

**TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION**  
*Sound & Communications*

**Minerva Theatre**

**Introduction & Orientation**

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## INTRODUCTION AND ORIENTATION

The permanent sound control position is in the control box at the rear of the auditorium accessed via the foyer. The control area is shared with lighting, and has open-able and removable windows. The sound patch-bay is also within the control box.

Our in-house amp racks are installed in the control box.

Stage Management position may be placed in the Auditorium for rehearsals by arrangement and is normally located in a room adjacent to the control box for performances, behind glass and semi sound proofed. Please note - we do not have the facility to position the DSM onstage.

For shows which require the DSM to run playback, it is advised that touring racks are not easily located next to our normal DSM operating position. It may be possible to instead move the DSM to our normal sound operating position. **\* Racks larger than 16U and / or containing heavy amplifiers or UPS equipment may not be possible to locate in our control room due to access constraints \***

It is possible to run multicores around the back of the auditorium seating to the control positions, minimum length is 35m from upstage centre to the sound position

There is limited additional power for toured dimmers or amps. There are a variety of clean 13A supplies across the back wall for sound and there is a 63A 3 phase supply, this is upstage right on the mezzanine

Get in is via a scenery lift in the floor just SL of Upstage centre. In order for it to be operated gates have to be slotted into the floor so the set fit up cannot commence until everything has been loaded into the building unless the set does not sit over the lift.

The lift is accessed from outside by descending a concrete ramp from the road therefore it is important to have sufficient staff should you need to load in heavy equipment/ meat racks etc. CFT can advise.

There is limited storage for equipment in the scene dock, which is on the floor below adjacent to the lift well, to be negotiated with other departments. It is not possible to leave a trailer outside the dock door as the road way is in permanent use.

The Minerva has a fixed rig with no flying facilities, please see details below.

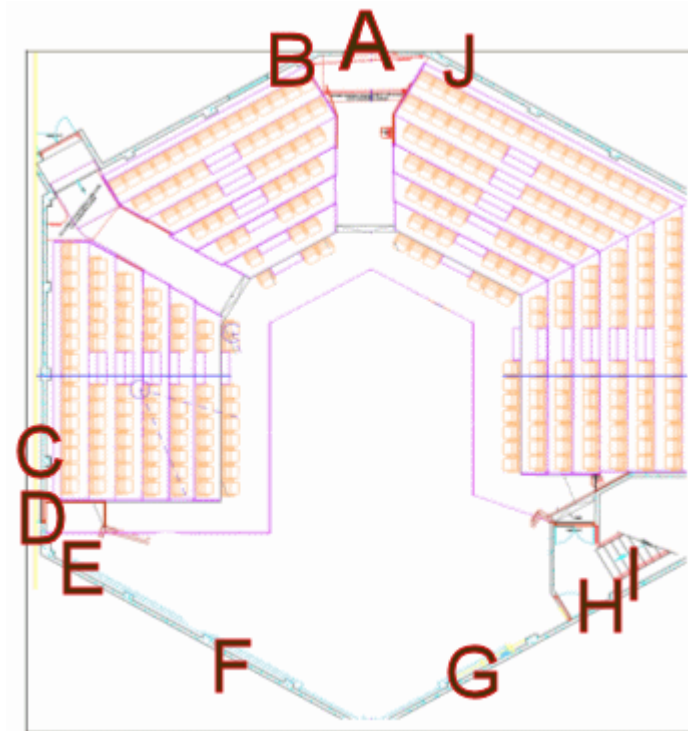
1. **PLAYBACK**

1.1 **Mixer & Digital Matrixing.**

DM1000 Mixer

Mac Minis running QLab v3 via DANTE Virtual Soundcard

2. **INFRASTRUCTURE**



**Sound Position (A)**

Comms Ring A+B

1x16A CeeForm power outlet (sound)

Video BNC x 3 - link to USR Mez, links to control room (under LX desk area).

CAT5 Data tie lines patchable to GFP 201, 203, 101.

**GFP (General Facilities Panel) 201:**

Mic Lines 1-24 and 25-48 (2 x 24-way Veam)

Returns 1-24 (1 x 24-way Veam)

Q-Light x1

Comms Ring A + B

Video BNC lines 1 + 2

CAT5 Data lines 1+2

**DS Wall (B)** (by public entrance double doors)  
Comms A + B  
Q-Light No.6  
XLR speaker outlet DS1 + DS2  
8-way XLR Mic/Line box (dual sex) - back to patchbay  
2x 13A Mains outlets (Sound)

**GFP 101 (C)** (SL, under seating bank)  
Mic Lines 1-24 (3x 8-way Veam connections)  
XLR Mic Lines 1-4, dual sex, shared with 1<sup>st</sup> four lines of veam 1-8  
Comms A x2 & B x2  
Q-lights x2  
Video BNC x2  
NL4 Speakon 1 + 2  
CAT5 Data lines 1+2

**SL Wall (D)**  
Q-Light x1  
Comms A + B

**MSL Wall (E)**  
Q-light x1

**CSL Wall (F)**  
Q-Light x1  
2x 13A mains  
Comms A + B  
8-way XLR mic/line box (dual sex)  
XLR Speaker outlets x2 (US3 and US4)

**CSL Wall (G)**  
Q-Light No.2  
2x 13A mains  
Comms A + B  
8-way XLR mic/line box (dual sex)  
XLR Speaker outlets x2 (US1 and US2)

**SR Stairwell (H) (offstage)**  
Q-Light x1

**USR Mez Level (I)**  
Comms A + B

**DSR (J)** (just outside sound op position)  
Comms A + B

### 3. **AMPLIFICATION & PROCESSING**

House speaker system driven with in-house amps as appropriate. Additional amplification for foldback or FX speakers may be available - charges apply. Please enquire.

