

# lighting today

APRIL - JUNE 2009

projection lighting

## Lighting Showcase

"SPARKS"

Laser lights take over for the New Year Show at Bucharest's Palace of the Parliament!

## Show Preview

PALME Middle East

Lightfair International

Guangzhou International Lighting Exhibition

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# a large scale operation for **'sparks'**

*The New Year Show at the Palace of the Parliament  
Bucharest, Romania*



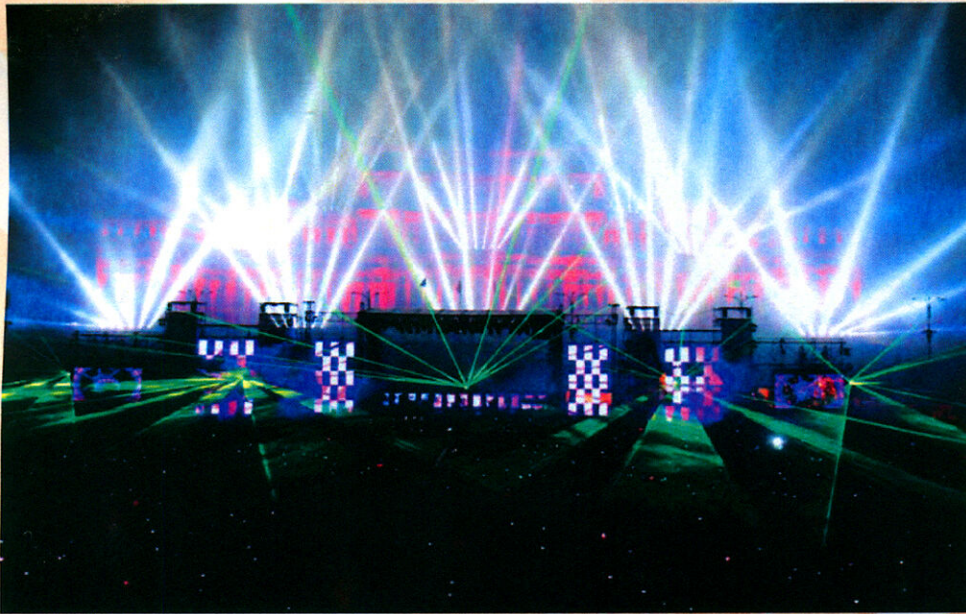
A Sparks laser system projected a countdown onto the façade of the Palace of the Parliament.

*LOBO's new Sparks laser technology was probably the most spectacular medium used so far, for the 30-minute New Year Show that took place in front of the Palace of the Parliament in Bucharest, Romania.*

**O**n a green hill right in the heart of Bucharest sits the Palace of the Parliament, with an overall surface of 65,000 m<sup>2</sup>, rises up 85 metres towards the sky and invisibly reaches another 92 metres into the ground. It is the fantasy of Ceauşescu's omnipotence, turned into stone. In fact, this monument holds some impressive Guinness Book of World records: the Palace is the World's largest civilian administrative building (Overall largest being the Pentagon), most expensive administrative building, and the heaviest building.

Performing an open-air event – like the 30-minute New Year Show – at the Palace of the Parliament is not only significant for the whole country, but is also a tremendous technical challenge. No matter what is done around the neoclassical construction, the space would eventually look small. Nevertheless, German lighting designer Jerry Appelt, who is experienced in staging large buildings such as Berlin's new main station, took the challenge to make the palace the centrepiece of his New Year show.

Picture Credits: LOBO®



Brilliant Lasers at bright moments, thanks to LOBO's *Sparks* technology.

Based on the experienced local crew of 360Revolution and Stage Expert, Appelt engaged professional personnel who were experienced in the areas of equipment, operating and design from Germany, like Fireworks Designer Hans Mücke, or Lutz Kleine-Herzbruch, who was responsible for Laser Choreography and Fog.

In addition to a whole armada of Space Cannons and moving lights, the laser effects projectors of LOBO's new *Sparks* product line were chosen for the show. *Sparks* is a modular system based on compact, air-cooled and high-performance laser modules, which are available in different colours and power classes. Thanks to the practical 'building block' principle and a sophisticated compact housing, the monochrome and multi-coloured laser system can be tailored to any given applications quickly and easily.



A total of six systems projected atmospheric beam effects into the audience.



Vast parts of the show was based on LOBO's multi-awarded show library.

Compared to other established solutions, *Sparks* not only provides high output power, but also concentrates its power on an extraordinarily thin beam at even longer distances. This is thanks to LOBO's Post-Collimation System (PCS). This high-powered density results in very high Effective Brightness Values (ELB), which makes *Sparks* just the ideal solution for open-air applications or building projections, such as the Palace of the Parliament.



Due to the height of the building, some effects seemed to float in mid-air.



The front projection system created bouncing mirror effects during the show.

Approximately 100 metres above the stage, a *Sparks* system projected the New Year Countdown onto the façade of the 275-wide Palace and created mirror effects during the subsequent show, while five additional projectors were installed to create atmospheric beam effects right in front of the spectators.

Thanks to the low divergence and an output power of 17 Watts per *Sparks* system, the laser effects were very outstanding in spite of the extremely bright background that was lit up by fireworks and more than 60 Space Cannons.



In spite of the fireworks and more than 60 Space Cannons, the laser effects were very well visible.