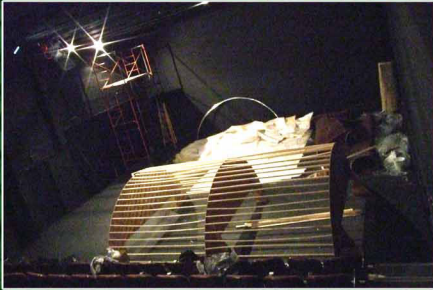




Building the form



A giant lobster pot



Layering a panel



Four panels deep



Lifting and erecting



DOWN DANGEROUS PASSES ROAD: THE MAKING OF THE SET

A whirlpool of poetry

As Artistic Director and Set Designer for Talisman Theatre, Lyne Paquette was on the look-out for new materials to make giant, curved pages of poetry. That was when she discovered structural cardboard. With it's facings removed, revealing its translucent beehive, structural cardboard is an incredibly versatile medium.

This set is GREEN

Structural cardboard is made from recycled cardboard and eco-friendly glue and can be recycled after the production. Each panel consisted of a layer of newsprint, the cardboard beehive, and a layer of pre-painted high quality paper. The materials for the 'lobsterpot', on which the panels were formed, were also reuseable.

Budgetary restrictions

Structural cardboard is cheap. The panels and the lobsterpot were prefabricated but still had to fit through the theater's household-sized doorway. Its flexibility means that the giant pages of poetry could be assembled on the stage floor the night before opening night. After fireproofing the set met all professional standards.

A swirl of ingenuity

Upon experimentation, Lyne settled on a translucent Japanese paper to re-cover the beehive. When backlit, each panel looked like a textured page of poetry. When frontlit, the panels looked like walls of rock and acted as projection screens. These mysterious virtual screens were so lightweight that they could be suspended by invisible fishingline.

We wish to thank...

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