some years in his work however this was the first time he had used Pointes, commenting, “They are amazing – I really like them – in particular the gobo options when in Spot mode”.

The MMX WashBeam is also among his favourites – he likes the zoom and again the gobo selection and appreciates the sheer power and excellent colour mixing of the LEDWash 1200s together with their even, high quality light output.

Sound On Stage Events first purchased Robe when their business started taking off. “We wanted to have the best products so we could now offer the full production package – sound, lighting and video,” explains Rawad.

They looked at all the options before deciding on Robe after several meetings and demonstrations with Robe Middle East’s General Manager, Elie Battah. The all Robe moving light rig was specified for the 2014 Beiteddine Art Festival in Lebanon – a vibrant, high profile annual summer music and cultural event with an all-star line-up of local and international artists - staged against the magnificent backdrop of the 2000 year old Beiteddine Palace in the mountains about 70 km South of Beirut.

Photo Credit: © Louise Stickland

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THE show was staged at the Palacio de Los Deportes in Madrid and attended by 15,000 enthusiastic music fans. Los 40 Principales is Spain’s most important and influential music station. The annual Premios (Awards) recognize some of the very best contemporary music in Spain across 15 different categories, featuring some great live performances and are aired live on Divinity TV and also broadcast on Cuatro TV.

Madrid based Beloqui has used Robe products for several years in his assorted work but was really keen to try out Robe’s new Pointe for the first time.

He needed a number of small fixtures with “Big solutions” in terms of effects, brightness, power and resources, and comments that the decision was a difficult one due to the actual number of choices out there at the moment!

The 30 Pointes and 30 LEDBeam 100s - all supplied by rental company ASL - were rigged in, on and around the central set structure onstage and used primarily for backlighting.

He was extremely pleased with the Pointe, which out-shone all his expectations! “It is powerful and a great beam light as well as a very well balanced instrument, with excellent gobos and plenty of speed - what more could I need?”

Robe continues to illuminate some of the highest profile international music awards shows, clocking up another impressive performance with the 2013 Premios 40 Principales event, where Lighting Designer Juanjo Beloqui specified Pointes and LEDBeam 100s.

Emmy award winning Lighting Designer Oscar Dominguez from Darkfire Lighting used Robe MMX WashBeams on the 2013 NCLR American Latino Media & Arts (ALMA) Awards.

The star-studded extravaganza celebrates the best of Hispanic talent, arts, entertainment and contributions to film, television, music and the arts in southern California, and the 2013 awards were held on March 29 at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium, presented by Mario Lopez and Eva Longoria.

This was the fourth year that Dominguez has lit the show, collaborating closely with production designer Steve Bass.

His starting point for lighting was the detailed set which he approached in a very architectural manner, accentuating its prominent geometry and structure with the style and panache for which he is renowned!

The lighting also brought energy and dynamism to the stage, reflecting the vibrancy of Latino culture. Broadcast live on MSNBC, it had to look great on camera as well as for the large audience.

The MMX WashBeams were positioned upstage and used to back-light the big production dance and musical numbers, and downstage in the ‘shin-buster’ positions for low level cross-stage lighting.

Dominguez likes the framing shutters and reckons the ability to zoom from 3 – 54 degrees is “phenomenal”.

The fixtures were delivered, together with the rest of the lighting equipment by LA-based Illumination Dynamics.

Dominguez also loves the LEDBeam 100 and used 30 rigged inside some of the scenic pieces, and also specified 20 x MMX Spots hung around a pseudo pros arch made from trussing.

**By design**

Emmy award winning Lighting Designer Oscar Dominguez from Darkfire Lighting used Robe MMX WashBeams on the 2013 NCLR American Latino Media & Arts (ALMA) Awards.

**Complimentary**

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**Pointes mean prizes!**

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Battersea Power Station Development Company on behalf of its shareholders, SP Setia, Sime Darby and Employees Provident Fund hosted a concert by Sir Elton John to thank everyone who is helping to make the development of the iconic Power Station a reality.

The event featured a lighting design by Patrick Woodroffe of Woodroffe Basset design (WBD), with Robe moving lights on the rig and equipment supplied by west London based Colour Sound Experiment.

A glittering array of celebrities turned out to join a capacity audience of 2,500, all treated to a rousing 90 minute set of Elton's classics.

Patrick is Elton’s long term Lighting Designer, and this gig was project managed for WBD by Terry Cook, who was also the Associate LD, and for Colour Sound by Steve Marley.

It took place in a 60 x 30 metre clear-span tent installed inside the heart of the Power Station – currently the shell between the four famous 103 metre high chimneys.

The Robes were installed all around the performance stage on a ground supported rear truss, a flown front truss and a spine truss running down the centre of the tent.

The LEDWash 300s and the MMX Spots were utilised for wash and beam functionality. The LEDWash 600s were rigged on the ground-supported PA wings and the LEDWash 1200s and Pointes were on the floor.

They were programmed under Patrick’s direction to produce a stunning show by Elton John’s regular Lighting Director Andy Pygott using a GrandMA console.

Colour Sound is one of the UK’s top lighting and visuals rental companies and have invested heavily in Robe for their hire stock.

The Main Stage for this year’s legendary Dutch EDM event Dance Valley was designed by 250K with lighting by Andre Beekmans from The Art of Light… featuring nearly 230 Robe moving lights.

Beekmans used the Pointes and LEDBeam 100s to help achieve one of his specular trademark lightshows - which included around 400 other fixtures including blinders and strobes – all supplied by leading Dutch rental company, Purple Group.

It was the second year that Beekmans and 250K have designed the festival Main Stage for organisers UDC.

Beekmans has been using Robe fixtures constantly in his work for the last three years.

When he saw this stage design - with three large, highly visual, highly audible arches made of LED panels creating the architecture - he knew he needed mega bright lights that could hold their own against the LED. With 80% of the show being in daylight, all the more need for bright fixtures that had impact throughout the day.

LEDBeam 100s framed all three of the video arches, and Beekmans admits he’s still amazed by the brightness of the little fixtures, especially with the video running full-on.

He chose the Pointes for similar reasons - extreme intensity for daytime operation and for their great dynamics.

“I’m extremely happy with these Robe fixtures,” says Beekmans.
Top Gear Live (TGL) – bringing all the adrenaline, excitement, humour, serious motoring stunts and moments of the top TV show in a breath-taking arena environment - completed a whistle-stop European tour playing Prague, Budapest, Zagreb and Turin.

Lighting designer Steve Sinclair lit this using nearly 200 Robe moving lights – and for the first time no generics – not even a single PAR can or Molefey in sight!

The show saw legendary TV hosts Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond, James May and The Stig add their irreverent and quirky humour to this extraordinary motoring theatre event, alongside some of the world’s most expensive, powerful… and absurdly modified cars.

Sinclair has been lighting the hugely popular TGL show worldwide for some years. This tour featured a completely new design, and the decision to go only with moving lights was to help optimise it for the very tight production schedule.

The lighting and LED screens were supplied by Bratislava based Q-99, Slovakia’s leading rental and technical solutions provider and a company that has invested heavily in Robe.

The main aesthetic challenges included lighting lightning fast moving vehicles and illuminating a large – 27 metres wide by 53 metres deep - stage area keeping it edgy, exciting and theatrical – also providing the drivers with enough light to perform safely!

A network of trussing was flown in the roof of each venue to facilitate the lighting positions. The design comprised two very long, four relatively short and a T-shaped truss down stage!

The MMX WashBeams were the primary beam lights – the first time Sinclair has used them in this role. “They did an excellent job, the gobos are good and they are nice and bright,” he says.

The LEDWashes took care of all the general performance area washing and the packed audience stands. They effectively replaced all the Pars and Moles on previous versions of the lighting rig, working extremely hard and essential to every cue.

“Taking into account the power consumption of the LEDWashes and the MMX WashBeams in particular enabled the Lighting department to slash their show power consumption to nearly a third of what it had been before. With one rig, one can do anything that a three phase supply would need to do,” declared Sinclair.

The expedient power consumption of the LEDWashes and the MMX WashBeams permits incredible fast thinking and performance to shock these show promoters constantly in a field of what is thought by some to be unachievable. The LEDWashes are a complete rethink of existing light systems and have evolved specifically for the needs of live shows and events. They start where LED lighting finished and will take us on to a new generation of entertainment lighting solutions.

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India commemorated the remarkable milestone of three years with zero Polio cases in January 2014 with the India in Print (IIP) stamp project to highlight the success of the country. Mumbai, Delhi, Agra, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Jodhpur and Bikaner – on the same day.

In each city prime historical monuments were projected on and lit using Robe moving lights and LED fixtures. These included Agra Fort in Agra; India Gate and the Red Fort in Delhi; Hyderabad Public School in Hyderabad; the Teeli Wali Mosque in Lucknow; the Sojati Gate in Jodhpur and the Junagarh Fort in Bikaner, together with the key commercial landmark Air India Building in Mumbai.

All installations were designed by Rasesh Parekh from Mumbai-based lighting company Maya Intelligent Entertainment Technologies (MIET) in conjunction with its sister company Integrated Entertainment Solutions (IES). IES, Robe's India Distributor, provided equipment for the lighting and projection installations to event organisers Rotary International via MIET.

A similar highly successful awareness exercise for World Polio Day in October 2013, saw ten prominent landmarks in five cities projected onto and illuminated using Robe fixtures. They needed stunning results on an expedient budget – enabling all possible resources to be ploughed into the ongoing fight against Polio.

"The Robe fixtures projected beautifully and delivered spectacular results," confirms Rasesh.

For World Polio Day, the locations included the Taj Lands End in Mumbai; India Gate; the Red Fort and the JW Marriott hotel in Delhi; Kachiguda Railway Station in Hyderabad; Laxmi Vilas Palace in Baroda and in Chennai, the Ega Cinemas, the Hotel Shan Royal and Skywalk Mall.

India is Polio Free campaign staging seven special events in major cities across the country – Mumbai, Delhi, Agra, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Jodhpur and Bikaner – on the same day.

Robe sponsored the annual TPi Awards with the supply of over 300 moving lights for the 2014 event.
Working closely with scenic designer Steve Bass for Bob Bain Productions of Los Angeles, Tom crafted a memorable visuality for the fan-voted event including all of the onstage video elements and lighting for 11 show-stopping, live performances which included Lady Antebellum, Florida Georgia Line (who also collected six awards), Randy Houser, Justin Moore, Jake Owen, Darius Rucker, Sheryl Crow, Brad Paisley, LeAnn Rimes and more. It was broadcast live on the Fox Television network.

Lighting fixtures included Robe Pointes, LEDWash 600s and LEDBeam 100s, all of which were central to the show. The Pointes were positioned on the deck and in the air, their lines highlighting key set architecture on the stage and portions of the trussing superstructure above, while the LEDWashes were used for general eye-candy and for illuminating set and stage. The LEDBeam 100s were placed throughout the arenas.

Tom likes the multi-functionality of the Pointes and the ‘one light does all’ concept as they are equally as strong when used as either beam, spot, wash or effects fixtures. “We all like the brightness, the colours, the gobos and the multiple effects,” he says, describing lighting large awards shows like this as very similar to ‘painting bold, dramatic pictures with light’.

Tom Kenny lit the 2013 American Country Awards (ACAs) at Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino in Las Vegas, using over 100 Robe moving lights, including Pointes, LEDWash 600s and LEDBeam 100s, as part of his extensive rig for the occasion.

60 x ROBIN® Pointe®
60 x ROBIN® 600 LEDWash™
24 x ROBIN® 100 LEDBeam™

Distributor: Robe Lighting Inc.

ANDRÉ - who is involved with the lighting of a number of superstar DJs including Armin van Buuren, Hardwell and Afrojack - is one of the best known designers in the Netherlands. He has an imaginative and innovative approach to lighting EDM events and the specialist aesthetics this genre requires. Part of making the Utrecht show special for the 32,000 EDM fans who packed the venue was the specification of Robes!

He’s been using Robe Pointes in his work whenever he has had the opportunity over the last year and comments, “I love them - they have spot and wash options plus all the gobos, effects and many variations - that’s what I like - multiple choices”. This is also essential for lighting EDM events when lighting runs continuously over long periods. “ASOT has 11 hours of show time, and the pressure is on to make all the spaces look and feel different as the evening progresses!”

He’s also been using the little LEDBeam 100s since they were launched in 2012. “They are very cost-effective so you can put loads on a job for high impact looks!”

In Area 3 at ASOT650, LEDBeam 100s were fitted in between a series of LED banners hung from trusses above the stage. In Area 4 they were hung on drop arms rigged to a series of curved trusses.

LD André Beekmans from Eindhoven, The Netherlands based creative lighting practice The Art of Light specified Robes! as a major visual feature of his designs for the A State of Trance 600 (ASOT) event, staged at the Jaarbeurs, Utrecht, The Netherlands.
Robe moving lights were right in the lighting action on the main stage in front of Berlin’s historic Brandenburg Gate for one of the largest public New Year’s Eve celebrations worldwide.

Robe Pointes illuminated elements of the ‘Fan Mile’ creating a visual track around the venue as part of a traditional design by Lars Murasch, and were supplied together with other lighting equipment by rental company TLT EVENT AG.

A glittering international artist lineup included the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, The Overtones, Scooter, Adel Tawil and TVOG winners Ivy Quainoo and Nick Howard plus many others.

It was attended by nearly one million revelers and watched live by over 4 million on Germany’s national ZDF TV channel, culminating in a spectacular fireworks display to welcome in 2014.

The lighting had to be flexible, dynamic and fitting for a large scale TV spectacular.

The MMXs were used for general gobo projections on the floor and for on-camera effects lighting.

The MMX WashBeams were rigged on the side wings of the stage, both on the floor and in the roof, for up and down lighting, with six on towers to boost the white light as and where needed.

"The power and flexibility of the MMX WashBeams made them ideal for key lighting and their crisp gobo projections also made an impact," enthused Jan Schimming from TLT.

Fourteen Pointes were on the front of rolling LED riser platforms, with more on roof trusses and another six on the ground.

In with the neu!
THE gala dinner event, attended by 800 people, also featured live entertainment from SAMA Award winning Lloyd Cele and the Soweto Gospel Choir.

The Pointes were positioned on the stage floor, “They never disappoint,” says Christopher, adding that he really appreciated the solidness of the beams. They were on the floor as the sheer intensity of the beams enabled those sitting right at the back to be connected with the action onstage, or, the whole room look could be softened using the prism effects.

The LEDWash 1200s were rigged on the front truss and used for general stage washing. It’s “THE BEST LED Wash available on the market - its punch is second to none!” Christopher enthused.

The little LEDBeam 100s flanked both sides of a central V-shaped truss and were used as sharp, piercing shafts, and as a side stage wash. Robe is one of Christopher’s favourite lighting brands right now, “You can tell that lots of time and money is being invested in R ‘n’ D,” he observes.

The SA Premier Business Awards is hosted by the Department of Trade and Industry, Proudly South African and Brand SA. The awards recognize business excellence and honor enterprises that promote the spirit of success and innovation.

