

PROF. WALTER VON WECUS

The conflict, the division against itself which prevails at the moment in our theatrical art is the conflict between optical and spiritual impressions. We appreciate the beauty of old plays as much as ever, but we reject the old theatrical forms. Everything in the theatre which appeals to the eye is much more a creature of its age than the spoken word. Human beings who live and speak seem to us related to our own way of living, however romantic their costumes may appear. In spite of the many bonds that unite them, the art of the writer and the art of the stage arise from quite different preliminaries. The beauty of language can retain its magic for centuries, but not the beauty of stage form. No-one in Germany, for instance, would think of producing Goethe's "Faust" in its original stage setting.

This explains the efforts of our scenic artists and stage decorators to bring decorative form in the

Bühnendekoration zu „Demetrius“

Stage Setting for "Demetrius"

