

Walt Disney Presents

"GREAT MOMENTS WITH MR. LINCOLN"

FACT SHEET

August 28, 1963

SHOW CREATED FOR:

Illinois State Pavilion, New York World's Fair 1964-65.
Premiere: April 22, 1964.

CREATED BY:

Walt Disney.

DESIGNED BY:

WED Enterprises, Inc., 800 Sonora Avenue,
Glendale 1, California.

THE LINCOLN SHOW

"Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln" will bring to the theatre stage a unique dramatization of our American heritage. At its heart is the President who saved our code of laws, the Constitution, in its greatest hour of crisis a century ago.

THEATRICAL TECHNIQUES

Special Disney techniques of three-dimensional animation (Audio-Animatronics), projection, staging and stereophonic sound will be combined for the first time to create the Lincoln show. At times, through use of sound speakers located throughout the auditorium, the audience itself will seem almost a part of the proceedings... as though they were in the crowd at one of Mr. Lincoln's speeches.

LINCOLN'S SPEECH

Highlight of the show will be excerpts from Abraham Lincoln's famous speeches and writings, delivered from the stage by Walt Disney's life-size Lincoln figure. Lincoln will first appear seated, in thoughtful dignity. But as the narrator introduces his address, Lincoln will "come to life". Apparently immobile moments before, he will rise to his feet and speak, delivering his address with complete coordination of movements and speech... and many mannerisms of our 16th President. (Audiences attending the show during various periods of the Fair will hear different Lincoln speeches, some relating to holiday or historical observances.)

SHOW FINALE

An emotion-stirring finale will find Lincoln again seated, now silhouetted against the imposing Dome of the Capitol Building in dawn's early light. As

singing voices, joined in harmony, seem to move through the audience like an invisible procession, viewers are encompassed in a stereophonic choral rendition of "Battle Hymn of the Republic". At the same time, the crimson and white sky behind Lincoln dissolves into a symbolic representation of the American flag, the clouds billowing into stripes, the stars twinkling in their field of blue. With the curtains open wide, this "Flag" will spread across the background of the entire stage.

Shows will be presented on a 12-minute cycle, or five complete performances per hour.

LENGTH OF SHOW

THEATRE CAPACITY

The Lincoln Theatre will accommodate 500 persons for each show, or 2500 per hour.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON LINCOLN FIGURE

BACKGROUND:

Prototype Lincoln figure first developed about four years ago. Used for experimentation, refinement and improvement. Resulted in sophisticated techniques and devices to be included in new figure.

PERFECTED FIGURE:

Will be capable of 29 body actions and 15 facial expressions. Major movements, activated independently or simultaneously, include:

- brow wrinkle
- frown
- wink (either or both eyes)
- blink
- eye focus (side to side, up and down)
- smile (left side, right side, both)
- lip action for word formation
- head oscilation
- head nod
- head angle positioning
- shoulder shrug (left and/or right)
- waist bend (forward, backward, turn side to side)
- arm flex
- wrist rotation
- fully operable fingers
- breathing
- knee bend
- ankle bend
- stands - rises

**ANIMATION
TECHNIQUE:**

"Audio-Animatronics", developed by WED Enterprises, is system used to activate figure. System combines and synchronizes sound effects, human voices and music with movements of face and body. "Audio-Animatronics" is the latest development in three-dimensional animation.

**"AUDIO-ANIMATRONICS"
IN OPERATION:**

Sound impulses, music, voices are separately recorded, then transferred to single, one-inch, 14-channel magnetic tape. Play-back simultaneously relays music and voices to speakers, while sound impulses activate pneumatic devices and valves. Air cylinders and devices expand and contract accordingly, causing animation.

The 14-channels are divided into "control" and "audio" tracks. Each control track (five in Lincoln show) sends out 36 separate signals, causing animation. Each audio track (nine) sends out two signals controlling music, dialogue, sound effects. As many as 200 separate actions are controlled by this preprogrammed tape.

**LOCATION OF CONTROL
EQUIPMENT:**

Tape machine, relay panels, pneumatic lead-in lines to be located beneath stage floor. No mechanical noises will be heard by audiences.

**AUTHENTICITY OF
LINCOLN FIGURE:**

WED artists, animators, sculptors, engineers, mechanics spent a total of more than five months in research alone to assure exact likeness and measurements.

Dimension of face taken from actual life-mask of Lincoln made by sculptor. Eyes created from intensive study of many photographs, paintings and written descriptions, including one in Mrs. Lincoln's diary. Other dimensions taken from biographical works, although not all historians agree on height and weight.

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT:

Figure will stand approximately six feet, four inches and will weigh about 140 lbs. (Lincoln believed to have weighed about 180 lbs. Figure made lighter by specially designed metal framework to facilitate movement.)

**CREATION OF NEW
LINCOLN FIGURE:**

Work begins with creation of head. Detailed model made first of plastiline (plastic clay) from which a core mold is made. Hot melt flexible plastic is then poured inside this mold. The result is a flexible skin over a rigid plastic structure. The features from the original model are maintained to the most minute detail.

Framework for head is in form of fiberglass lining, which provides rigidity and protects mechanism.

Hair and beard created by professional wig maker.

Hands to be cast from actual hands of a man of comparable size.

Eyes to be created by WED artists, using techniques similar to those employed by prosthetic eye manufacturers.

Dental techniques will be used to design gums and teeth.

COSTUME:

Authentic black wool suit; white, high-collar shirt; black string bow tie; vest; watch chain; black high-top shoes.

INFORMATION ON WED ENTERPRISES, INC.

COMPANY NAME

"WED" are the initials of Walter E. Disney, founder of the company, who personally supervises its activities. WED Enterprises, Inc., was incorporated by the State of California in December, 1952.

PROJECTS:

The firm specializes in creating, designing and producing attractions and exhibits for entertainment and industry.

WED creates and designs attractions, exhibits, displays and shows for Disneyland. In addition to the Illinois State pavilion show, WED is designing all shows and exhibits for the Ford Motor Company, General Electric and Pepsi-Cola pavilions at the forthcoming New York World's Fair.