Johannesburg based Keystone Productions utilized 76 x Robe moving lights on the 2014 South African Premier Business Awards (SABAs), for which Christopher Bolton was Production Director, looking after the set, visuals and lighting design for event producers Outlaw Events. Leading SA rental company MGG was the technical supplier.

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The Lighting Rig consisted of 12 x ROBIN Pointes, 8 x ROBIN 800 LEDWash™, and 8 x ROBIN MMX Spot™. All from Robe ROBIN series. The 12 x ROBIN Pointes were on the floor as the sheer intensity of the beams enabled those sitting right at the back to be connected with the action onstage, or, the whole room look could be softened using the prism effects. The LEDBeam 100s were staged on the floor, and could be used for general stage wash by THE LEDWASH 1200. The five unobtrusive lighting brands right now, “You can tell that lots of time and money is being invested in R ‘n’ D,” he observes.

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ROBE REVIEW - ROBERT M. "BOB" KENNY

The 2014 Summer Night Concert was enjoyed by an estimated 40,000 classical music fans who were treated to a very special evening… in spite of the unsettled weather!

Lighting designer Helmut Krammer continues to spec Robe products for the excellent output and reliability, and the LEDWash series in particular is a favourite. The 2014 Summer Night Concert was enjoyed by an estimated 40,000 classical music fans who were treated to a very special evening… in spite of the unsettled weather!

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THAT’S why leading Slovakian lighting designer Martin Kubanka decided to use 100 Robe ROB® Pointes at the core of his lighting rig for the East v West KHL All Stars match at the Slovnaft Arena in Bratislava.

Kubanka’s brief was to highlight the music and various mapped video projections appearing on the ice during the 22 minute pre-show multimedia son et lumière. He created an atmospheric enhancement to the video that highlighted the touching scenes of Slovakian culture. He was also responsible for the music for the KHL All Stars event.

The media interest in these matches is intense. All KHL matches are broadcast on KHL.tv - part of Russian satellite operator NTV Plus, owned by the Gazprom Media empire.

In addition to this, the All Stars game was broadcast on Russia2, the country’s primary sports channel which reaches an average of 51.5% of Russian city dwellers and around 15.6% of those living in rural areas; as well as Hungary’s Chello Central Europe Sport1 and Sport2 channels reaching another 15 central European countries.

Other channels showing the action included Sweden’s Viasat, US global cable and satellite network ESPN, Canada’s French language specialty channel RDS and more… so with a stupendously large global audience… the pressure was really on for Kubanka to pull off an amazing opening show!

It was also his first time lighting the ice hockey extravaganza, although he has worked in the arena before, but that was some time before its complete refurbishment in 2011.

Over 120 metres of trussing was installed in the roof to accommodate all the various show production technology - sound, lighting, video and lasers.

Thirty-six of the Pointes were positioned on special podiums dotted around the bleacher seating and the other 64, together with the LEDWash 600s and 1200s, were hung on the overhead trusses.

The Pointes were the workhorse lights of the rig and used to create all the major lighting effects. Kubanka specified them so he could make full use of their multi-functional capabilities, and he used this to the max – swapping them between wash, spot, beam and effects units.

Pointes were also chosen because of their power. The arena was a massive space and all need needed was efficiency and bright beams. They were perfect to create the basic and emotional mood in the build up to the game, having the touch of atmosphere and excitement that can’t be provided by any other kind of lighting equipment.

“In my long lighting design career,” declares Kubanka, “The Pointe is one of the greatest products with its incredible set of features offering so many possibilities”.

Q-99 supplied all the moving heads and the audio system for the opening show which was directed by Tomas Eibner with Vladimir Ďurčansky as the DoP.

The pointe game!
THE TV section of this year’s Review has been expanded to reflect the growing use of Robe products in this dynamic sector, where the LEDWash and DL ranges are proving extremely popular together with – of course – the Pointe!

We had many stories to choose from and it’s particularly satisfying to see our brand featuring strongly in the Italian television market where it’s favoured by many LDs to bring flair and finesse to the equation.

We feature the work of two leading Belgian LDs - Luc Peumans and Ignace D’Haese - a country that continues to stay at the forefront of cutting edge lighting and production creativity in every way with top class talent, shows and productions.

We visit Idols in two key countries – Finland and South Africa, again working with leading LDs Mikku Kunttu and Joshua Cutts respectively - both also well known for their work on large spectaculars and for their integration of video and lighting. Also from South Africa is the lively new series Clash of the Choirs and So You Think You Can Dance, supplied by two of the country’s leading rental companies - both also well known for using Robe fixtures tapping into SA’s rich multicultural musical and rhythmic roots. Another country where Robe has become synonymous with the leading and most popular television productions is Israel, and we look at the success our distributor there has had in establishing the brand in this market and with all the main LDs and DoPs.

And… not forgetting TV phenomena much closer to home, Robe has been involved with lighting Miss Slovakia for at least the last 10 years as the country’s number one TV LD Martin Kubanka, who has supported Robe right from the time the brand was launched back in 2002… and in fact even before that!

This year the Czech & Slovak Republics joined forces and re-launched the X-Factor due to popular demand after a couple of year’s break, and Robe was able to show that it too had that ‘something special’ for the final with nearly 100 fixtures on the plot by lighting & visual designers Michal Schmidt and Tomáš Lecký.

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Show Designer Ignace D’Haese from leading Belgian creative show and design practice Arf & Yes imagineered the production design incorporating lighting, video and scenography for the 2014 live finals of The Voice van Vlaanderen (The Voice of Flanders), staged in the Kuipke (Velodrome) in Gent.

Thirtysix Robe Pointe moving lights helped make a big visual impact for the show, about which Kunttu comments, “We are very happy with them!”

Idols is one of the most popular programmes on Finnish TV and follows the familiar Idols’ format of seeking the best unsigned singing talent in the country. It’s produced by FremantleMedia Entertainment Finland, recorded in Rosana Arena in Espoo in front of a live audience of 3500 and broadcast on MTV3. It was the first time that Kunttu had used Robe’s new Pointe in his work, but he had the confidence to do so with a high-profile show because of his previous experiences with several of Robe products.

“Robe products are one of my regular workhorses and I use them across the full spectrum of shows that I design – theatre, rock ‘n’ roll and television, special events, etc.”

The 36 Pointes, supplied to the show by Akuntehdas were distributed between three pods in the ceiling, with some positioned on the floor. “They have real punch and I love the zoom and the colour system,” he states, adding that he intends to use them as often as he can in his upcoming work!

Lighting for Idols 2013 was operated by Pekka Martti using a grandMA2 light console, which also ran the video. The series was directed by Niko Nykänen.

Finishing Pointe!

The various LEDWashes were dotted all over the rig, the light weight was a great bonus. He particularly likes the LEDWash 1200 as it’s such a ‘substantial’ fixture.

LEDWash 600s he uses like a modern PAR can, as a basic building block in lighting any space or environment, and the LEDWash 300 in the strong yellow Voice hand set pieces and the ‘Voice van Vlaanderen’ logo. All lighting, video and rigging was supplied by Lier based Phlippo Showlight.

Photo Credit: © Louise Stickland

Photo Credit: © Mikki Kunttu
The 10 week series, directed by Gavin Wratten and broadcast on MNET and Mzanzi Magic, was recorded in the 6500 capacity auditorium at Moreleta Church in Pretoria. It’s the fourth Idols series that Cutts has lit.

Set designer Dewet Meyer took a brief from Wratten and created a ‘forest’ of vertical trussing towers varying in heights between 10 and 5 metres, which set the scene as a pseudo-industrial backdrop to the performances. With no flying facilities for additional trusses, Cutts needed bright and punchy fixtures positioned in the roof and so chose Robe’s ColorWash 2500E ATs, positioned symmetrically around the room to light both stage and audience. All the eye candy and effects for the set trees was provided by 18 new LEDWash 800 fixtures which Cutts really enjoyed, using the individual LED ring control and appreciating the additional power of the 15W LEDs. The light weight was also a great advantage. They were complimented with the tiny Robe LEDBeam 100s, 24 of which were tucked into various spaces around the towers. Upstage on the deck were six ColorBeam 700E ATs, which looked extremely cool!

The big creative challenge for Idols is always producing enough variation for 10 different songs and settings each week for the contestants plus guest artists, so a rig as flexible and adaptable as possible is essential. Robe lights were in action on the 2013 series of Idols South Africa, with lighting designed by Joshua Cutts from Visual Frontier and supplied by Dream Sets for series producers Sic Entertainment.

The 2013 Music Industry Awards (MIAs) show was staged in Brussels by Flemish national TV channel VRT (Vlaamse Radio en Televisieomroeporganisatie) in February to honour the best of the lively Belgian music scene. Post show, everyone partied well into the night in a show area just across from the studio with lighting designed by Thomas Boets which also utilized Robe products supplied by L&L Stage Services.

LIGHTING was designed by Luc Peumans from Painting With Light. The rig included ROBIN® Pointe and LEDWash 800 moving lights as part of a vibrant design for the all-action show that included nine live performances on three stages enjoyed by an enthusiastic live audience of 800 music fans and thousands of TV viewers. Above the main stage rigged were some stunning trees of 30 of the robust and versatile ellipsoidal ROBIN® Pointe. The LEDWash 800s - with top hats for extra diffusion - were dotted around the studio for set and audience washing, with nine in a 3x3 matrix for side lighting the B stage and for additional general audience fill.

above the main stage: 35 of the Pointes used as the main effects lights. “They gave me so many possibilities in terms of look, colour, etc.” says Peumans, “It’s an absolutely ideal tool for this type of show because you have to think of all the areas that the light has to cover in the set and overall areas of the studio for multiple camera angles.” Another 16 Pointes were on a large elliptical shaped truss above the main stage, with the remainder on the floor along the back of the main stage, creating striking aerial effects. The LEDWash 800s - with top hats for extra diffusion - were dotted around the studio for set and audience washing, with nine in a 3x3 matrix for side lighting the B stage and for additional general audience fill.

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LIGHTING was designed by Robert Grobler from Gearhouse South Africa (GHSA). The 24 x Robe DLX Spot and 24 x DLF Wash fixtures were part of a new investment by GHSA and was their first show. These plus other Robe LED luminaires helped reduce the power requirements by a third from the previous ‘So You Think…’ series - as a result they have dropped from a 300 to a 200 KVA generator for lighting power. It was also the first TV show in SA to feature an almost all LED moving light rig.

The popular series is produced in SA by Rapid Blue and modeled on the original American concept. Most of the lights were positioned on overhead trusses and large areas of the set were also lit with Robe colour changing LED fixtures. DLFs on the front trusses were used as key lighting for the cameras and for washing across the stage. The DLXs filled ‘holes’ in some specific camera wide shots and doubled as specials to colour and texture the stage with gobos. Grobler liked both these fixtures and commented that unless you knew otherwise… you would never know that they were LED units!

Robe LED moving lights were used in great style for the 2013 series of So You Think You Can Dance in South Africa, recorded at the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC)’s Renaissance Centre venue in downtown Johannesburg. LIGHTING and Visuals Designers were Michal Schmidt and Tomáš Lecký. The production company was JAM FILM 1999 s.r.o. and the event was broadcast live on TV channel JOJ in Slovakia and PRIMA in the Czech Republic. Over 1000 X-Factor fans enjoyed the action live in the arena. Schmidt & Lecký worked with set designer Jaroslav Holota from Ungroup s.r.o. to create the stage environment for which the lighting design needed to be flexible and fun, and being the first X-Factor in the Czech and Slovak Republics since 2011, the pressure was on for the production to make a big impact!

This is where Robe’s Pointes came into their own, being a multi-purpose fixture that can be used as beam, spot, wash or effects fixture - all with equal quality and dynamics. The stage set featured around 500 square metres of LED screen so any lighting needed to be very bright to retain an impact with this amount of LED in close proximity.

Special ladder trusses were fabricated and 51 of the Pointes were positioned on these with the remaining five on the stage deck. ColorSpot 700s and 1200s were rigged on other over-stage trusses and at the front, where they were utilised primarily for key lighting and camera effects.

Michal Schmidt absolutely loves the Pointes, and for this show it was a case of “No Pointes - No show!” he states. Robe proved it had ‘that special something’ for the final of the Czech and Slovak edition of the X-Factor, staged at the Incheba Expo Arena in Bratislava, Slovakia.
THE selection competition was lit by René Jõhve of creative design practice Cuu Club working alongside Set Designer Marit Kutser. Jõhve’s inventive design in the studio used over 80 x Robe moving lights, including 32 x Pointes, delivered by E & T from Tallinn in conjunction with lighting rental company Strikken, and his starting point was the set design, involving several light box columns, each individually lit with internal LED strips.

Jõhve then used the Robes as the main feature and effects lights of the show. Sixteen Pointes were flown on two overlapping curved trusses above the stage, mirrored by the other 16 on the floor in corresponding positions upstage, which created the core looks of all the major lighting scenes.

“They are so adaptable! I really appreciate being able to do so many different things with just one fixture,” he enthuses. “One minute it can be a beam, the next a spot and so on! The prisms are very cool!”

Eesti Laul’s Director Ove Musting also appreciated the Pointes and the selection of diverse and more unusual on-camera effects that they brought to the show.

The final song event took place at Tallinn’s Nokia Concert Hall in front of a large live and TV audience where the public voted for singer Tanya and her song “Amazing”.

SOUTH AFRICA

For the second year running Pretoria, South Africa based Blond Productions supplied full technical production – lighting, video and sound – including Robe moving lights – and design for the popular South African TV talent competition, Clash of The Choirs.

Europe calling... amazing pointes please!

South Africa’s annual inter-provincial opera competition saw a number of events held across the country, and Blond Productions was there to provide the lighting and production for one of the events at the Orange Grove, Johannesburg.

The final competition took place at the Johannesburg Opera House where the final group of six choirs performed for the public and judges. The event was hosted by the popular TV personality, Sizakhele Paye, and featured a range of Robe lighting equipment.

Lighting for the event was provided by Blond Productions, which supplied a range of Robe moving lights from the company’s extensive inventory. The equipment included ten Rogue 1s, two Rogue 1s Mini, two Rogue 2s, and two Rogue 3s, all of which were used to create a dramatic and visually stunning backdrop for the performance.

The Rogue 1s were used as the main lighting source for the event, providing a bright and dynamic illumination that added to the overall atmosphere of the performance. The Rogue 1s Mini were used to create a more focused and intense lighting effect, while the Rogue 2s were used to create a soft and diffused light that added to the overall mood of the performance.

Blond Productions has a long history of working with Robe moving lights and has found them to be reliable and easy to use, making them a popular choice for a variety of events. The company was delighted to have the opportunity to work with Robe again for this important event, and was pleased with the results.

“Robe moving lights are always a pleasure to work with,” said a spokesperson for Blond Productions. “They provide a versatile and powerful solution for a range of events, and we’re always impressed by the way they perform.”

