Kirby Malone and Gail Scott White continually challenge the boundaries of live performance, art and creativity by embracing and artistically employing a full spectrum of dynamic media. *Live Movies* is a vitally original and compelling guide to the synergistic blending of theater, film and new technologies that is characteristic of their work in the Multimedia Performance Studio and Cyurbia Productions. Intellectually challenging and intuitively clear, *Live Movies* is an essential read.

— Darlene Pluegel, Actress, and Professor in the School of Film and Digital Media, University of Central Florida

Multimedia Performance Studio is where new kinds of theater — the edge, the synesthetic, the now that finds its way into what makes theater great — is truly happening. This crucible for performance art is a beacon for the whole theatrical world.

— Richard Winkler, Lighting Designer

Malone and White, of MPS and Cyurbia, weave and integrate stunning multimedia imagery into the fabric of theatrical storytelling with boundless imagination and conceptual boldness. They are artistic and technical alchemists whose visual landscapes interact with live actors, music, sound, lighting and scenography to synthesize new languages of performance. What they do is new jack theater that packs a memorable wallop.

— Benny Sato Ambush, Director, Producer, Educator

*Live Movies*

* A Field Guide to New Media For the Performing Arts

Kirby Malone and Gail Scott White

edited by

Kirby Malone and Gail Scott White

Documenting Multimedia Performance Studio’s New Stage Technology Project
MPS artists Kirby Malone, Dan Hobson, Gail Scott White, Kira Hoffmann and Mike Solo have researched, and collectively speculated at length on, ideas for an “ideal” Multimedia Theater, as most American theaters are not well suited to the needs of multimedia production.

We have designed a utopian structure, the Diorama Theater, and compiled variations on a (100 ft. x 100 ft. floor plan) design that synthesizes the traditional, flexible “black box,” with other, more experimental conceptions: a “white box” (or “virtual cave”) with 360° projection screens, and a “green box” for use (with green-screen capabilities) as a soundstage for motion-capture, and film and video shoots.

This theater can be arranged in (at least) seven configurations, which are shown in plans on the following pages. The first image shows the second floor wrap-around catwalk/deck, which allows projectors to be positioned almost anywhere in the room. Most of the staging arrangements in the subsequent plans are familiar to theatergoers (end stage, thrust, arena, etc.), but we have named the Theater after one of its more unorthodox options, a diorama stage, with projection screens enclosing the stage on three sides.

The hypothetical designs we are at work on for this theater represent one of the most exciting and valuable components of our New Stage Technology Project, and they allow us to synthesize and coordinate much of what we are learning in our range of research and workshops. We approach this theater design as a 10,000 sq. ft. conceptual prototype for a theater that could be built anywhere, designed from scratch to accommodate the waves of new media into the hands of, and onto the stages of, innovative theatrical artists, encouraging their exploration of new directions in narrative and design.
PROTOTYPE DESIGN FOR A UTOPIAN MULTIMEDIA THEATER

TECH DECKS AND CATWALKS (SECOND FLOOR)
PROTOTYPE DESIGN FOR A UTOPIAN MULTIMEDIA THEATER

END STAGE

212  LIVE MOVIES
PROTOTYPE DESIGN FOR A UTOPIAN MULTIMEDIA THEATER

STADIUM
Diorama Theater

Diagram of Diorama Theater layout:
- Stage
- Rear projection screen
- Scene shop
- Props
- Private dressing room
- Men's dressing room
- Green room
- Women's dressing room
- Digital production studio and recording studio
- Multimedia theater rehearsal studio
- Theater office
- Hallway
- Exit
- Main entrances

Dimensions: 100' x 110'