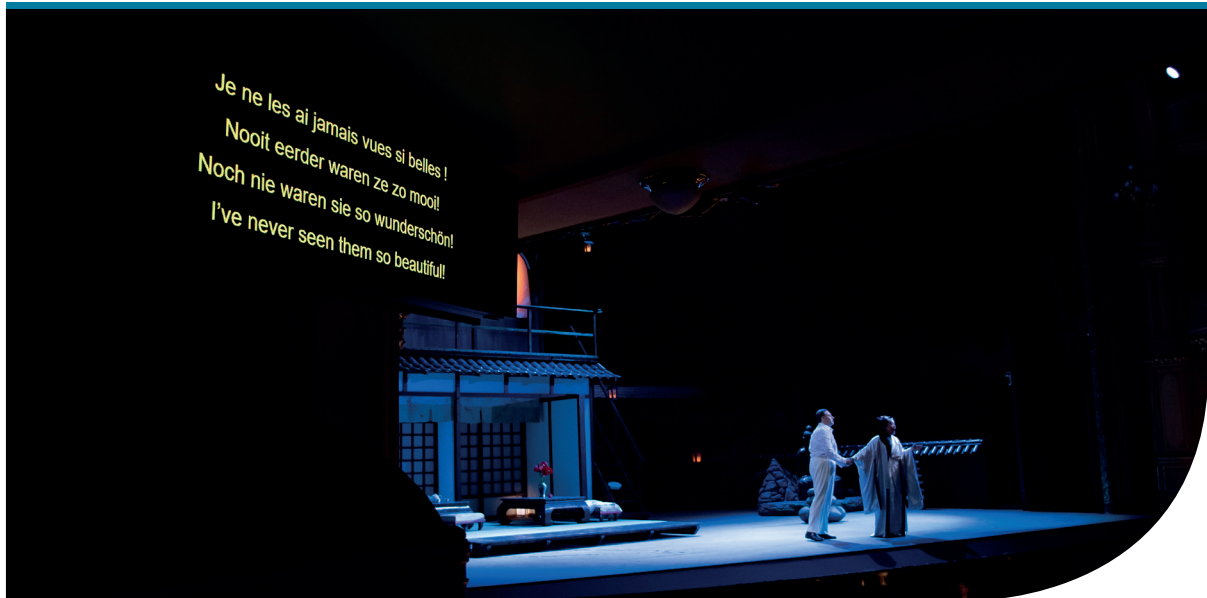


THE COMPANY COLASSE HAS TRANSFORMED SPECTATORS' EXPERIENCE AT THE ROYAL OPERA OF WALLONIA-LIÈGE, THANKS TO SOPRATITOLO™



INITIAL SITUATION

The Royal Opera of Wallonia-Liège (ROW) is the largest cultural institution in the French Community of Belgium. This 19th-century architectural gem offers a programme of nine operas per season, as well as concerts and shows, for every kind of audience. The auditorium is notable for its horse-shoe shape, in keeping with the Italian style of the period. To improve the viewing and listening comfort for its audiences, the ROW calls on a surtitling system. This enables spectators to follow what is being recited or sung during the show, thanks to a central screen.

SopraTitolo™ is multilingual surtitling software, combining both performance and innovation. It is one part of a global solution, which includes the installation of LED screens. Used by theatres and operas, SopraTitolo™ features an encoding module for recording and formatting the script. A second module is used to manage the simultaneous projection on several screens, all in real time. This module also records the prompt timing, so that the surtitling can be inserted in postproduction when the performance is filmed.

THE CHALLENGE

Since 1993, the Royal Opera of Wallonia-Liège has made use of a surtitling system. In 1997, several adaptations were made to this system, but it was recently deemed obsolete. So the ROW was eager to optimise its audience's viewing and listening comfort, by bringing in a high-tech surtitling system.

The ROW faced these challenges:

- **Adding a surtitling language:** up till now, the surtitles were available in French, Dutch and German. However, 17% of the ROW's audience is international. So it made sense for the Opera to include English in the surtitling languages.
- **Increasing the visibility** of the surtitling and making sure this could be read **from anywhere in the auditorium.**

THE SOLUTION

Colasse offered the ROW a **global solution** and installed the **SopraTitolo™ software**. The Seraing Valley based company delivered a **new central screen and six extra displays**, to enhance the listening and reading comfort. One image in the same resolution is projected, from a single computer, onto the seven screens. Everything is connected to a lighting system that enables the screens' brightness to be reduced or increased, depending on the atmosphere of a scene.

Colasse has focused on ensuring the software is both compatible and ergonomic, as well as adapting the displays to the building's layout and ensuring real-time display capability on several screens.

THE RESULTS

Today, Opera's spectators can read the surtitles in four languages from anywhere in the auditorium.

- International audiences at the ROW can now **follow performances in English, in addition to French, Dutch and German**. Consequently, the ROW offers an optimal service to the many spectators visiting from other countries.
- People can now also **read the surtitling from anywhere** in the auditorium.

OTHER PROJECTS

Colasse has already installed surtitling software at other sites:

- > the Auvergne Lyric Center, in 2010
- > the Liège theatre, in 2009



— ROYAL OPERA OF WALLONIA-LIÈGE (ROW) —

- Founded in 1820.
- The largest cultural institution in the French Community of Belgium.
- 200 daily workers (including 68 musicians and 40 choristers) and 500 external co-workers each season.
- 360 m² of floor space, 103,420 visits in 2018, and an occupancy rate of 99% for the great operas, concerts and shows for youth.
- Annual budget of €19 million.



Créateur de solutions innovantes en éclairage

Rue Puits Marie 79 - 4100 Seraing - Belgique - www.colasse.be
vegeled@colasse.be - Tel: +32 4 225 2589 - Fax: +32 4 365 1376