The final event of the competition was held at the Aardvark Studios in Johannesburg, where the choirs performed in front of a live audience and a panel of judges. The event was broadcast on TV and radio, and was a huge success.

The event was a testament to the skill and dedication of the choirs and performers involved, and their hard work paid off as they were able to put on a spectacular performance.

“Congratulations to all the choirs and performers involved,” said a spokesperson for Blond Productions. “You really put on a great show!”

The event was a huge success, with the choirs receiving ovations and standing ovations throughout the performance. The event was a testament to the skill and dedication of the choirs and performers involved, and their hard work paid off as they were able to put on a spectacular performance.

“Congratulations to all the choirs and performers involved,” said a spokesperson for Blond Productions. “You really put on a great show!”

Photo Credit: © Ronaldo Shabushu
The show was staged at the Incheba Exhibition Centre in Bratislava, produced by live communications agency Forza, broadcast live on TV channel JOJ and enjoyed by a live audience of 3000. Technical production – lights, sound and video - was by Slovakia’s biggest rental company, Q-99.

Kubanka drew on his vast experience of designing stage lighting and video for televised beauty pageants taking the genre to a different dimension for this one with outstanding results that impressed a new production and realisation team.

There was a 43 metre long back truss and 18 x 1 metre long trusses installed above the runway, with 19 metre trusses running down each side of the audience. Above the stage was a 4 metre diameter trussing circle and above this, a Parasol STAR600 rotating truss system loaded with Pointes and LEDBeam 100s.

The Pointes were the only ‘effects’ lighting utilised throughout the show, and with their multi-functionality Kubanka had more than enough scope to create many different and individual looks for all sections. The MMX Spots were used for contra lighting and key lighting onstage, while the LEDWash 600s and 1200s worked brilliantly for overall stage washes, audience contra-lighting and in-camera effects – especially with the individual ring control. The LEDBeam 100s provided fast and bright specials.

Lighting Designer Martin Kubanka knows how to make many things look beautiful with his stunning lighting and visual designs, and this coupled with the Miss Slovakia beauty pageant as the subject matter and 150 Robe moving lights on the rig made this 2014 edition of the event extra special.

Rising to the occasion

THE eye-catching lighting scheme designed by LD Ronen Najar for the first 24-episode series of brand new singing contest, Rising Star featured MMX Spots and LEDBeam 100s. The show was recorded in the Globus Group Studios, Jerusalem and broadcast on national Channel 2 with Najar asked onboard because of his work on concert touring shows and large scale musicals.

All Rising Star contestants’ video performances behind a curved projection screen around the front of the stage – with their IMAG images projected onto the rear. As the song started, viewers and the 800 live audience in Studio 4 – having downloaded a special Smartphone app – registered their ‘likes’ as the song was being performed, and if it reached a 70% marker, the screen flew out and they made it through to the next round!

Najar’s lighting was based on a curved back-wall with washes of wash light alternating with strips of 8 mm LED screen, matching the spherical stage and projection screen. It was all about curves and the elegance of the curves!

The 24 x Robe MMX Spot were part of the back wall, used for all key lighting and gobo looks plus sharp focusing and applying textures to the stage surfaces.

Najar has used Robe products generally for the last eight years and in a big way of the LED Spots which he finds technically outstanding and his work over the years has been available in Israel.

This LEDBAR 100 was premiered at the kick off of the global audience casting and in a curve wall of light-collisions when the screen was raised, enhancing the space for the wide camera shots.

The eye-catching lighting scheme designed by LD Ronen Najar for the first 24-episode series of brand new singing contest, Rising Star featured MMX Spots and LEDBeam 100s.

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Rising to the occasion

THE eye-catching lighting scheme designed by LD Ronen Najar for the first 24-episode series of brand new singing contest, Rising Star featured MMX Spots and LEDBeam 100s.
Television ~

The second season of the Italian version of the hugely popular US ‘Minute To Win It’ games show was recorded at the Auditorium del Foro Italico in Central Rome for national channel RAI. Contestants participate in a series of simple but frustratingly-difficult-to-achieve 60 second challenges usually involving common household objects!

Castrichella has used Robe products in his work since 2004. The idea was that the set – designed by Mimma Aliffi – and lighting were similar to the original format US show, but with some very distinctive touches of that famous Italian style and flair.

The DLS fixtures were rigged above the centre of the set where all the games were played – and used for overhead lighting and effects. The LEDWash 1200s illuminated the audience and the LEDBeam 100s were positioned all around the back of the audience seating shooting forward.

It was Castrichella’s first experience working with the DLSs, picked for their power, brightness and versatility. He says, “The DLS is a great fixture and a much better all round choice – it is smaller, lighter, brighter, consumes less power and is very quiet. The quality of the colours is excellent and the framing shutters are fantastic”.

Italian ‘TV Lighting Designer Miminna Carriechella took less than a minute to decide that he wanted Robe’s ROBIN DLS profile, LEDWash 1200 and LEDBeam 100 fixtures on his lighting rig for the 2013 series of Un Minuto Per Vincere (One Minute To Win).

This year’s show was broadcast live on the FOX Television Network from the magnificent, art deco Shrine Auditorium located on the campus of the University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

Lighting was designed by the equally high profile Tom Kenny – well known for embracing new technology – who was delighted to be the first designer in the US to use Robe’s ROBIN DLS this year.

Fifty-two BMFL Spots appeared on the show for which the production had to be hastily re-designed when the original Pauley Pavilion venue in Westwood was closed due to flooding.

24 x BMFL Spots were on over-stage trusses. Another 20 were on audience trusses and above the Queen’s Box, with the remaining eight on the deck.

“After seeing one of the units on test, I was so blown away that I decided to locate them in more prominent places for the show,” explained Kenny.

With lots of LED in the set design... those BMFLs cut through everything like beautiful beams of sun! They were amazing,” he commented.

“They are fast, the optics are great and they are light in weight for the size and complexity of the fixture. This BMFL has come at exactly the right time! Everyone needs a good strong, reliable and exceptionally high powered profile lightsource,” he stated.

Robe’s new Bright Multi-Functional Luminaire (“BMFL”) made its U.S. debut on the 2014 Teen Choice Awards (TCA) – a dazzling, high profile event ammonia beautiful and successful young stars from the world of teen entertainment.

In Castrichella’s free experience working with the DLS, picked for their power, brightness and versatility, the ROBIN DLS profile, LEDWash 1200 and LEDBeam 100 fixtures stand out as the brightest, sharpest and most unique lights of all the stimulations and the lighting teams on teen television.
These were the first Robe Pointes in Serbian TV, and went straight to work at the Studio Avala Film in Filmski Grad, Kosutnjak, Belgrade for ‘Grand Show’, broadcast live on Pink RTV’s Friday night prime-time, featuring a selection of popular folk bands interspersed with live guest interviews. The show is a massive hit throughout the Balkan regions.

The Pointes will also be utilized on other shows produced by Grand Production for RTV Pink including ‘Grand Parada’, ‘Narod Pita’ and ‘Zvezde Granda’, all of which are music based.

Kravic has been using Robe products for 10 years and was fully aware of the brand’s quality and reliability when he spec’d Pointes in a recent lighting upgrade bringing Grand Production’s technology at the Studios bang up to date!

He chose Pointes for many reasons. Their compact size, light weight and being rig-able by one person was one.

He is impressed with the speed of the pan and tilt and the “Excellent” 6 and 8-facet prisms, which can be combined with gobos and haze to “Create gorgeous effects”.

He thinks the colour wheels are fast for creating super-quick chases bumping between colours, etc. – all excellent for music applications.

Meanwhile, the frost “Completely transforms” the basic look of the beam reflector.

The 2000 hour guarantee on the lamp, touch-screen display and ArtNet compatibility all help make the Pointe “Several steps ahead of the competition,” he confirms.

Top Serbian TV producers Grand Production invested in Robe Pointes, with the first 24 supplied by Robe’s Serbian distributor Studio Berar Project following a specification by Grand Production Chief Lighting Designer Goran Kravic.

THE show was recorded in Studio 5 of the Globus Group Studio complex in Jerusalem, produced by German based Constantine Entertainment, and lit with the help of ROBIN® MMX WashBeams and ROBIN® Pointes which were instrumental in the show’s design.

This year saw a real hallmark in one area where the competition around their colour output continues to escalate – the output / runtime that each colour wheel produces with light.

Kilim Electronics from Haifa, who bought the fixtures especially to service this first 20 episode Chef Games series.

The set featured a full kitchen on one side where the competitors created their culinary art, connected via a conveyor belt to the restaurant / tasting area the other side.

Azulay used LEDWash 1200s to provide soft light, the first time he’s used them for this application and context, which he did with the addition of a diffusion filter on the front of the units to produce smooth top lighting.

The LEDWash 1200s were supplied by Kilim Electronics from Haifa, and bought the fixtures especially to service this first 20 episode Chef Games series.

The MMX WashBeams were supplied by Dakar Azulay from Dakar, who bought the fixtures especially to service this first 20 episode Chef Games series.
THE absolutely action packed Stage section this year gives a real insight into the energy and enthusiasm of the Robe community out there on the front line using the products in so many different ways.

Each project is unique and inventive in approach and outcome and glancing through all the projects you can really appreciate the talent and foresight of our lighting designers, directors and programmers who make each show special and individual.

We’ve been lucky enough to write up - and get excited about - countless awesome projects in this section! It’s the fact that Pointes were prominent on the Rolling Stones – one of the greatest rock ‘n’ roll bands in history - and still absolutely at the top of their game!

EDM is huge and gets bigger and better constantly. Robe products have been used internationally on some of the most popular and prolific acts in the world including Armin van Buuren, Hardwell, Steve Angello and of course, the unforgettable David Guetta.

The Prodigy - one of only a handful of bands capable of ‘crossover’ between electronic and heavy metal scenarios being more mainstream in this section using lots of Pointes and LEDBeam 100s around the globe.

Maurizio, Italian showman Vasco Rossi revisited his acrobatic crowds in Rome and Milan, while Phantogram completed a US club tour bringing avant-garde pop into the stage – both using LEDBeam 100s to great effect… on two completely different scales.

We said goodbye to UK boyband JLS who parted company to pursue solo careers and we said hello to a myriad of rising stars who we hope will continue to be illuminated onstage by Robe for many years.

Stage shows everywhere are expressing themselves with Robe in the true spirit of adventure and innovation - that is what technology is all about!
Stage ~ LIGHTING for the show which is produced by Alda Events was operated by Tom Spaan from The Art of Light. The stage design included a main LED screen behind the DJ booth with an additional frame of LED integrated into the actual booth structure and three ‘wings’ of LED screen rigged in a shrinking perspective - with lighting filling in the gaps between these. Robe ColorSpot 1200E ATs were positioned in the wings and on a front truss. ColorSpot 2500E ATs were used for strong and dramatic back-lighting and front key lighting on Hardwell, while ColorWash 1200E ATs were positioned on the stage floor for maximum effect.

The little LEDBeam 100s were dotted all over the rig - in the wings, around the centre screen and also on some audience trusses flown out in the auditorium. All fixtures were worked hard by Spaan, who used a grandMA2 full size for control.

The ColorSpot 2500E ATs lit Hardwell himself - three were on the front truss, their potent beams softened with a CTO filter for more ‘natural’ front illumination, and the other three in static positions backlighting the superstar DJ. “Theatrical back-light brings a great effect to the equation that is often lost in dance shows,” observes Spaan.

The ColorWash 1200E ATs were used for general lighting and for the warm up act. Many of Hardwell’s shows are recorded so he ensures that there is always some dynamic lighting on the audience.

Spaan likes the small and hugely powerful LEDBeam 100s for their sheer simplicity, very fast and accurate movement and neat colour changing. The narrow beams are highly effective even when fixtures are rigged really close together and “The output is concentrated and impressively bright for a fixture this small.” He also uses them for heavy strobing effects and for some of the ‘old skool’ scanner effects that are back in fashion on the EDM lighting scene!

He loves Pointes for their “High impact” which also means that he uses them judiciously for the show’s epic moments, combining beams and spots. The wide zoom and linear prism are “Great additions” to this type of moving light and “More options means a more versatile lightshow and more astonishing effects”.

Spaan has been working with Robe products for all of his professional career as an LD and programmer, and is always pleased when the brand is on the spec for a show, especially LEDWashes, LEDBeams and Pointes.

He rates Robe as one of the best and most innovative manufacturers of the moment and one that “keeps up with the constant high demands of designers and operators.”

Leading DJ Hardwell took his acclaimed ‘I Am Hardwell’ show to Brazil playing the 8,000 capacity Espaço das Américas in Sao Paulo where lighting Rental Company Apple Produçoes supplied over 100 Robe moving lights for a design by Dutch LD Andre Beekmans from The Art of Light.
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ROBE
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ITALY
x ROBIN® 100 LEDBeam™
Distributor: Robe Multimedia

PINNA used 68 Robe ROBIN LEDBeam 100s as specials and for highlighting the ebullient audiences that flocked to see the great Italian showman, whose controversial and hugely successful career has spanned four decades, spawned 27 albums and several spats with authority!

The stage and set were custom designed for the show and every available centimetre was crammed with lighting fixtures - around 650 in total!

The LEDBeam 100s were chosen for two very specific tasks. Twenty were positioned on the floor of the stage wings shooting up the Vasco logo scenic drops at the sides. The other 48 were divided between four trussing columns either side of the PA wings so they could beam right into the audience.

“They were absolutely vital to the show, I used them in every song and they were programmed into 90% of my cues and all the special audience looks,” he explains.

He chose to use LEDBeams because “They are small, very powerful and perfect for the job”. They produced a natural breakup and also resembled a wash effect over a long throw - more subtle and sophisticated than standard wash lights.

The show was full of big audience looks and moves, and Pinna commented that the little LEDBeams outshone even the 700 series wash fixtures (from another brand) that were next to them on the towers!

Rockin the Republic!

Iconic Italian superstar singer / songwriter Vasco Rossi staged seven phenomenal stadium shows in Rome and Milan this summer playing to over 800,000 fans and his Robe LEDBeam 100s shone for the occasion designed by his long-time LD, Giovanni Pinna.

Photo Credit: © Ryszard Perzynski

Photo Credit: © Louise Stickland

Czech rental company TD Promo supplied Robe moving lights for three popular Czech bands touring in Spring 2014.

1x ROBIN® Pointe®
8x ROBIN® 600 LEDWash™
8x ROBIN® 600E Beam™
5x ROBIN® MMX Spot™

Distributor: Robe CZ

THESE were pop rockers Mandrage (LD Tomáš Karban); Divokej Bil a well-established folk-rock band (LD Matej Mantlik) and loud-and-proud thrash metallers SKWOR (LD Martin Samecky).

Three very distinct bands embracing three different genres of music, all enthusiastically received around the country… and three innovative Czech LDs all loving their Robe fixtures! Mandrage tour used 14 x Robe ROBIN Pointes, five MMX Spots and eight ROBIN LEDWash 600s; Divokej Bill had eight ROBIN 600E Beams, while the SKWOR show made great impact with four Pointes and four 600E Beams.