### 4. **SPEAKERS**

#### **House System - (permanent)**

2x d&b E9 speakers, flown L + R in a 'prosc' position

2 x D&B C7 Subs situated beneath the seating SL and SR

4 x Meyer UPA-1 enclosures flown centre stage in a cluster covering the thrust seating blocks. Configured in as two pairs. (NB if operating the theatre in the round additional speakers will need to be hung to cover the additional seating banks)

8 x JBL Control 1 'surround' sound system (configured in 4 pairs, driven by two amp channels)

### 5. **COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **5.1 *Intercommunication***

Clearcom PSU combined with a mixture of TecPro and Clearcom beltpacks, usually configured as two channels (A + B)

HME Wireless cans system interfaced with hard wired, available on request as a chargeable item.

Calls from Stage Management position and stage management office can be made to all backstage areas in both the Festival and Minerva Theatre.

Stage Management position may be placed in the Auditorium for rehearsals with prior notice, and the Control Room for performances. We do not have the facility for positioning the DSM onstage.

1x B&W (infrared) camera with distributable signal feed.

1 x Colour camera for backstage show relay picture and to latecomers screen in the foyer.

Basic video recording facility for general show archive purposes is available but requires a suitable notice period and will incur a small charge to cover labour costs and materials if applicable.

Further cameras for use with Musical Directors etc. may be available and can be patched to various outlets. We also have a limited stock of various monitors with hanging cradles etc for this purpose. Please enquire.

#### **5.2 *Cue Lights***

12way red/green cue light system operated from either the control booth or auditorium (in technical only) with patchable outlets on-stage, gallery, sound position, and in the Voms.

#### **5.3 *Show Relay***

Show relay is via a 100V line system serving dressing rooms and backstage areas.

**5.4 Front of House Calls**

Pre-recorded F.O.H. calls are operated using a dedicated CD Player based system operated from the Control Booth by the Lighting operator or DSM.

**6. INVENTORY**

XLR microphone cables of various lengths, subject to availability  
6x 8 way stage boxes with veam multicore connections, subject to availability

We have a limited number of microphones & mic stands available on request - call if you require equipment additional to the 'house system' inventory. These are chargeable items.

**7 RADIO MICROPHONES**

CFT own a limited amount of radio mic systems, both body-worn packs and hand held, and some basic, used mic head stock. These must be booked for use as stock and availability is limited. Charges apply.

**8 RADIO FREQUENCY LICENSING**

We have a limited number of frequencies licensed for use each year. Please contact the Head of Sound in advance if you plan to use radio mics or licensable radio equipment at Chichester Festival Theatre. If planning to use 'free' unlicensed channels, please supply an accurate frequency list so we can ensure the frequency is not being used elsewhere on site at CFT.

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If you have any questions regarding the CFT technical specification, please contact the Chichester Festival Theatre Sound Department on 01243 784 437 ext.2183 or email [sound@cft.org.uk](mailto:sound@cft.org.uk)

**9. Site visits**

We would strongly recommend you have a site visit prior to your arrival at the CFT.

The CFT and Minerva studio are very unique spaces with a number of challenges.

CFT has a lot of experience in adapting proscenium based shows to its thrust stage and our staff will be very happy to assist and advise on the best way of adapting your production to fit into our venues.

**9.1 Environmental**

CFT is committed to reaching carbon net zero by 2035 and asks all companies and stakeholders to consider their impacts on the environment when visiting or working with us. We will issue a green rider to all visiting companies prior to their arrival to detail the facilities and policies at CFT, however in summary-

- We offer plastic, paper and general waste at all collection points.
- In the greenrooms there are food waste bins.
- At stage door and backstage in the Minerva by the greenroom there is battery and toner/print cartridge recycling.

- There are backstage water fountains for filling personal water bottles
  - We do not provide single use receptacles back of house- there are free to use mugs and glasses in greenrooms
  - We offer vegetarian and plant based food options- mostly sourced locally at all food outlets- and company members get a 25% discount in our café's if they are wearing their lanyards which we supply on arrival
  - All areas have low energy lighting with absence detection controls, water saving toilets and sinks, recycled paper products and we generate our own energy through ground source heat pumps and Mechanical Vent Heat Recovery systems.
  - All of the work we create on our stages from September 2024 will aim to meet the Greenbook Basic standards
- There is always more we can do though- so if you have any ideas or questions please feel free to email us on [green@cft.org.uk](mailto:green@cft.org.uk)

## 9.2

### **Contacts:**

Stage Door - 01243 784437

Box Office - 01243 781312

Fax- 01243 787288

Brasserie - 01243 782219

Technical- 01243 812921

House manager- Ben Geering

Theatre Manager- Janet Bakose

Tech Director - Sam Garner-Gibbons

Head of Stage - Tom Hitchins

Head of Sound - Mike Keniger

Head of Lighting- Graham Taylor