

Title	Working conditions on stage: climatic considerations
Author	Bernhard Richter, Erwin Löhle, Wolfgang Maier, Bruno Kliemann and Katherine Verdolini
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Abstract	<p>Singers and actors frequently complain about dusty and dry theater environments, which they believe induce respiratory tract indispositions and decrements in vocal performance. In the literature to date, extremely few quantitative data exist about actual climatic conditions on stage. A previous study by our group in an unhumidified theater found that it had too high temperatures, too dry and too dusty air, based on German occupational guidelines for the generic workplace. In the present study, humidification units were installed in the same theater, and the environmental measures were repeated. The primary findings indicated that, following the activation of the humidification units, temperatures, humidities and fine dust concentrations were improved and generally within acceptable ranges for the generic workplace, although not always optimal. Where unacceptable performance environments exist, special care should be taken to counsel performers with regard to possible prophylactic measures such as individual steam inhalation and fluid intake.</p>