

The Wonkavator is still in the conceptual stage, but ZFX scenic supervisor Karl Anderson has a good idea of what he wants the magical flying elevator to imbue audiences with. Expect to “ooh and aah”. Contact ZFX for information on how you can add the Wonkavator to your production of *Willy Wonka*.

Music Theater International is now licensing the rights to Roald Dahl’s *Willy Wonka*. Check out their website to get your production locked in now. www.mtishows.com

For more information on the Chaffey High School Drama Department, visit www.chsthespians.com.



BLACK OXIDE PROJECT NEARS COMPLETION: *An Interview with ZFX Shop Foreman Dylan Lightfoot*

Emily: Tell me about the Black Oxide Project.

Dylan: It sounds very mysterious, doesn’t it – even foreboding. It’s actually nothing new. It’s a chemical process, also called passivation, which both darkens ferrous metals by immersion in alkaline salts and makes them rust-resistant. Any local metal-finishing or plating firm is set up to do black oxide. Gunsmiths have small black oxide set-ups, only when they do it, it’s called bluing. Basically, a piece of metal is run through a series of chemical treatments and rinses, maintained at specific concentrations and temperatures, which results in a black, dark brown or deep blue finish.

E: What, then, is different about what ZFX is trying to do?

D: First, we are trying to blacken stainless steel wire rope. Blackening stainless isn’t unheard of: the military does it, and the vendor we use for our chemicals actually makes salts that meet military specifications. But it’s not all that common.

Second, our goal is not to dip discrete lengths of coiled wire rope in vats of chemicals, as we have done in the past. That way of doing things only gives a certain length of wire rope the treatment, which is naturally limiting.

What we want to do is develop a highly controlled black oxide rig that will continually feed 5,000 foot spools of stainless wire rope through the various treatments via a system of pulleys, spooling it back up at the end for shipment or dispensation. The rig we are planning will do two spools per day, or about ten miles of wire rope in a week.

(continue reading about the Black Oxide Project at www.zfxflying.com/newslettersub.html)

Noteworthy Notes

The new ZFX Peter Pan set is complete! We shipped out our new set to go on its first North American non-equity tour with Park Avenue Worldwide. This amazing set will be available for rent after March 2008. Contact us now to reserve it for your production!

Aerial Choreographer Jason Whicker headed up another flying workshop at Ball State University last month. Video and more information soon to come to the Projects page on the ZFX website.

Four custom-manufactured ZFX flying systems arrived in Germany last week for *Wicked* in Stuttgart. First performance is scheduled for mid-November.

“Useless Factoids”

- The Nicopress system was designed during World War II to help quickly build anti-submarine nets around US ports.
- The J.A. Roebling suspension bridge that spans the Ohio River from Covington, KY to Chincinnati was the longest cable suspension bridge until Roebling built the Brooklyn Bridge.
- There are no American-made Quick Links.
- Compound drum flying machines are called Kirby’s in honor of Kirby’s Flying Ballet, the original Peter Pan flying company.

We’re on the web!

www.zfxflying.com

ZFX, Inc.
United States Operations
611 Industry Road
Louisville, KY 40208
(502) 637-2500
(502) 637-7878 fax

European Operations
Veldzigt 3 3454 PW
De Meern,
The Netherlands
+31 (0) 30-2428280
+31 (0) 30-2428289 fax

Finance Office 714.775.4321

To unsubscribe from this mailing list, simply reply to unsubscribe@zfxflying.com. ZFX will never release or sell your email address to anyone outside of the use for this newsletter. If you know of someone who would be interested in subscribing to our mailing list, please email us at newsletter@zfxflying.com with their email address. Please be sure you have permission to submit their information.

To unsubscribe from this mailing list, simply reply to unsubscribe@zxflying.com. ZFX will never release or sell your email address to anyone outside of the use for this newsletter. If you know of someone who would be interested in subscribing to our mailing list, please email us at newsletter@zxflying.com with their email address. Please be sure you have permission to submit their information.