As you’d expect, all three had completely different looks and technical approaches for lighting.

For Mandrage, Karban’s lighting approach was slick, sharp and punchy, using a lot of wash and beam effects, while for SKWOR, Samecky’s lighting was raw, in-the-face and abrasive to match the energy of the music.

For SKWOR, Mantle had mixed up the lighting to create a big party on stage… while for SKWOR, the lights needed to be raw, in-the-face and abrasive to match the energy of the music.

For Mandrage, Karban’s lighting aesthetic was slick, clean and streamlined like a well-oiled machine; the concept for Divokej Bill was dirtier and grittier, with more extreme effects and drops...

For SKWOR, Samecky added plenty of lighting chaos to the mix matching the band’s vigour, “The sheer variety of effects you can produce with the Pointe is amazing,” he affirms.
GUETTA’S lighting is designed by Jonathan ‘Leggy’ Armstrong — well known for his imaginative and stylish shows. The touring team works with entirely locally sourced productions wherever they play, and lighting on the road for this leg of the always ongoing world tour was overseen and operated by two Lighting Directors, Alex ‘Junior’ Cerio of Smash Productions and Sam MacLaren of LightLab, both also LDs in their own right.

Between them and the video visuals produced by Ben Brett’s amazing and unique Pilot video control system, operated by Nick Briggs, Guetta has a dynamic world class show wherever he plays. This is also a very exciting and refreshing way to work, fusing structured elements with improvisation and live operation involved every night as the show plays out.

As Junior puts it, “David DJs all night… and in essence we all adopt the same modus operandi”.

Due to the punishing gig schedule of the Brazilian tour, Junior and Sam split LD’ing duties between them.

Junior had Robe gear on all his shows. “I’m always happy to see Robe on the ‘contra’ rider,” says Junior, who likes the ROBIN range in particular and further comments, “There’s a really nice continuity across the LED fixtures, the Pointe and the MMX units, especially while programming, using the internal macros, etc.”

Lighting equipment for the Guaruja and Ribeirao Preto Shows was supplied by Apple Produções and for El Salvador, by LPL.

**Stage Floor Package**

- **Guaruja and Ribeirao Preto Shows**
  - 30 x ColorWash 1200E AT™
  - 20 x ROBIN® Pointe®
  - 20 x ColorSpot 1200E AT™
  - 18 x ROBIN® 600 LEDWash™
  - 4 x ROBIN® MMX WashBeam™

- **El Salvador**
  - 26 x ColorWash 2500E AT™
  - 18 x ROBIN® 600 LEDWash™
  - 18 x ColorSpot 2500E AT™

**Distributors**

- Newart Iluminação
- Robe UK

**IN March 2014 they launched their “Love Letters” album and kicked off a campaigning campaign in the UK, exclusively using Robe moving lights that exhibited in an innovative performance at London’s Brixton Academy.**

Before the start of each tour, Ed combines minds with the band’s Oscar Cash regarding set design, and this time around they came up with the idea of making it resemble a low-budget 1970’s music TV show.

Warren is also inspired by James Turrell’s light art, and so wanted a canvas that offered multiple contrasts for lighting.

An adaptable floor package was supplied by Southampton based rental specialist GLS, which went into all of the venues, boosted with additional fixtures for the larger shows including eight Pointes.

The Pointes — when used — were his primary profile luminaires. The beams were wide enough to cover regular light with gobos, as well as equally as effective in set-piece or on walls morphed into concentrated beam effects.

When the lighting was installed, the Pointes were used pneumatically for common purposes. Ed knew the Pointes for their speed and beam patterns. They also work like a dream when combined with larger fixtures like spotlights, etc. as it gave them a lot of flexibility.

The LEDBeam 100s were used throughout for light, and the LEDWash 300 were being up the luminaries and working light, and the LEDWash 300 were being up the luminaries and working light.
THE ROBE Lighting System were the lighting contractors, and Senior Technical Manager Ollie Jeffery contacted award winning international Lighting Designer Tim Routledge to create some illuminative magic using their extensive house rig – with 130 moving lights - plus ‘specials’ including 24 x Pointes and 40 x LEDBeam 100s – supplied by Brighton based TSL.

Routledge crafted a stunning looking, memorable show fitting to the occasion that also embraced and included the RAH’s impressive visual attributes.

Six flown vertical trusses formed a chevron either side of the venue’s grand organ pipework, with four vertical trusses on floor bases completing the picture. The 24 x Pointes were deployed in multiples of four on the six flown trusses.

The LEDBeam 100s crowned a low level wall of Jarags curving around behind the band’s backline.

The Pointes came in about half way through the high energy show making a profound impact on the look and feel of the stage.

Routledge likes the lenticular and rotating prisms, the snapping frosts and a number of other cool high-speed effects.

He used them for big wide-fan beam looks into the audience, which could then be instantly snapped back to stage, such is the speed and manoeuvrability of the Pointe.

“They are super bright and quick, really robust and have loads of useful tools,” he comments.

The LEDBeams were used for back-effects, beams and filling gaps in the camera shots with another 16 framing the front arch of the stage.

Chart topping UK pop rockers McFly celebrated 10 years at the forefront of the music industry in four sold-out shows at London’s Royal Albert Hall.

高権成美　TOP：© Louise Stickland

The lighting design was by Don Weeks and the European leg of the tour featured Pointes for the first time. Don started working with the band in 2011. The Three Album tour was Don’s first time with the house lighting in a part of his three-year package. Don explained the reasons why he chose the LEDWash 600s over the other options.

The 12 x Pointes were rigged using a double truss configuration with 20° flood and 5° spot, giving the lighting designers the flexibility to change the beam angle and intensity of the lighting in a number of ways.

Don’s mantra was to have the instruments set to create a certain mood and then vary them as the music progresses.

“Using the Pointes and the rest of the lighting instruments, you can create a really powerful effect,” he explained.

Highly acclaimed maverick progressive rock band Yes continued their 2013-14 Three Album world tour presenting three complete iconic works - “Close To The Edge”, “Going For The One” and “The Yes Album” – live.

Yes! Yes! YES!

As the Antarctique, Brussels – where Robe’s reporters experienced the show – witnessed, the band were hailed as one of the greatest moments of the entire tour.

“The Pointes are a real eye-catcher throughout the show,” commented one of the reporters.

Having a fixture like the Pointe on the rig has made a real difference to the show because of the sheer diversity of options it opened up. The Pointes were fundamental to Don’s carefully crafted show where each lighting cue is considered and carefully layered to match the intensity and intricacy of the music.

“It’s more about enhancing and adding to the mood and the vibe,” he explained.

Having a fixture like the Pointe on the rig has made a real difference to the show because of the sheer diversity of options it opened up.
The Rolling Stones finished the European section of their “14 On Fire” tour with another spectacular lighting design by Patrick Woodroffe of Woodroffe Basset Design (WBD). Which included 54 x Robe ROBIN Pointes amongst 200 plus other moving lights.

EUROPEAN TOUR

“54 Points – the first to be incorporated into a design for the iconic band and the first time that Woodroffe has used Pointes on a major concert touring show. They were located on 12 sections of HUD truss running upstage/downstage either side of the massive stage. The Pointes were used extensively throughout the show creating high impact washes, gobo looks and big beam effects shooting right out into the audience.”

WBD’s Design Associate Terry Cook explains that the team particularly liked the brightness, the linear prism, the zoom and the ability for the unit to be swapped between a beam and a spot fixture. They also proved very reliable both during the rehearsal period and on the road.

The Rolling Stones’ “14 On Fire” European tour comprised 14 very special and unique shows in a combination of arenas, stadiums and festivals.

The tour’s Lighting Director was Ethan Weber, the Lighting Programmer was Eric Marchiwinski and Miriam Evans was the Studio Assistant for WBD. Ron Schilling was the overall Lighting Chief and Fraggle was the Neg Earth Crew Chief on all the gigs where the west London-based company provided the kit.

“54 x ROBIN® Pointe®
Distributor: Robe UK
burning bright!”
For this tour, Thomas took a complete departure from the last one in terms of the lighting aesthetic, putting intimacy, close communication and a sense of timeless elegance right at the heart of the performance. “The previous tour featured large, dynamic lighting elements while this year’s look is more subtle and refined,” he comments.

The 24 x Pointes were newly purchased for the tour by Australian lighting vendor Clifton Productions, which has the largest inventory of Robe fixtures in Australia.

The lighting rig was essentially based on three trusses and designed to add verticality, depth and three dimensionality to the show. It also embraced the principals of ‘less is more’ with Thomas choosing his fixtures carefully and using them as proper multi-functional instruments fulfilling many different roles in the process.

While the position and array of the Pointes, used throughout the show as hard edged profile key lights in CTO, while the other 12 were distributed around the rest of the rig and used for numerous effects, adding colour and movement.

“They are absolutely awesome; one of the most feature packed lighting fixtures I have had the pleasure of using in a long time,” he stated.

Tucson, Arizona based LD Martin Thomas, of Relentless Lighting Design, used Pointes for the first time for multi-talented Grammy Award winning singer/songwriter, actress and poet Jill Scott’s highly successful Australian tour.

The style and tone was a vibey mix of jazz and classic hits from the 1970s and early 80s when Roxy Music permeated the art house and alternative music scene with a stylish mix of unique sounds, modern art and fashion.

This tour kicked off with a floor specials package for the initial gigs, which segued into a slightly enlarged festival version of the rig that then evolved into a full production tour.

They started with Robe MMX Spots and LEDWash 600s in the floor specials rig. After the Ghent Jazz Festival in Belgium - where the overhead rig was also Robes - Clay upped the Robe quota for the rest of the tour.

With 13 musicians and Ferry onstage as well as the variety of venues, adaptability was key to the design. The LEDWashes washed the stage and band area while the MMXs created gobos patterns and texturing. The positioning of the LEDBeam 100s varied depending on the stage size. “They are so tiny that you can basically put them wherever you like,” declares Clay.

Scott takes a keen interest in how she looks onstage and is very aware of lighting and how it affects the drama and emotional impact of her performance.

Ferry Flair! come to the light
Italian based Lighting and Show Designer Francesco de Cave has a penchant for sculpting fluid, imaginative and stylish shows. For Laura Pausini’s 2014 “Greatest Hits” world tour, he underpinned his lighting and visual design for singer and international superstar Laura Pausini’s 2014 “Greatest Hits” world tour.

Grobnić, based in Zagreb, is well-known in Croatia, and for the Belgrade show he needed to create an awesome looking rig with as expedient amount of fixtures as possible… leaving maximum room for Scenographer Nevad Stojakovic’s stage set. The Robe fixtures - together with other lighting, sound and rigging equipment, were delivered by Novi Sad based Studio Berar.

The Pointes and the LEDBeam 100s were positioned all around the stage on the floor and used for a fantastic selection of powerful aerial effects, reinforcing the energy of the show – Gibonni’s distinctive blend of sound combines rock, pop and Dalmatian folk music.

Kučinić has been using Robe products for around eight years and comments, “I have considerable experience using Robe in all sorts of context and situations, and this project has just strengthened my love for everything that comes out of the factory in the Czech Republic!”

The Pointes were primary beam fixtures and also as spots because of their wide zoom capabilities, and he capitalized on the optical system being able to create super-tight, highly powered laser-like beams.

The LEDBeam 100s were fitted with frost filters and utilized as up-lighters to create dramatic effects when lighting performers from floor level.

The lighting used Pointes and LEDBeam 100s specified by Lighting Designer Sven Kučinić. There was a massive emphasis on visual impact for this show because of its significance and location.

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Stage ~

Touring tiny

Electronic rock and art fuse in the eclectic, unique and critically acclaimed sound of Phantogram as the duo from New York State are currently enjoying the crest of a wave of anticipation.

Ed Warren – known for his stylish stagecraft – created lighting for their 2013 US and Canadian tour which received rave reviews. Eight of Robe’s tiny LEDBeam 100s were toured and had to fit into a trailer towed behind the bus with all the band’s backline. They were chosen for their compact size and ability to help deliver the original lighting concept.

Ed received a brief from the band which referenced some of the artists they had seen recently including The National, Flaming Lips, Beach House and others. They wanted a gold finish to the stage, lots of thin laser-like beams of light and bold, stark blocks of colour, etc. The music lends itself to dark moody shadows and silhouettes. The LEDBeams were chosen therefore “for versatility, light weight (just 4 kg each) and ability to throw colour across a stage without any restrictions.”

They were positioned in an inverted arc around the band and on the riser front, where they immersed the performance space in strong colours, lit the backdrop and strobed very effectively. They also accentuated the kick and snare drum hits in certain songs.

Gary Hunt was on the road as Lighting Director and comments, “They were highly useful and perfect for the setup as they are super quick and bright.”

The LEDBeam 100s were supplied by Canadian rental specialist, Solotech.

Lady of the Dance

Cuban-born singer Margarita La Diosa de la Cumbia staged a special sold-out show at the 10,000 capacity Auditorio Nacional in Mexico City, with lighting designed by Ángel Alvarado and a rig that included Robe MMX Spots, LEDWash 1200s, LEDWash 600s and LEDBeam 100s – all from the ROBIN series – together with ColorWash 2500E ATs.

Ángel Alvarado is a new member of the artist’s technical team. The full technical production for the show was supplied by Mexico-based Tama Producciones, which owns most of the lighting fixtures.

Ángel explains, “I wanted to create something special and a fitting ambience for the occasion. The LEDWashes have very bright colours – so perfect for matching with the energy in the show which required lively use of colour…” so my attention was focused on these”.

He has been using Robe products around six months in various music projects and has always been impressed. Just Alberto Guzman, Lighting Sales Engineer at Vari Internacional, Robe’s Mexican distributor, says: “Besides being highly satisfied with Robe and its technology, Margarita’s manager Amanda Devoto comments, “We were totally satisfied with Robe and its technology. We made sure our lights and equipment was flawless and this was one of the main reasons we wanted to use these lights, knowing that we are very particular about our gear and equipment and have to constantly carry out regular tests to ensure we have great lights and equipment associated with our shows.”
The Christmas Metal Symphony, 2013 European tour featured the last touring ‘Christmas Eve’ tour — a 36-date trek through Sweden, the Czech Republic, and Germany — with packed houses of metal fans appreciating the powerful metallic full force of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, directed by Joost Van Den Broek.

The tour included a special performance of 'Hallelujah,' the classic Leonard Cohen song, featuring Michael Kiske (Helloween) and Floor Jansen from the Finnish band Nightwish. The tour also featured special guests on vocals, including Joel Hoekstra (Nightwish, Trans-Siberian Orchestra), and Janick Gers (Iron Maiden).

Lighting the tour was LD Nick van Balen, based in The Hague, The Netherlands, who specified Robe LEDWash 300s for key lighting and washes, and the enormous versatility and scope of Robe’s LEDWash moving lights!

Van Balen specified 16 LEDWash 300s rigged to the top of 1.5 metre high poles on floor bases placed around stage, with the other 30 units on three overhead trusses. Some of the upstage LEDWash 300s were on drop bars.

