

## Special Feature – CITT/ICTS 2006 AWARD RECIPIENT

On August 12 2006, Toronto hosted the 9th Annual CITT/ICTS Award Banquet in recognition of individuals and companies that excel in their field of live performance in Canada. This is the last portrait to be featured till next year.

This month we feature the CITT/ICTS Award for Technical Merit. The CITT/ICTS Award for Technical Merit is awarded to a production company or theatre, or a combination thereof, for outstanding achievement in the use of theatre technology on a specific project or production. **This year's recipient is Lord Of The Rings.**

### Lord Of The Rings brought technical ingenuity to the stage

It cost \$27-million to produce and clocked in at a robust 3½ hours, but for fans of J.R.R. Tolkien's trilogy, the Lord of the Rings presented by Mirvish Productions at the Princess of Wales Theatre in Toronto last year, it was worth every second and penny.

Bringing Tolkien's fantasy world to life on stage involved a first in technological innovation. From the moment you enter the theatre, spectators were caught up in the magic of the production. The entire proscenium and boxes of the theatre were covered in a mass of gnarled roots thrusting out to embrace the audience and helping one feel they truly are in Middle Earth. A 40-ton piece of equipment, shaped like three interlocking turntables with 17 elevators inside, was created to make Middle Earth a reality on stage. The turntable was part of a tree trunk with roots, bark and leaves extending far out into the theatre, wrapping the audience in the set itself. Getting the turntable in place meant cutting out 30 tons of concrete from beneath the stage and reinforcing it with a network of steel. The automated, cantilevered stage floor turned, twisted, rose, fell and tilted creating various locations such as a winding path or a soaring battlefield. Wind and smoke swirled through the auditorium as well. The production, in numbers, include:

- 7 tons of screen at the back of the set.
- 17 elevators in the stage floor.
- 20 4,000-cubic-foot sea freight containers used to ship the set pieces from England.
- 30 tons of concrete that had to be removed from under the old stage to install the network of new steel supports to take that 40-ton weight.
- 40 tons of computer-controlled stage floor.
- 55 cast members.
- 73 people working behind the scenes on

- each performance.
- 150 weapons.
- 280 pair of gloves worn by the hobbits, orcs, elves and ents.
- 387 costume changes.
- 400 individual metal motifs hand-sewn on Elrond's costume.
- 500 pieces of armour in the show.
- 504 costumes
- 808 pair of shoes worn by hobbits, orcs, elves and ents.
- 5,000 yards of fabric in the costumes.
- 37,155 man-hours spent making the costumes and hats at Toronto's Seamless Costumes.

All that combined made "LOTR" the most expensive musical ever staged. The show also won seven Dora Mavor Moore Awards last June in Toronto, including Outstanding Costume Design, Lighting Design, and New Musical.

For more information about the production, read the in-depth article written by Ellen Lampert-Gréaux at [http://livedesignonline.com/mag/tolkien\\_points](http://livedesignonline.com/mag/tolkien_points)



LORD OF THE RINGS selected credits (Toronto 2006)

#### Design Team

**Producers:** Kevin Wallace and Saul Zaentz in association with David & Ed Mirvish, and Michael Cohl

**Director:** Matthew Warchus

**Set/costume designer:** Rob Howell

**Lighting designer:** Paul Pyant

**Sound designer:** Simon Baker, for Autograph

**Moving image direction:** The Gray Circle

**Special effects designer:** Gregory Meeh

**Production manager:** Canada: Scott Whitham

**Production managers:** UK: Stephen Rebeck, Stewart Crossbie

**Production stage manager:** The. John Gray

**Stage manager:** Chris Porter

**Moving light programmer:** Jonathan Rouse

**Automation engineer:** Ralph Goyarts

**Set design assistant:** Andrzej Goulding

**Asst. lighting designer:** Heidi McDonald

**Asst. costume supervisor:** UK: Edward Gibbon

**Asst. special effects designer:** Michael Walton

**Production carpenter:** UK: Micky Murray

**Production engineer:** UK: Andy Hardy

**Wig/make-up consultant:** Chris Redman

### CITT/ICTS AWARDS – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

CITT/ICTS is proud to recognise individuals and companies that excel in their field of live performance in Canada, and therefore is please to announce a call for nominations for the following CITT/ICTS Awards:

- The Dieter Penzhorn Memorial Award
- The Ron Epp Memorial Award for Professional Achievement
- CITT/ICTS Education Achievement Award
- CITT/ICTS Supplier (Corporate) Achievement Award
- CITT/ICTS Award of Technical Merit
- The Honorary Membership Award

The CITT/ICTS Awards are designed to honour individuals or companies from a wide spectrum of the Canadian live performance industry. The nomination of candidates for CITT/ICTS Awards is driven directly by the membership. This is your chance to recognise the work of a mentor or a colleague, or acknowledge the service provided by a company or an organisation. The final selection is made by a committee of the CITT/ICTS Board of Directors made up of the members at large from the sections and the Chair of the Awards committee. For more information, visit [www.citt.org/awds.php](http://www.citt.org/awds.php)

**The deadline for nominations is March 31 2007.**

### NOMINATION PROCEDURE

To nominate your candidate, please submit the following:

- 1- On a single piece of paper list
  - a) The Candidates name
  - b) The Award for which they are nominated
  - c) The names of two nominators, both of whom must be members in good standing of the CITT/ICTS.
- 2- On a separate sheet, list the accomplishments of the individual or company, stating why you believe they are worthy of being honoured by the CITT/ICTS.
- 3- A letter from each nominator to the CITT/ICTS Awards Committee stating your support for the nomination.

If you presented a nomination in a previous year, you may continue to support this nomination by sending a letter to the Nominations Committee expressing your continued support.

Send all nominations to:  
CITT/ICTS National Office  
Awards Nominations  
340-207 Bank St.  
Ottawa ON K2P 2N2  
Fax: 613-482-1212  
Email [info@citt.org](mailto:info@citt.org)