

Götterdämmerung II. Akt Act II

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the stronger and more impressive is the unity of the acoustic and optical factors, and the more complete is the mutually increasing amalgamation of the realms of sound and sight.

Hence, important as exact scenic representation is in the case of Wagner's works, it also presents equally great difficulties which are not only due to Wagner's exacting and manifold demands as regards technical equipment, scenery and costumes, but are also the result of a special circumstance. The character of Wagner's stage picture is, in a certain sense, discordant, and therefore

confronts the scenic artist with two
mutually antagonistic demands,
namely the demand for symbolic
impressiveness and grandeur, and
the quite different, and indeed
contrary, demand for the effects
of illusion and a certain natura-



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