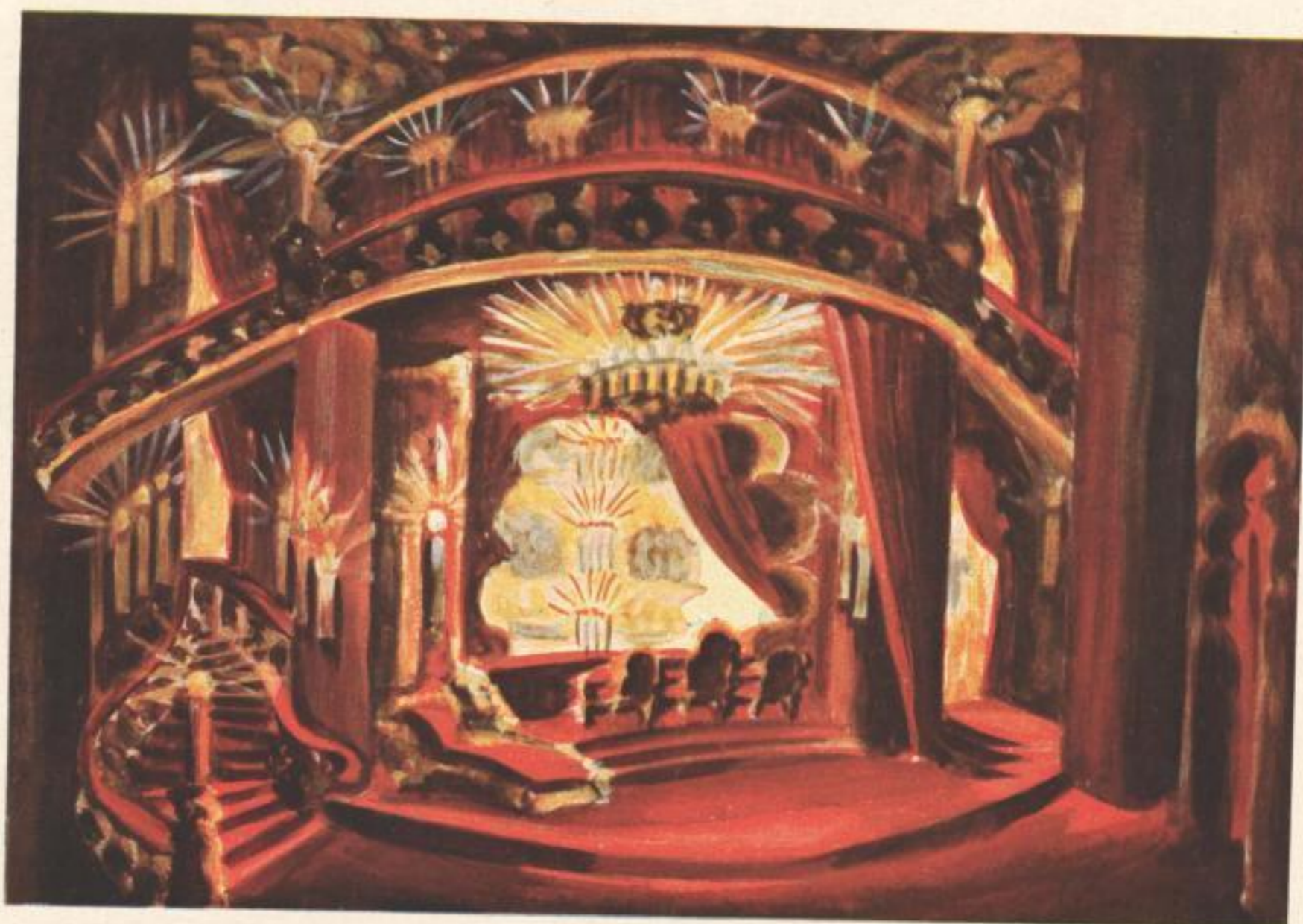


Von Arent

In the trenches, Arent found distraction and recreation in drawing and painting. Afterwards, in the general re-valuation of all values, he was a business director, then a traveller in automobiles, then an insurance agent and only found time in the evenings for designing advertisements and stage settings. It happened that the director of the Mozartsaal cinema saw some of Arent's decorative designs and persuaded him to do the large-scale advertising for the outside of the Mozartsaal and the Nollendorf Theatre. Arent was the first man in Berlin to use the big frontage of the theatres for advertising purposes in American style. His first commission was followed by complete scenic decorations for plays and operettas in all the Berlin theatres as well as for some in Sweden and Denmark. Rudolf von Laban and Professor Hörth entrusted him with the decorations for the "Geisha" and Richard Wagner's "Liebesverbot" at the State Opera house. Arent used all his great abilities in the execution of these



Madeleine



Stage setting

„Skandal in Amerika“

important tasks, which gave him so much scope. For the re-opening of the State Opera house, he re-decorated "Tannhäuser" from a new point of view, conventionalised, but only to a certain extent. His romantic-picturesque settings for "Tristan" and "The Prince of Homburg" are full of entirely new ideas. Arent represents the beauty and majesty of the forest with special affection and feeling. "Hänsel und Gretel" and "The Sleeping Beauty" at the State Opera house, "Midsummer Night's Dream" and Schiller's "Robbers" at the Volksbühne were rendered remarkable and memorable by the wonderful forest settings, varying from early dawn with the song of the lark to the mystery of a night of stars. "Arabella" at the State Opera house and Covent Garden, humourously and playfully transposed the times of Empress Eugénie into the frivolous Viennese atmosphere. Arent combines healthy traditions with an instinct for artistic creation. In the course of twelve years he has designed the settings for more than 200 productions—700 scenes and thousands of costumes. The contrasts afford-



Rotkäppchen
Little Riding Hood