The front truss LEDWash 600s were used for key lighting the vocalists and washing the downstage area. The lights really increased the perceived size of the performance space, giving a ‘big rock’ look.

Van Balen started using Robe products about two years ago, and now they are always on his specifications.

Trans-Siberian Orchestra (TSO) Show Designer Bryan Hartley made 2013’s “The Lost Christmas Eve” tour a bigger production by integrating an amazing lighting rig — replacing a bunch of standard lighting tools with over 100 of Robe’s smaller, brighter, lighter ROBIN series fixtures — Pointe, LEDBeam 100s and LEDWash 1200s — all supplied by VER in Los Angeles.

For each tour:
- 96 x ROBIN® 100 LEDBeam™
- 8 x ROBIN® 1200 LEDWash™
- 8 x ROBIN® Pointe®

Distributor:
- Robe Lighting Inc.
- Controllux

The featured vocalists for 2013 were Michael Kiske (Helloween), Joey Belladonna (Anthrax), Chuck Billy (Testament), Joacim Cans (Hammerfall), Udo Dirkscheider (ex-Accept) and Floor Jansen from ReVamp and Nightwish.

Lighting this exciting and eclectic full-on mix of metal mayhem was LD Nick van Balen, based in The Hague, The Netherlands… an experienced designer with a particular penchant for lighting the various genres of rock music.

He lit the 2013 Christmas Metal Symphony entirely with Robe LED Wash moving lights!

The enormous versatility and scope of Robe’s LEDWash combined with van Balen’s imagination and skill produced amazing results!

Fourteen of the LEDWash 300s were rigged to the top of 1.5 metre high poles on floor bases placed around stage, with the other 30 units on three overhead trusses. Some of the upstage LEDWash 300s were on drop bars.

The front truss LEDWash 600s were used for key lighting the vocalists and washing the downstage area. The lights really increased the perceived size of the performance space, giving a ‘big rock’ look.
THE original design included 120 x Robe LEDBeam 100s and 54 x Robe Pointes. The Mexico City performance took place at the Palacio de los Deportes. The original design included 120 x Robe LEDBeam 100s and 54 x Robe Pointes. The Mexico City performance took place at the Palacio de los Deportes, with PRG México as the main lighting provider. For this show, 68 x Pointes were cross-hired from four different local companies - LED Project, Meridian Pro Audio, Fade In and Vatel Producciones - an exercise that was co-ordinated by Robe’s Mexican distributor, Vari Internacional. For the show, 30 of the Pointes were located on the floor at the front of the stage with another 24 on the floor. Riggged in the over-stage trusses were 13 x Pointes on a front truss plus another 13 on a rear truss, with the remaining 12 Pointes rigged on three side trusses left and right of the stage.

José Alberto García Ramirez, Lighting Sales Engineer at Vari Internacional, commented: “The final result was fantastic because the design primarily used Pointes as a base from which numerous special effects could be created right through the show”. The trend of receiving specifications from international LDs asking for Robe equipment is growing constantly in Mexico. “Seeing the brand requested by LDs working worldwide is always a boost as it reinforces the investment value for rental companies... which, then generates more sales of Robe products,” explains Alberto.

Thanks to all the hard work by Vari over the last two and a half years of representing Robe, there is now a far greater knowledge and huge interest in the Czech brand’s products in Mexico. “Robe’s growth has been exponential and gets stronger all the time. Over a recent weekend there were around 310 Robe fixtures in action on a non-notification show in Mexico City,” he elucidated.

Leading DJ and music producer Armin van Buuren presented his amazing ‘Armin Only Intense’ show in Mexico City with a lighting design by Marc Heinz that was programmed and operated by The Art of Light from the Netherlands.

Distributor: Vari Internacional

Photo Credit: © Marc van der Aa

Armin van Buuren’s global “Intense” tour has already visited several countries in Europe and Asia as well as the United States and Mexico, and continues to Australia, South Africa, Russia, Brazil and the Czech Republic.
**USA\n**

The Cyclone units - a product developed by Robe after an initial design idea by Warner - were supplied by Theatrical Media Services of Omaha, Nebraska.

The functionality of the Cyclone is - as the name suggests - a high-powered LED wash light with inbuilt DMX controlled fan, and Warner was quite literally “blown away” by the fact that he used four for the first time on the tour!

The perimeter ring of LEDs have a zoom of 8 - 63 degrees, and the variable speed fan in the centre can be controlled from 0 - 100%. The LED ring and fan are controlled via separate channels, allowing maximum flexibility in terms of control and programming, making this fixture a very versatile one, said with sound environmental credentials.

Warner specifically likes being able to individually control the LEDs, which can be mapped to create colour chases, strobe effects, etc., “Robe has made some really awesome effects,” he states, which are pre-loaded in the fixture’s DMX profile.

The four Cyclones were on custom stands behind the artists, with a hazer for each one built into the set piece. They were used in every song, with some cues running the fan at either 25, 50 or 100 percent depending on the desired effect, and 10 percent being a ‘standard’ setting to prevent haze build up in any one area.

Lighting Designer Scott Warner used four ROBIN Cyclone™ fixtures for the award-winning Swedish DJ duo, Icona Pop’s opening slot on the U.S. leg of Miley Cyrus’s much anticipated “Bangerz” world tour.

**UNITED KINGDOM\n**

The ROBIN MMX Spots and ROBIN LEDWash 600s were the backbone of the rig.

The design was based around the famous Hackney Peace Memorial mural backdrop, created for stage using a special new technique involving two images, one on the back and one on the front of the cloth - representing day and night versions of the main image.

Specific lighting treatments ensured it glowed in the dark or shimmered in ‘daylight’… just like stained glass windows, enhancing the whole carnivalesque/sound system vibe, complete with scenic orange speaker fronts cladding the risers.

The lighting rig was based on three overhead trusses and six vertical truss towers on floor bases onstage.

The Robes were scattered on the mid and rear overhead trusses and over the stage. Both the mid and back trusses featured six MMX Spots and six LEDWash 600s.

Gaskell has been using various Robe fixtures in his work for some time. He says, “The LEDWash 600s are excellent. They are very bright and the individual ring control is really useful.”

With only two trucks on the tour, the 34 x LEDWash 600s cased were a tidy pack and very expedient on space.

All lighting kit for the latest Rudimental UK tour was supplied by west London rental specialist Colour Sound Experiment.
The initiative was co-ordinated by Hansjorg Schmidt, Programme Director for Lighting Design at the Kent based college and Ashley Lewis and Petra Sefton from Robe UK in Northampton. It was supported by rental company Siyan and console manufacturer, Avolites.

Says Hansjorg, “With Robe and Siyan involved this year, the students had a much larger lighting rig to work on and a fantastic opportunity to test drive the absolute latest Robe kit and work with someone of Dave’s calibre and experience”.

The equipment included Pointes, LEDWash 600s, MMX Spots, MMX Blades, LEDBeam 100s and CycFX 8s, all from Robe’s ROBIN range.

Robe teamed up with Lighting Designer/Director Dave ‘Bickie’ Lee and made the latest moving light technology available for ‘The Concert Lighting Project’, a practical module taken by students on the BA (Hons) Lighting Design course at leading UK theatre and performance college, Rose Bruford.


They were mentored for a week by Bickie, whose CV includes One Direction, Westlife and JLS – and then had to design, programme and run their own lightshows with real bands and a live audience as the project culminated in a real gig at Rose Bruford’s 150 capacity Rose Theatre.

The students are preparing to present their lightshows this weekend and are expected to impress the judges with their design and programming skills. The project is a part of their third year module and the aim is to design, programme and run a live gig with a real audience as the final module.

Three bands performed – heavy metal headliners Affluenza, supported by two acoustic acts, Ollie Brennan and Chapter Eleven and the 2014 Concert Lighting Project was a huge success.
Stage ~

UNITED KINGDOM

The core of the rig was floor based on eight vertical trussing towers with Pointes rigged on top of six of them, together with 18 x ROBIN LEDBeam100s. Six ROBIN LEDWash 600s - three per side - graced the most downstage pair of towers providing low level front light skimming across the stage, described by Smiffy as “Absolutely awesome!”

The upstage fixtures produced a myriad of mind-boggling fast-and-furious effects, and the downstage LEDWash 600s were a perfect front lighting solution. In spite of all the chaos happening onstage... it was important to see the band.

For the larger gigs on the itinerary, Siyan also supplied a back truss with another six Pointes and nine additional LEDWash 600s.

For a compact rig - and considering the flash-tastic, full-on pace of the show - the Robe fixtures really helped keep the visual pictures exciting right through, and he even held some surprise looks back for the encores thanks to highly detailed programming!

Smiffy admits to being “Blown away” by the Pointes, which he first used on the Conor Maynard tour at the end of 2013. “I am amazed by their speed - and they were perfect for this show with everything at full-tilt all the time”.

The lighting rig was based on three overhead 40 foot trusses with four T-pipe sections rigged between the backdrops on the upstage one, together with eight vertical truss towers on the deck, and the moving lights were distributed between these, with additional Pointes and LEDBeam100s underneath the riser grills.

“I love using Robe fixtures” he declares, “They are versatile, reliable and deliver the punch I need.” He adds that he’s always interested in what Robe will develop next, appreciating the company’s penchant for innovation.

The biggest technical challenge on the UK tour was creating a scalable rig that would look great in the larger venues like Brixton Academy, and that could be “tastefully reduced” to fit properly into some of the smaller ones – retaining full visual impact!

UNITED KINGDOM

Popular American punk pop band All Time Low took the UK by storm on their “A Love Like...” tour, and part of the WOW factor for their energetic and uplifting performances was the lighting design created by Boston based LD Jeff Maker.

LIGHTING for the UK tour was supplied by Leeds based rental company Zig Zag and included over 80 Robe moving lights!

Parnelli-nominated Maker’s stage design was based on four different backdrop reveals – a budget-friendly strategy to bring multi-layered dynamics to the stage and the pacey set. It was the first time he’d used Pointes on a tour, but he was thrilled to discover how they “dramatically transformed the set... creating more interest between scenes, with additional Pointes and LEDWash100s underneath the catwalk.”

“I love using Robe fixtures but discover, “They are reliable, robust and deliver the results needed”. The only bad news - they always increased in weight which will slowly wear out the equipment and need more attention for the tour. The biggest technical challenge on the UK tour was creating a scalable rig that would look great in the height venues like the Brixton Academy, and the Pointes could be “beautifully reduced” as you drop down to some of the smaller ones – retaining full visual impact!”
A massive part of creating the “electro-awesome” experience is ensuring that production values are high and that the design and technical elements of the show are equally as spectacular and memorable as the music!

Nathan Almeida from East Coast Lighting & Production Services (ECLPS) has had the honour, for the past eight years, of ensuring that all the energy and magic coming from the stage reaches right out and touches everyone in the audience… and this year he had Robe moving lights for GrooveBoston’s amazing ‘Vitality’ tour.

GrooveBoston stages legendary dance parties and produces an annual college campus tour taking its unique, fun-loving atmosphere on the road!

USA

Stage ~

USA

Guadalajara, Mexico based rental company Procolor purchased over 250 Robe moving lights specified by Belgian Lighting Designer Alan Corthout and Ignace d’Haese for the world tour of Mexican superstar Alejandro Fernandez.

The ‘Vitality’ theme embraced life, liveliness and a natural state of euphoria. To escape a conventional trussing configuration and standard stage design, the set featured multiple curves, unique arches and circles with ‘claws’ reaching out above the crowd.

The lighting rig featured Robe Pointes, LEDWash 1200s and LEDWash 600s, supplied by ECLPS.

“Pointes were definitely my favourite fixtures on this tour,” enthused Almeida.

The light weight of the Pointes and the LEDWashes was another huge benefit, especially for ground supported shows. 

Procolor’s CEO Junior Bebi had been considering a Robe investment for some time… and then they landed the technical production contract for the monster Fernandez project, scheduled to run for at least two years.

Barba is also part of Fernandez’s production team. Impressed with Corthout’s work on other high profile Latin American artists including Juanes, Nigel Black and Juan Luis Guerra, he asked him to design lighting for the tour.

Corthout teamed up with designer Ignace d’Haese and creative practice Arf & Yes (also from Belgium) to produce the show’s unique aesthetic and develop a number of custom elements.

Very serendipitously, Corthout and d’Haese had also specified an ALL Robe moving light rig following demos from Controllux! 

The 95 Pointes are built into lighting pods integrated with a Kinesys motion control system by automation specialists Wicreations. Each Pod carries three Pointes, and 30 pods - each in drops of five deep - form six moving elements which change positions constantly - up, down and cross-tracking - throughout the show.

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Stage ~

THE lighting kit for the one off show was delivered by leading Israeli rental company Argaman Systems from Rosh Hayain, and included 32 x Robe Pointes, 76 x LEDBeam 100s and 16 x LEDWash 600s – all from Robe’s ROBIN Series. Some of the additional Robe fixtures needed to service this show were supplied to Argaman by Danor Rental. Sister company Danor Theatre and Studio Systems is also Robe’s very active Israeli distributor, and Danor’s own Erez Hadar was at the gig to see the lights in action and appreciate Hurst’s eye-popping lightshow first-hand, which matches the incredible energy and craziness of the music!

The structural element of the stage design – for both the festival and the full size/own show versions – was based on an arched aircraft hangar like concept, with Argaman reproducing a variation of it for this gig!

The full design involved 68 x Pointes – usually there are 32 on the main arch, 18 dotted around the rest of the roof, with six on the floor and eight on a 5 metre diameter circular truss above Liam’s keyboard/computer riser which is the hub of the music.

Says Hurst on the Pointe, “It’s an absolutely great fixture and I use every feature of it in this show – beam, spot, wash and effects – to the absolute max!”

“Pointes give me multiple options and are absolutely ideal for a show like the Prodigy which is completely manic from the first to last notes – you get through a massive amount of looks and scenes in a show like this – far more than normal – and no-one wants to see any repeats!”

He likes the brightness, movement, gobos and prisms of the Pointe in particular. The units on the largest arch onstage are used to bring a Prodigy-esque Ferris wheel effect to the stage which is highly effective in elevating everyone to planet Prodigy!

The LEDBeam 100 has been a part of Hurst’s Prodigy lightshow since 2012. Again it’s the speed, brightness and the fact that you can pack literally hundreds of the little fixtures into the smallest spaces that make it perfect for creating more Prodigy lighting madness!

LEDBeam 100s were used on six upstage/downstage ‘finger’ trusses on the design which are slightly raked for additional depth. The sheer numbers of them bring some great WOW factors to the equation.

The LEDWash 600s Hurst used in Tel Aviv as he always does, for his band and stage base washes and for firing up the backdrop.

“Tel Aviv was fantastic!” enthuses Hurst, “The rig looked great, the crew from Argaman Systems were first class and the audience were well up for it – it was great all round!”

