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Robe Enjoys A Great Opportunity

Products Involved

LEDBeam 100™ Pointe®

Die Große Chance (A Great Opportunity) is one of Austria's leading talent competitions. The 2014 final staged in Studio 1 at national broadcaster ORF's HQ in Vienna was lit in great style by Lighting Director Thomas Kruder using nearly 300 Robe moving lights!

It was also Kruder's first chance to use Robe's brand new Bright Multi-Functional Luminaires (BMFLs) of which he had eight on the rig. "It's one of the most powerful fixtures I have ever used," he states.

In addition to the BMFL Spots, he utilised 133 x Pointes and 146 x LEDBeam 100s, all supplied by rental company Supporting Role, also based in Vienna.

Kruder has lit the last two editions of Die Große Chance. In 2011 the original concept of the show – popular throughout the 1980s – was reformatted and presented in a contemporary context, complete with tele-voting to decide on the winner out of four finalists.

In the lead up to the 2014 final, the first six episodes were recorded at the Rosenhügel Studios in Vienna, with the last four broadcast live - also in front of a large studio audience – from ORF 1 on Friday night prime-time.

The impressive set was designed by Florian Wieder of Wieder Design, Munich, which included an arched section of high resolution LED screen upstage. To extend this, Kruder designed a 30 metre wide by 10 metre high matrix 'wall' of LEDBeam 100s and Pointes which flanked the central LED screen.

The idea with the dramatic back wall of lights was to help bring an authentic feeling and anticipation of 'live' performance across to the hundreds of thousands of people tuning in to watch on TV.

The final is one of ORF's ratings toppers of the year, so it also needed to have additional production and a new energy that differentiated it from the run-up programmes and semi-finals.

Kruder chose Pointes and LEDBeam 100s because of their small size, huge power and the great versatility they brought to the show's aesthetics. With that many fixtures, he had

endless possibilities for giving each performance – contestants did a solo piece followed by a second round collaboration with an international star – a distinctive look.

The trick was to make them all look different and unique, but equal in impact and spectacle whatever the genre of music or performance involved.

The BMFL Spots were positioned around the set and used to create some very special moments and treatments. He used the dual graphics wheels and the rotating prism effects in particular.

He uses Pointes regularly when appropriate, which is usually when he's lighting music and light entertainment programmes. He thinks the parallel beam, the zoom, the prisms and the very quick movement and general fast speed of the Pointe are all excellent features.

The LEDBeam 100s were used to colour the stage area and to contrast with the Pointes bringing a different texture of light to the stage.

Kruder has been using Robe products in his work for some time and reckons, "It's a very good brand, very reliable. The service from Austrian distributor Signal is first-class and really efficient".

For the final of Die Große Chance, he worked with a programming team of five - Michael Kranabeter (effects lighting), Helmut Vospel (LED elements), Juan Contreras (media servers), Willhelm Frank (follow spot caller) and Andreas Brandl (white light sources).

Die Große Chance 2014 was directed for TV by Kurt Pongratz. It was won by teenage duo Harfonie, comprising Nora Baumann and Hanna Maizner who offered a distinctive blend of vocal harmony and harp in their ballad, "Open Your Eyes".

Photo Credit: Ryzsard Perzinski





