



Rigoletto

Stage technology facts and figures

* All height specifications relate to the mean water level, known as "water level 2", which corresponds to the Bregenz level of 416 centimetres.

Construction time	The process of fabrication, assembly and final technical adjustment took about ten months. Planning extended over a period of two to three years.
Participants	46 technology firms from Austria, Germany and Switzerland are involved in building the stage. Also 12 members of the festival's technical staff, including crane operators, are taking part in the construction.
Wooden piles	The stage is erected on about 119 piles made of spruce wood or steel and driven up to six metres deep into the bed of the lake.
Head	The <i>Rigoletto</i> head is approx. 13.5 metres high, from the lower jaw to the top of the cranium. The eyeballs alone have a diameter of 2.7 metres. The head is approx. 11.3 metres wide from ear to ear. It weighs at about 35 tonnes, and about 140 tonnes with the crane machinery included. Five loudspeakers are built into the head. During the performance a hammock is rigged up on the head, some 20 metres above the water level.
Hands	<p>The "Lindau hand", i.e. the one on the left, is about 11.5 metres high when the fingers are extended, measured from the ruffle on the wrist to the tip of the middle finger. The hand movements are powered by a hydraulic swivel and basically correspond to the movements of a human hand.</p> <p>The "Bregenz hand", i.e. the one on the right, is about 6 metres high from the ruffle to the index finger. Two loudspeakers are built into the index finger.</p>
Ruff	The ruff (projecting frill worn round the neck) consists of one fixed and three movable parts. The largest piece of the ruff has an area of 163 m ² .
Balloon	The balloon is a helium-filled, spherical captive balloon that is positioned above the Bregenz hand. The balloon has a diameter of approx. 13 metres and holds about 1,300 cubic metres of helium. It rises to a maximum height of approx. 14 metres with the Gilda soloist, and to about 45 metres with her stunt double.