Prodigy took their unique full-on maelstrom of mega-loud psycho-rock-rave to Israel, making some seriously deafening noise as the knife-edge excitement of their live show experience shook the Trade Fairs Centre in Tel Aviv to its foundations, complete with a lighting spectacle designed by Andy Hurst featuring over 120 Robe moving lights which helped to completely blow everyone’s minds!
IT'S been a glorious summer festival season for Robe almost everywhere in both hemispheres and whatever the weather, the sun has always been shining in Robe-world!

The most awesome festival project so far was working with David Guetta's production team at Global Gathering in the UK, where our Pointes and MMX Spots were on LD Jonathan 'Leggy' Armstrong's spec… and he was also lucky enough to be among the first BMFL users - all of which launched David Guetta's spectacular new live show which continues on its world tour!

Robe fixtures were also in abundance at numerous other high profile festivals across the UK and Europe including Glastonbury, Creamfields, Sonisphere, Dance Valley, We Are FSTVL, Love Saves the Day, SW4, Outlook… the list is massive.

Arena 13 of the incredible Tomorrowland experience was another BMFL showcase, where the mega-bright new fixtures thrilled several club concepts, expressing themselves for the duration of the two-weekend festival.

In Latin America, the home of numerous huge multi-day festival events, once again Robe is a popular choice of moving lights… in Brazil in particular! We also had a big presence at the Vendimia (Grape Harvest) Festival in Mendoza, Argentina which celebrates the hallowed world of wine and wine making.

Stage ~

MAGZ, Head of Lighting at Carnival City, had a free rein to create the design for Tamia, and started with the music, which embraces multiple genres. The Robe fixtures in the Big Top are part of the house lighting rig and were used for various different tasks in these shows. The design included four vertical truss sections upstage for extra lighting positions and outdoor monitors, plus side stage trusses in the air and a front truss.

The MMX Spots were used for their fabulous gobos, for creating beam technology looks and accent lighting, with the LEDWash 300s and LEDBeam 100s also in use.

The Pointes were used for effects, gobos, beams and movement, the ROBIN® 100 LEDBeam™ for a range of single colour effects, the LEDWash 300s for a range of effects, and the ROBIN® 300 and 600E Washes for general stage and band lighting.

Canadian singer/songwriter Tamia played two shows at the Carnival City Big Top Arena in Johannesburg with lighting designed by Magz Schoeman and Robe moving lights right under the action, including the venue's new ROBIN Pointes.

The StarShowers and some Sussex, some 1000s andUniverses in the middle section - between the stage and the crowd - were also in use.

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On the top section of each upright were MMX Spots and Rows, and on the middle sections - between the stage and the crowd - were also in use.

The MMX Spots were used for their fabulous gobos, for creating beam technology looks and accent lighting, with the LEDWash 300s and LEDBeam 100s also in use.

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Spin-off effect was the opportunity to use Pointes in a show and demonstration their lights as "Spectacular!"
The 56th edition of the world famous Vina del Mar International Song Festival in Chile was staged in the city of the same name in the Valparaiso region of Chile, complete with 48 x Pointes mounting at the Quinta Vergara’s amphitheatre.

The six-night event featured a great line-up of local and international artists like Ricky Martin, Laura Pausini, La Ley, Ana Gabriel, Carlos Vives, Rod Stewart and many others.

Full lighting production, media server support, lighting design and realisation was provided – for the fourth consecutive year - by Santiago-based Producciones Órbita.

Spanish LD Luis Pastor explained that all the creative processes for the event were at local TV channel Chilevisión, the Festival’s official broadcaster for the last four years.

At the centre of the lighting scheme this year were eight triangular truss pods on vari-speed hoists, each of which was rigged with six Pointes. These were created by Pastor to add more dynamism to the stage by providing the audience with different views in each act, and to maximise the multi-functionality of the Pointes.

The pods could be moved into various configurations above the 60 metre wide by 25 metre deep stage.

A total of 50 x Pointes were purchased by Órbita specifically for this year’s festival via Robe’s new Chilean distributor VGL from Santiago.

Alicia Lawner, one of Producciones Órbita’s directors, comments: “Luis Pastor suggested Robe’s Pointe as he had already used them and was hugely impressed”.

The 55th edition of the world famous Viña del Mar International Song Festival in Chile was staged in the city of the same name in the Valparaíso region of Chile, complete with 48 x Pointes on stage at the Quinta Vergara’s amphitheatre.

The lights were specified by the show’s Director of photography Marco Lucarelli.

The show once again captivated live and television audiences over four nights of performance.

With all the LEDWashes on stage, the whole theatre - including the audience - was lit in a ‘signature’ ambience for the Festival. Lighting was supplied by Mixer, one of Italy’s leading rental operations and a big investor in Robe.

Mixer’s CEO Walter Taietti says: “We were the first to use Robe products in Italy for all types of events including the broadcast world, the reliability is excellent and the products continue to be specified for the top shows for the great quality they bring to any production”.

The LEDBeam 100s framed the stage beautifully, positioned on the floor in a semicircle. They effectively became a part of the stage scenery and were perfect for creating fast and colourful audience-facing effects on camera.

Their small size and light weight made them near-invisible, so positioning them right in the foreground did not interrupt any sightlines.

With all the LEDWashes on stage, the whole theatre - including the audience - was lit in a ‘signature’ ambience for the Festival. Lighting was supplied by Mixer, one of Italy’s leading rental operations and a big investor in Robe.

Mixer’s CEO Walter Taietti says: “We were the first to use Robe products in Italy for all types of events including the broadcast world, the reliability is excellent and the products continue to be specified for the top shows for the great quality they bring to any production”. 
GUETTA’S Lighting Designer Jonathan ‘Leggy’ Armstrong jumped at the chance to use them as part of the lightshow, which also included over 100 other Robe fixtures.

Eight BMFLs were delivered to site – via HSL, main lighting vendor for the event - and positioned four a side on the PA wings, which enabled them to bring dramatic low-level audience effects to the party as well as tight looks firing across the stage.

With 24 x MMX Spots already on the rig as their profiles, the BMFLs were used to expand the rig out onto the wing space, making the whole performance area in The Hangar - a Kayam tented arena - look and feel even larger than it already was.

Leggy’s first impression of the BMFLs were “BRIGHT!!!!” He also quickly noticed the speed of the zoom and focus. “Really zippy,” he enthuses, adding, “And the gobos stayed in focus all the way down to a narrow spot.”

“The fixture was still bright as a wide zoom, and when irised down, it produced a nice tight beam that was still extremely bright. The pan and tilt were surprisingly nippy for a big fixture and, as always with Robe, there was a good selection of gobos ideal for creating dynamic and different aerial effects.”

Leggy has always been a big fan of the ColorSpot 2500E AT which was Robe’s ‘first generation’ of high powered moving light, so the BMFLs - a ‘next generation’ product in every sense of the word - is something of huge interest.

“As Robe has become a major industry player over the last decade, the company has shown an ability to refine and improve with each genre of fixture. The BMFL now fills a gap at the large end of the spectrum, so every scale of show - from massive to minuscule - can now be lit with Robe units.”

Leggy also specified 24 x Robe Pointes and 36 x MMX Spots – from Robe’s ROBIN Series – plus 52 x LEDForce 18 LED Pars to offer the creative scope he needed to keep the dynamic and highly animated performance moving and grooving.

The launch of David Guetta’s amazing new live show at the 2014 Global Guetteme EDM extravaganza in the UK was another high profile event at which the new BMFL moving lights were trialled during the summer.

There’s no doubt that the Guetta live show is the major event of the summer festival season in the UK, and the BMFLs were delivered to site in time to be integrated into the lighting design. With only limited programming time available at Global Gathering, the BMFLs have been integrated into the show as Leggy had been looking forward to using them again on a vast arena show and his various other projects.

These Robe fixtures will continue on the spec for the superstar DJ and music producer’s new live show as Guetta continues playing worldwide – five countries a week is common - always using local productions in the closest thing you can get to a non-stop tour!

“We are finding more and more Robe everywhere,” states Leggy, who crafts Guetta’s live visual spectacle in close collaboration with Video Designer Ben Brett.

With only limited programming time available at Global Gathering, Leggy is really looking forward to using them again on a vast arena show and his various other projects.

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The fourth Lollapalooza Chile event was staged in the capital Santiago and attended by over 100,000 music fans at O’Higgins Park, who enjoyed a variety of musical offerings over six stages and two days.

CHILE

CHILE

CHILE

LIGHTING equipment provider Producciones Órbita - for the stages and general park-wide environmental lighting – made the most of their recently purchased Pointes.

Local Lighting Director Felipe Serey created a production design and adapted the various artists’ plots on most of the stages, based around the design of each night’s headline band.

“This is one of the highest profile music festivals in the world, and for us in Chile, it is one of the most important ones of the year,” elucidated Felipe. “Lollapalooza 2014 was a challenging project due to the many overnight changeovers needed to accommodate each band’s requirements.”

The Pointes were part of the fixed rig on some stages, while on others they were added at the request of LDs. LD Steve Rose from French rockers Phoenix, asked for 16 x Pointes that were rigged on a truss above the LED screen in the middle of the Claro Stage.

Another band utilising Pointes in their performance was the Red Hot Chili Peppers, with 12 fixtures located upstage behind the band also on the Claro Stage.

“It was good to have the Pointes here… I have used them on many other shows and they have always worked well!” said LD Scott Holthaus.

The LG G2 Stage had 16 Pointes installed permanently over both days.

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MAJOR international circus acts were presented in the show produced by Golden Production Srl to thousands of delighted circus fans as the event celebrated its 30th season. Tomasino takes up the story, “I chose to combine these two excellent Robe products because I knew their potential was exactly what I needed’.

He's used LEDWash 600s many times before on tours, concerts and musicals, however it was the first time incorporating Robe’s new multi-purpose Pointe fixture into his art. With a sophisticated but clear and well defined lighting design, Tomasino kept the Golden International Festival action highlighted and right at the centre of everyone’s attention, in the process by creating a completely new lighting concept from anything previously seen in ‘typical’ circus shows… positioning most of the lights at floor level.

The 14 x Pointes and 14 x LEDWash 600s around the perimeter of the ring were used to reveal the acts and add extra drama to their shows. Another five LEDWash 600s and 10 x Pointes were up in the air on trussing for high backlighting effects, with the remaining five LEDWash 600s rigged on the front truss and generally washed the whole performance space. The 14 x LEDWashes on the floor filled the entire space with colour and panache.

The 14 LEDWashes around the ring were used for general scene-setting functions and also as ‘practicals’.

An all-Robe moving light rig took its place in the ring for the 2013 Golden International Circus at the Theater Tendastriscie in Rome, with Lighting designer Massimo Tomasino adding his own touches of magic!

A variety of Robe products were specified for the huge open-air main stage from different rental companies including Vidal, Arte Sonoro y Visual S.A. from Mendoza, and the production Lighting Designer was Mariano Velazco.

The onboard wireless DMX facilities in the ROBIN fixtures really helped the crew during setup, saving literally hours of time in running data cables.

Some lights were rigged on trusses over 20 metres high, specifically the MMX WashBeams which were focused on front and key lighting.

The LEDForces, with their multichip colour mixing and their high brightness are unique to the local market and the CityFlexes showed their versatility when used as footlights on the main stage, while the LEDWash 1200s once again proved themselves as excellent all-purpose lights!

A grandMA2 network - running 17 DMX universes - was used for lighting control throughout the venue.

Around 120,000 people enjoyed four incredible nights of dynamic entertainment in the 2014 Fiesta Nacional de la Vendimia (National Grape Harvest Festival) at the Frank Romero Day amphitheater located in Mendoza, Argentina.

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TWENTY-TWO BMFLs were used to light Area 13 at this year’s festival, which was hosted by a number of club concepts over the six days and two weekends of the event. The BMFLs were positioned left and right of the stage, with six on stage behind the DJ booth and 12 dotted around the space on drop arms from the ceiling structure – so the coverage was comprehensive across the entire venue which also featured plenty of distinctive, funky décor.

With around 12 hours of continuous full-on operation for each day of Tomorrowland, it was imperative that the lighting offered maximum variety, a big challenge with lighting these events – especially for audiences who expect to be constantly dazzled by the visuals and the surrounding environment – and one where the BMFL delivered spectacularly!

Robe’s just launched BMFL moving light fixtures were live-and-direct at arguably the most famous EDM festival experience in Europe – Tomorrowland – staged over two consecutive weekends in July at Boom in Belgium.

Photo Credit: © Louise Stickland

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Festivals

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Almost 100 Robe moving lights were utilised by rental company Luzbel Iluminações for the Main Stage at the 16th Festival de Verão (Summer Festival) in Salvador, Brazil.

The fixtures were supplied by VER, and it underlined a real confidence in the brand and its reputation to commit to so many Pointes on such a high profile show.

“We wanted something new that offered more than just a beam light with basic functionality!” explained Foucheux. Before making that decision, several lighting designers and programmers had recommended the Pointe. “You can use it as a beam, as a wash, as a spot or as an effects fixture… it’s massively flexible and this seemed a great opportunity!”

Around 40 – 50 of the Pointes were rigged on trusses over the audience and on top of a social media feed ticker-tape style screen in the stadium roof. The balance were dotted all over the stage and on the LX bars, with some on the floor.

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Lighting for the edgy Royal Court Theatre (RCT) production of Tim Crouch’s ‘Adler & Gibb’ was designed by award winning and leading theatre lighting designer Natasha Chivers, who included two of Robe’s MMX Blade fixtures in her lighting scheme which were used extensively throughout the drama.

‘Adler & Gibb’ was recommended to Chivers and Jack Williams, Chief LX at the Royal Court by Matt Prentice, Head of Lighting at RADA - after they had been very successfully used on productions there. (Williams is an ex RADA student).

The MMX Blade “Ticked all the boxes,” says Williams because it is “Small, lightweight, very punchy and has great optics and shutters”… BUT, most importantly… because it’s a quiet fixture… and this is absolutely essential for any drama performance.

“Noise is our biggest issue,” he explains, which really restricts the moving lights that are appropriate for their shows. “It’s nice to be able to add the MMX Blades to a very small list!” he declares!

The RCT is one of London’s most cutting edge production houses, bringing a constant stream of new, experimental and challenging works to the capital.

This year’s Review illustrates a lively mix of theatre productions from around the world, and it’s great to see products like the ParFect and MMX Blades making inroads in this sector as well as the Actor and LEDWash series continuing their popularity. Awareness of the long term cost reductions and sustainability benefits of investing in quality LED technology were to be stringing many companies deciding in theatre and video sectors, and performance in something right at the heart of Rada in all respects.

The theatre section takes us from the fabulous Breyten Breytenbacher Theatre in Pretoria, South Africa to the world famous Edinburgh Fringe Festival - which certainly encouraged some and scuttling edges in a very special ambience in the city, across the venues in 25 days - a dozen and eight stalls products.

Last year Robe supplied moving lights to all eight of Estonia’s state run theatres and this year we revisited some of these houses to find the London much appreciated by all those designing shows and using the theatre, as well as its public being enthralling the many dramas of theatre - from school to experimental - that Estonia has to offer.

Estonia, another country with a strong tradition of theatre and performance, and one where Robe has a long standing relationship with the city is Dollene in Estonia - an establishment that the product range and the attention being put to it attributes the guarantees. Bean’s technical excellence, reliability, functionality, etc., are fundamental to lighting theatre shows.

Robe has also had the opportunity of collaborating with some leading technical theatre training academies this year, including RADA and Rose Bruford College in the UK. The RADA association led to an exciting introduction to the Royal Court Theatre in London, a tremendous and productive. This year we revisited...
THE overall theme of the show - inspired by some of the grand cabarets of Paris but with a definitely space age twist - gave him copious scope for imaginative lighting design - and he chose 12 x Pointes to be right at the core of the lighting rig.

Working closely with Set Designer Sánchez Cuerda, Ramos also designed the show’s video elements.

The largest scenery piece, a giant robotic female body, was one of the basic starting points for developing the lighting.

The Pointes are rigged to the side walls of the theatre at different heights to give powerful, dynamic back and side lighting with plenty of scope for creating different scenes and lighting states, all adding to the visual extravagance unfolding onstage!

“The Pointes have been absolutely brilliant,” declares Ramos. Their effects are really noticeable and the fixtures have been right at the essence of the design, helping to create a series of totally different looks and unique atmospheres for each scene and musical number.

“The Pointe has given me a massive range of effects, from laser beams to flowers, from minimal gobos to great big wide washes... I think we have used virtually every feature of the Pointe over the course of the show, and this is why I chose to use them!” he enthuses.

Lighting and video equipment was provided by ASL Light Solutions, and Robe is distributed in Spain by San Sebastian based EES.
BASED on the music of 32 hits by Spanish supergroup Mecano, this new second version of Hoy No Me Puedo Levantar opened in Madrid’s Coliseum Theatre, complete with a fantastic lighting design by Carlos Torrijos – featuring amongst others - 24 x Pointes. It was the first time Torrijos has incorporated Robe products into his work. He states, “I was looking for the best moving head beam light on the market… and after trying and comparing a few options I chose the Pointe”.

The first edition of the production played for five years including two touring versions earning massive critical acclaim and commercial success, so the pressure was really on to make this version even better, resulting in a technically complex and ambitious show.

The specific style of lighting he has brought to this production is a real mix of theatre and rock ‘n’ roll.

The 24 Pointes were rigged on LX bar 6, a position specially created for this production and using the fixtures enabled Torrijos to produce many specific effects and lighting environments that would not have been possible using any other light source, which has impressed others on the creative team.

The Pointes were supplied to the show by ASL Light Solutions. Hoy No Me Puedo Levantar (HNMPL - Today I Can’t Get Up) is a hugely successful Spanish ‘jukebox musical’ from Drive Productions telling the story of two struggling young musicians surviving in Madrid against a backdrop of drugs, AIDS and other social phenomena and chaos in the 1980s and immediate aftermath of Franco’s collapsed fascist regime.

AFFECTIONATELY known as ‘The Breytie’, the new lights are part of a technical upgrade delivered by Johannesburg-based DWR Distribution, Robe’s South African distributor.

The refit was coordinated by the Breytie’s Technical Manager Wandile Mgcodo and DWR’s Eazy Moeketsi and Dave Whitehouse.

The Breytie is a practical training ground for TUT’s Performing Arts & Technology students, and a showcase for the technical and creative skills and services that they can provide to the industry.

The first Robe products purchased by The Breytie were ColorSpot 250s, which are still going strong after several years’ active service. With these and Wandile’s previous experience at the SA State Theatre in Pretoria - also a big investor in Robe moving lights - he knew it was a well-made, quality, reliable brand.

However, it was only when three LEDWash 600s were delivered and in use at the Breytie that he really began to realize their full potential as creative lighting tools, and following this… he purchased nine of the fixtures.

“I’m impressed with the nice even zooming, the smooth dimming curve… and the fantastic colour options are phenomenal,” he stated.

The LEDWash 600s make everyone on the lighting team’s lives infinitely easier as just one fixture can be used for multiple effects and tasks when previously they would have had to rig a dozen!

Energy efficiency and practicality topped the list for the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) when Robe ROBIN LEDWash 600s were chosen for the renowned Breytenbach Theatre in Pretoria, South Africa.

However, it was only when three LEDWash 600s were delivered and in use at the Breytie that he really began to realize their full potential as creative lighting tools, and following this… he purchased nine of the fixtures.
IT is also home to Slovenian Contemporary Dance Company EnKnapGroup. Named in honour of the volunteers who sacrificed their lives in the fight for freedom during the Spanish Civil War, the venue was originally built in 1981 and extensively refurbished in 2009. It features a main hall with up to 400 seats and a 60-80 capacity flexible studio space with a lively programme of performing arts designed to be widely accessible. It stages around 400 shows and performances—a year.

Luka Curk, the venue’s Technical Manager, instigated the ParFect 100 purchase, with the units supplied by Robe’s proactive Slovenian distributor, MK Light Sound. They were delivered with the full set of available diffusion lenses—10, 20 and 40 degrees—and gel frames and they are the first professional LED fixtures that the theatre has purchased, so it was a big move! They were chosen for their smooth, bright output and light weight explains Curk. At 4.2 Kg without barn doors, the ParFects can easily be rigged on the manual fly bars in their main house.

Looking to the future and potential moving light purchases, they also decided to go with Robe as the entire current range of static and moving LED fixtures are colour calibrated to match one another.

The first 12 Robe ParFect 100 fixtures in Slovenia were purchased by the Španski Borci Culture Centre in Ljubljana, a high profile venue run by EN-KNAP Productions which is the largest privately-managed facility for cultural activities in the country.

Robe Lighting is working with London’s world-famous Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA), supplying technical equipment and resources for a term of this year, in an arrangement driven by Josef Valchar, Robe s.r.o.’s CEO, Ashley Lewis, Robe UK’s Key Account Manager for Film, TV & Theatre and Matt Prentice, Head of Lighting at RADA.

RADA has taken delivery of a set of different Robe products selected by theatre head of lighting Matt Prentice to change productions following a visit to Robe’s HQ in the Czech Republic.

This includes DLS Profiles, DLF Washes, LEDWash 600s and 30K Floods—all of the ROBIN range. There is an emphasis on LED technology and its benefits for long-term sustainability and lowered running costs, but physical performance lighting is being retained and barn doors are still in use.

The design team at RADA also recently employed a mix of moving lights, dynamic designs and technical equipment specialists, and has a strong network of industry partners, which provides training students with strong links with the industry connected with acting.

The representation purchase around £110,000 over a five-year period covering agenting costs and maintenance, and replaces a tandem arrangement from M-Vision that was integral to theatre studies.

The production team at RADA are using the MK Series of equipment supplied by Robe UK’s Technical Stagecraft Team at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art’s annual Summer of Light expenditure.

RADA offers vocational training for actors, stage managers, directors, designers and technical stagecraft specialists, and has built an outstanding reputation for excellence, offering the best possible teaching facilities together with strong links with the industries associated with its graduates.

The organisation produces around 18 of its own shows per year embracing multiple performance genres, and students on several courses take lighting modules that are integral to their studies.

The first production for the new Robes was “The Witches of Edmonton” staged at the Jerwood Vanbrugh Theatre and lit by third year Technical Theatre & Stage Management student, Peter Small.
LAST year, the venue received 90 fixtures to upgrade its lighting system - part of a wider scheme to upgrade lighting across all of Estonia’s state run theatres.

The theatre’s main hall has 900 seats and its studio space accommodates up to 200, producing around 20 productions a year. Of which will be new, and the venues in Estonia for touring theatre, the use of which is undergoing a period of modernisation, they produce a number of smaller shows and events, which are successful in bringing in audiences.

Lighting Manager Rene Liivamägi works with a department of four, overseeing the venue’s busy schedule. He is delighted with the new fixtures.

He used Robe products before whilst working as a freelance LD and really likes the LEDWash series in particular.

Having the Robes in-house has made a “massive difference” to the quality of lighting that can be created for Ugala’s shows which are rated among the best in the country.

They replaced a set of antiquated old PC spot moving lights which only had four colour options and needed manual focusing and moving!

With RoBe in the house, a whole new world of “choice and flexibility” has been unleashed!

The Ugala Theatre amidst the pastoral, leafy green environs of Viljandi, 150 kilometers south of Tallinn, was founded in 1920 and is one of Estonia’s oldest professional drama theatres. When built, it was also the most modern theatre in Estonia.

This year, the Pleasance celebrates its 30th anniversary at the heart of the Festival action, running 23 pop-up venues and an average of 10 cutting edge shows a day in each one - which is a lot of theatre!

All the technicals were overseen by Pleasance Technical Operations manager Matt Britten and lighting by Head of Lighting Dom Knight, who also designed lighting for most of the venues.

This year, they again collaborated closely with local sales, rental and installation company Black Light who supplied most of the fixtures needed site-wide for the Festival month, which included LEDWash 600s, MMX Spots, MMX Blades and Pointes. These were distributed between the various larger sites and venues as specified by Matt and Dom.

This version of the popular show was produced by The World Festival and the lighting - co-ordinated by Dom - featured LEDWash 600s and MMX WashBeams, all used extensively throughout the show in various arrangements and all other navigation skills.
Swedish Lighting Designer Palle Palmé returned to the Big House at the Vanemuine Theatre in Tartu, Estonia to light the production of the Lloyd Webber/Rice hit musical ‘Evita’ directed by Georg Malvius.

Palmé only used around half of the available LEDWash 1200s for Evita because the set design was neat and concise, very large quantities of fixtures were not needed. Twelve LEDWash 1200s were used for backlight, eight for side lighting and four as front lighting.

He worked closely with Set & Costume Designer Ellen Cairns throughout the tech and rehearsal period to craft an appropriate visuality for the show. It included a lot of harsh, cold back-lighting for the classic mass scenes with Evita and Peron on the balcony, when the soloists are highlighted by follow spots and plenty of smoke. The 20 MMX Spots were the real workhorses of the show with numerous different gobos produced by them. Palmé says, “It’s like coming into a new world!”

"Oh what a show!"
ITS transformation into the bustling performance space offers a main auditorium (Veliki Oder) for 273 children and 182 adults completed four years ago. This summer a brand new exterior Letni Auditorium was added to the back of the building, seating 522 people.

In a streak of design genius, the outdoor auditorium and the indoor theatre share the same stage space - accessed via a large set of roller shutter doors between the two spaces.

The theatre’s lighting rig currently features 37 Robe fixtures. Many were pre-specified when Technical Director Jason Smith arrived four years ago, a decision that he was very happy with.

The original kit included seven ColorSpot 575E ATs, eight ColorWash 575E AT Zooms, four REDWash 2•36s and eight ColorMix 250s to which they added another two REDWashes.

Lutkovno Gledališče stages around seven productions a week – last year’s total was 340 shows between the main room and their smaller venue.

Maribor’s Lutkovno Gledališče (Puppet Theatre) sits on the fabulous site of an old Minorite monastery dating back to 1271, nestling down by the Drava River in Slovenia’s picturesque second city.

GOOD lighting is a key to creating a great atmosphere in any environment and clubs are definitely a space where it can really make or break the vibe and how comfortable people can feel in a space – whether it’s a regular haunt or a one-off visit.

The featured projects here are completely diverse, and all benefit from Robe’s comprehensive product range. The brand is gaining traction in the club world due not just to the choice and flexibility of fixtures, but also the robust build quality which is ideal for long hours of operation in tough, hot, smoky conditions.

Legendary Ibiza superclub Space kicked off its summer season in style with a light show that included Pointes and LEDWash 300s bringing extra glamour to the mix, while another space based on the European club circuit – Versus in Belgium – reopened in a new permanent venue with a large roof of Robes.

We have the first projects from Trinidad and the Republic of Suriname to feature in an edition of the Robe Review, both installed by the leading Trinidad lighting, technical design, sales and installation company Streamline Systems, who came up with solutions involving an effervescent combination of LEDBeam 100s and Anolis products.

In Australia, Elite Sound & Lighting proposed an adaptable lighting rig for bands and club nights at Canberra’s largest club the Academy, resulting in a dazzling rig of Pointes, DLS Spots and LEDWash 600s – which is three times the size of the old rig but draws half the power. In the U.S., vibey nightlife brand Blue Martini has recently invested in MiniMes across several sites for video projection and dancefloor effects, where they join a number of other Robe and Anolis products.
VERSUZ has re-opened in a fabulous new 3000 capacity venue with even more style and buzz plus the very latest sound, lighting and video technology including a large and spectacular moving light rig from Robe on three massive custom elliptical trusses made by Wicreations.

With over 140 moving lights this is one of the largest Robe club installations to date and arguably the most spectacular in Belgium! Yves Smolders is one of the three owners who sought a fully flexible solution that would change the whole shape and feel of the club, complete with a level of technology that would set Versuz apart. He approached Robe’s Benelux distributor Controllux - where his account was handled by Bram De Clerk - after conducting extensive research ahead of making his final decision on which brand. Robe came highly recommended, and “I was very impressed,” he states.

The new moving lights are primarily in the main room – one of three distinctive Versuz areas. He received some great service from Robe during the process, which included discussing his plans with Robe’s CEO Josef Valchar, whose advice was very helpful.

VERSUZ in Hasselt, Belgium is a major club phenomenon in Benelux, regularly attracting a devoted crowd of EDM enthusiasts from Belgium, The Netherlands and many regulars from France and Germany who used to frequent the club’s previous home.

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Valverde also programmed and operated lighting for this opening show, which included 42 Robe moving lights. The lights were spaced out to ensure that they were evenly spread throughout the venue, with spotlights on the main stage and washlights on the smaller rooms.

Iconic award-winning Ibiza superclub Space Ibiza launched its 2014 summer season in style with a 10 hour party and a spectacular lighting rig designed by Eduardo Valverde, which included 42 x Robe moving lights. It’s been designed to ensure that their popular EDM club nights and visiting live artists can enjoy the very best lighting and visual experiences.

Elite’s Darren Russell proposed a design specifying fixtures to give the flexibility and variety of effects needed for long periods of operation, so the club can have a completely different look and feel according to its programme for the night.

The lights are installed on the house trusses - giving positions over the stage and part of the dancefloor - rigged so that they can have the best overall effects throughout the space, with two of the DR1s rigged on a bulkhead over the bar.

The fixtures were chosen for the near infinite variety of effects that can be created. They are used for big room looks, for washing the front, rear and sides of the stage and for feature highlights like gobos and effects. They also spotlight two enormous mirror balls for retro disco moments, and a giant rotating Space logo.

Top nightclub The Academy in Canberra, Australia is benefiting from a new Robe moving light installation supplied by locally based Elite Sound & Light. The lights are managed on the house matrix - giving producers more scope for the stage and music integration - ensuring that they can use the same lighting and visual experiences.

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The Academy is the largest club in Canberra and is right in the heart of the city. It has an 800 capacity main room and the 150 capacity Candy Bar upstairs, with a glass wall along one entire side offering a commanding view of the main club dancefloor.

The new rig is three times the size of the previous lighting system - but consumes less than half the power!
The brief for designing the lighting at Next nightclub in the Ramada Paramaribo Princess Hotel in Suriname was to make it family, fun and classy explained Michael Pereira from Streamline Systems.

The miniMes, a recent addition to Robe’s popular ROBIN line of LED fixtures, join a wide range of other Robe lights in the venues including Robe Scan 250 XTs and LEDForce 7 PARs along with a variety of Anolis products including recessed Anolis ArcSpot 170s.

Eventually Blue Martini would like to incorporate multiple miniMes into each venue nationwide. The Naples location currently has four miniMes while Fort Lauderdale has three and Miami's Brickell location has two.

The miniMes are suspended from the ceiling and used to project images onto the dance floor. They were supplied by Griffin Automation OSF and specified by owner Tom Griffin and Blue Martini’s Entertainment Director Charles Ibanez.

They were chosen for two specific reasons – video projection and dancefloor lighting effects. Ibanez, likes the reliability of Robe fixtures. They use the miniMe’s upload feature to facilitate the projection of special happy hour promotional videos. MiniMe’s ability to project custom digital content like this is “A big plus and the LED lightsource was central to our decision to purchase,” he explained.

MiniMes were introduced to Blue Martini by Robe USA’s Business Development Manager for Entertainment and Leisure, David Chesal, suggested for their cutting-edge technology and numerous marketing capabilities. “The miniMe is a great new fixture that allows Blue Martini to update their lights whilst promoting their own product,” explains Chesal.

 Leading US nightlife brand Blue Martini Lounge has introduced Robe's miniMe digital fixtures to three of its South Florida locations - in Naples, Fort Lauderdale and Miami (Brickell).

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OUR three stories from this specialist area of lighting cover North and Latin America and South Africa, all emphasising how the right lighting can influence a spiritual atmosphere.

Modern worship sessions very often utilise the lift, fall and drama produced by lighting effects to enhance the overall experience, and increasingly churches are investing in the latest lighting technologies to enhance the worship experience. In Africa they also have live bands playing and some have their own TV and internet streaming channels, so it’s essential that services are lit for camera.

In South Africa at the Christian Revival Church, the specific brief was that the lighting installation should be of sufficient quality for them to be able to stage an ‘Idols’ show — to make it all 100% real — so they called in the services of the real Idols SA LD to help deliver the design vision for their project.

At Iglesia Centro Familiar de Adoración in Paraguay — a copious space that holds up to 20,000 — they wanted the highest production values and best quality equipment, and now the fixtures are in place, everyone from the pastors, performing artists and the congregation has noticed the difference.

Christ Fellowship Church in Florida have invested in Pointes, the multi-functionality of the fixtures was exactly what they needed to work with their house band onstage and increase the impact of the services. These are just a few examples of a growing number of church and worship facility installations underway.
The recently opened 6,000 seater auditorium at the Christian Revival Church (CRC) in Silver Lakes, Pretoria, South Africa is benefitting from an all-Robe moving light rig, which was specified and installed by DWR Distribution.

DWR’s Robert Izzett was contacted by CRC’s Head of Media Clinton Powell who oversaw all the technical aspects of the project which has been three years in the making and replaces CRC’s previous temporary tented venue on the same site.

“The initial brief from CRC was for a lighting rig that would allow them to stage Idols without needing to hire in any additional equipment,” explains Izzett, adding that they were also keen on having the latest and best technology available in-house.

Thinking laterally, he decided to call on Idols SA’s real LD Joshua Cutts of Visual Frontier to consult on the basic design, and from this a specification emerged complete with Robe moving lights.

The stage is 26 metres wide and there are two straight 20 metre long trusses above, with two large curved trusses in the auditorium above the seating, flown on the impressive structural steels of the building. Lights are rigged on all of these trusses.

The need for the lighting to be adaptable and multi-purpose was paramount to the overall design as CRC features three very different styles of Sunday service to suit the different demographic of their congregation.

The first one is quite traditional, the second is more ethnic and the third is orientated towards youth members – all involving music which is often specially composed by CRC’s Musical Director Seth Winkler – and preaching, “The lighting set up for each of these is totally different,” explains Powell. There is also minimal changeover time between the services.

In addition to these Sunday Services, the lighting also had to be appropriate for camera – both IMAG relay onscreen and for broadcasting, as the Services are recorded for future use and broadcast live to other CRC campuses or streamed over the internet.

Another top SA LD Francois van der Merwe also became involved in finalising the lighting design as Josh Cutts was busy with other commitments.

It was the first time that Powell had come into contact with Robe moving lights in his work. “They are very impressive,” he comments. The LEDWash 1200s offer huge latitude and are used for anything from effects right through to practicals for the broadcasts. The Pointes he appreciates for their massive repertoire of looks which he finds “Fantastic for creating a great atmosphere”.

The feedback from the congregation has also been incredibly positive, all adding to their enjoyment of the services and events.

“It’s incredibly important to have dynamic lighting in churches today. Together with good visuals and audio it creates an inviting and harmonious environment and to continue producing WOW factors now, you absolutely have to embrace technology.”

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Since then, the search for excellence and the challenges presented by the building together with the quest to be as sustainable as possible, led them to replace the original lighting equipment with Robe LEDWash 1200s, MMX Spots and Pointes.

Mr. Jorge Miers, TV and Multimedia Director at the Iglesia CFA, explains that he, Pastor Abreu and the administration board researched thoroughly before committing to the purchase, and thanks to technical consultations with Guillermo Traverso Robe’s Regional Sales Manager for Latin America, chose the Robe brand.

Everyone embraced the idea of offering the highest level and quality of equipment and production values to give the best to the entire congregation.

The new lighting is used on the stage that hosts numerous events, concerts and worship sessions under the direction of Jorge and Technical Operator Adolfo Cardozo.

Recently Puerto Rican Christian music composer and singer Funky visited the Church and utilised the Robe setup for the first time which had a massive impact resulting in positive comments streaming in to the church’s social media channels!

Over 6,000 people gather weekly in the church during one worship session on Saturdays and two on Sundays.

CFA also stages concerts with local and international artists, artistic and theatrical productions, together with regular seminars, workshops and training lectures for all the church’s members.

Pastors Emilio and Bethany Abreu had long dreamed about building a church to hold services for over 20,000 people in Asuncion, Paraguay… and in 2009 their wishes came true with the Iglesia Centro Familiar de Adoración (CFA).

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VENUES are always demanding when it comes to equipment specifications and once again, the sheer quality of Robe’s products and engineering win, ensuring a great ROI and long term investment. We often visit places around the world where the kit is still working many years later!

This section shows the fabulous contrast between all of the projects.

Energiehuis in Dordrecht is an imaginatively and beautifully restored old power station, a iconic relic of industrialism that oozes charisma and character, even more so now it’s been transformed into a multi-venue and multi-purpose performance, music and arts space! It feeds the burgeoning trend for people to spend spare and leisure time engaging in live entertainment. Robe have been specified for use in all of its main venues.

There’s been a steady increase in business in the Czech Republic in the last two years, and just over an hour’s drive from Vlašské Meziříčí is Brno - home to the Czech MotoGP circuit where Robe enjoyed a massive get-together in August in support of their sponsorship of rider Karel Abraham!

Brno’s newest live venue Sono Centrum is a brand new concept and a talking point for its unique, bold modernist architecture - offering music, a cool restaurant and lounge bar and state-of-the-art - all installed to the highest standards of excellence.

Other notable projects in the Old Parliament Building in Canberra, Australia, an historic heritage listed venue which was rehabilitated by award-winning and Geoff Spurr, a leading cruise line, showing another area where Robe kit has performed magnificently.

For a totally different perspective, we look at Bayaar, an exclusive wedding venue in Israel which purchased 84 Pointes and made sure they established themselves in a class of their own.
 antivirus is a leading Australian rental company with nearly 300 Robe moving lights in regular hire stock. Elite MD Darren Russell explained that they have also enjoyed a close working relationship, both as the in-house AV provider for external clients within the venue and as a supplier to MOAD, which includes introducing them to new, interesting and appropriate technologies.”

“This is what happened with the MiniMe. The Elite team first saw the innovative concept at Frankfurt in 2013 where it was launched and as soon as the units were available – via Robe’s Australian exclusive distributor The ULA Group – they took delivery and arranged a demo at MOAD.

The venue’s technical team were impressed and promptly ordered the first four MiniMes.

The building - and the majority of its contents including furnishings and fabrics - is Heritage listed and therefore subject to a plethora of rules, regulations and restrictions relating to how technical equipment and lighting fixtures in particular can and can’t be used, when and how!

“The MiniMe ticked all the boxes in that respect,” says Darren, “It’s small, light, portable, powerful and very versatile - that’s what they need - ultimate flexibility”.

Four ROBIN MiniMes - Robe’s fabulous compact effects luminaire with video - have been supplied for use throughout the Museum of Australian Democracy (MOAD) located at the Old Parliament House Building in Canberra, ACT, by Elite Sound & Lighting, also based in the city.

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The venue is a local landmark showcasing an eclectic and vibrant mix of international and home-grown talent - anything from comedy to music of all types - with a hectic schedule of 25-30 shows every month. This sometimes peaks at around 50!

Hedon's Head of Technical Martijn Deenan oversaw all the technical aspects of the venue - partly owned by a cultural event and community activity organisation called Travers - throughout the refurbishment project.

Deenan and his colleague Geoffrey Zehl produced the lighting spec for the new space. Their research included staging a shoot-out between all the major moving light brands to establish which would offer the best options for Hedon.

The specification then went out to tender, and was won by Controllux who are headquartered near Amsterdam.

As Robe's Benelux distributor, the choice of moving light was obvious, but irrespective of this Deenan explains, Robe was also the reason they chose Controllux as they presented the best and most value-added package for the new install, which also included trussing, dimmers and a full cable infrastructure.

Controllux collaborated with rental and installation company Bwefar also based in Zwolle, and together with Deenan and Zehl, they helped deliver the full and completed project which also included audio and video systems.

Hedon, a well-known live music venue in Zwolle, the Netherlands, has recently had a full Robe moving light rig installed into its brand new building which features an 850 capacity main hall plus an equally active small room that can accommodate 200 people.

TOPL, who also owns the Sono Music Studio in Prague, is a big music aficionado and wanted to bring a fresh new venue onto the gig circuit. He decided the easiest way to do this was to build his own…

Once the decision was made, he wanted it to offer only the very best production values.

The eye-catching modernist building was designed by architect František Šmídek and resembles a PA speaker cone from the outside - a large white globe pinched between two large black curving structures.

The spherical theme permeates right through the entire venue which has an impressive 1400 capacity.

TOPL didn't just choose Robe products for the installation because it’s a Czech brand - although that is a bonus of course - he wanted Robe because he thought it was the best!

The lighting supply was co-ordinated for Robe by Petr Kolmáčka and the spec was finalised by him, TOPL and the Music Club’s Technical Manager, Daniel Giačka.

Robe makes up 90% of the lighting, with the fixtures chosen to provide as much flexibility as possible for the house and guest LDs, as the club will host a wide variety of artists and musical genres.

Sono Centrum in Brno, the Czech Republic’s bustling second city, is the brainchild of local entrepreneur Jiří Štopl and is a vibrant live music club, a cool hotel and a cutting-edge restaurant all on the same site, bringing a brand new concept in entertainment and nightlife to the city, the Czech Republic and indeed, central Europe.

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**90% Robe**

- **16 x LEDForce Par 18™ RGBW**
- **14 x ROBIN® 300 LEDWash™**
- **8 x ROBIN® MMX Spot™**
- **6 x ROBIN® 600E Spot™**
- **1 x FOG 800 FT™**

**Distributor:** Controllux

**60% Robe**

- **8 x ROBIN® Pointe®**
- **8 x ROBIN® 800 LEDWash™**
- **8 x ROBIN® MMX Spot™**
- **8 x ROBIN® MMX WashBeam™**
- **8 x ROBIN® 1200 LEDWash™**
- **4 x ROBIN® DLS Spot™**

**Distributor:** Robe CZ

**40% Robe**

- **16 x ROBIN® MMX WashBeam™**
- **6 x ROBIN® 1200 LEDWash™**
- **4 x ROBIN® DLS Spot™**

**Distributor:** Robe CZ
Energiehuis was transformed into a new multi-venue cultural centre by Jonkman Klinkhamer Architects – a stylish and cool integration of majestic civil engineering with contemporary industrial design and modern performance facilities offering the very highest production values.

The Energiehuis project was instigated and driven by Dordrecht Town Council and the performance elements developed in conjunction with theatre consultants, PB Theateradviseurs, who produced the technical specs in conjunction with Pieter Kop, Technical Manager for Bibelot, which then went out to tender.

Robe moving lights were central to the proposal put forward by Controllux, based near Amsterdam, who won the contract to supply and install stage lighting, dimming, rigging and a data network for the project’s five main spaces – all with varying capacities.

Energiehuis’s various venues are operated and run by several different organisations, the main ones being Bibelot and ToBe, who between them stage an eclectic programme of shows and events that include all types of live music, theatre, dance productions and creative workshops, etc. Their inclusive schedules also embrace educational elements aimed at encouraging and developing new and emerging talent across all performance disciplines and genres.

All the spaces have flexible seating options which include standing and the lighting rigs had to be equally as adaptable.

Pieter Kop is delighted with the performance of the Robes. “I believe it is absolutely THE top moving light brand at the moment,” he states.

Over 80 Robe lighting fixtures are installed at the charismatic Energiehuis, a former power station at the confluence of the Wantij and Beneden Merwede Rivers on the outskirts of Dordrecht, The Netherlands.

1000 guests can accommodate up to 900 guests for ceremonies, receptions, served or buffet dinners, dancing and entertainment and is independently owned by Neer Schaffer, Ohad Segal and Omer Segal. It has recently invested in a completely new lighting rig including 84 x Pointes and eight LEDWash 600s, an installation which helps set it apart from other wedding venues around the globe.

This is currently the largest installation of Pointes in Israel, and the equipment was delivered to Baya’ar by Robe’s Israeli distributor, Danor Theatre and Studio Systems.

Servicing around 200 weddings a year, the time had come to replace the previous main room lighting rig installed eight years ago, and Baya’ar’s owners wanted the very best technology for their installation.

They consulted Danor, with whom they have worked on a previous venue as well as Baya’ar’s Lighting Designer Micha Margalit, who has a long history as a designer of concerts, events and installations in Israel. Years ago, Robe, the name synonymous with the very best, was the obvious choice, and that is because they named the “best” technology available to suit the requirements of an event which Baya’ar has been delivering around the globe for the last 15 years.

Neer Schaffer states, “We really want people to be excited by the venue and to give them something unique and different in terms of presentation.”

In choosing Robe, the owners certainly didn’t take the cheapest option… and that was because they wanted “The best” technology available to offer the superlative service with which Baya’ar is synonymous - to their clients.

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