chichester festival theatre

Technical Specification

Steven Pimlott Building

Introduction & Orientation

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- 4. Shared facilities
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1 Access

Access to the Pimlott building is via a shared entrance onto a lobby between the 2 rooms.

There is a single lane one way road alongside the building so stopping outside the building is not possible. Unloading can be undertaken either end of the building by pulling up on the pavement but vehicles must be removed as soon as unloaded and parked in the adjacent pay and display car park. The Lobby has a stand alone disabled access lift which can be used for lightweight flight cases or loads. The maximum load is 300kg, or 1 person plus 1 person in a wheelchair, or 2 persons.

Each room has separate exterior access double doors, please see details of these in the sections below.

The main doors are controlled by an access control keypad. You will be issued with an access code or fob- if you have not received this in advance of your arrival please go to the festival theatre stage door where you will be issued with it.

We can supply full CAD plans of the building, and exterior grounds if required

2. Roddick Room

2.1 Layout

The Roddick room is on the left hand side of the shared lobby. It is the larger of the 2 rooms in The Pimlott centre and is used primarily as the main Learning, Education and Participation (LEAP) space.

It has a relatively low pitched ceiling, and a nice quality hardwood floor. There is a raised area to the far end of the room which is often used as the location for tech tables in rehearsals, or as a raised playing area for sharings. This raised area has exterior access from the roadway via double doors

2.2 Doors

The doors from the Lobby into the Roddick room measure:1400mm(w) x 2295mm(h) and are a large single leaf and a half leaf.

The double doors from the road onto the raised area measure: 1770mm(w) x 2400mm(h0 to the lowest point. These are double leaf doors with a maglock and keypad outside.

2.3 Windows

There is low level glazing across the north side of the room affording views across the park. There are also 5 large ceiling windows along the southern side of the roof. None of these windows open.

At the far end of the room is a further large floor to ceiling window which can be opened for additional ventilation.

There are electric blinds which are operable via a set of switches by the lobby entrance, affording a partial blackout in the room, with separate control of the ceiling, North side windows and floor to ceiling far end window. The far end window has a triangular section at the top which the blind does not cover so if a blackout is required some temporary masking will be required for this.

2.4 Walls

Along the south side of the room are full length mirrors for dance use, with noticeboard material at either end for affixing notices, plans, images etc. There is a full length oxford blue serge curtain on a track to cover this wall if mirrors are not required.

There is also a full length oxford blue wool serge curtain across the northern face low level windows also- this is so both can be closed for a better acoustic performance if required.

The walls are all an exposed bare timber construction with grey acoustic treatment to some areas.

On the western end of the room, adjacent to the door onto the lobby area, are a series of cupboards which are used by the LEAP dept to store workshop materials. These are usually kept locked- if you need access please ask at stage door.

2.5 Floor

The floor is a Junkers maple stave floor. It can have PVC tape mark-outs on it- but no screwing, drilling of fixing is permitted to it. If a fixing is required then a secondary sacrificial floor needs to be laid to fix to. The floor is not intentionally sprung however it is of a suspended construction so does have some give and is pleasant to use for dance rehearsals etc.

CFT owns a Harlequin grey dance floor that can be laid if required for dance use- there may be an additional hire charge for this please enquire. The steps of the raised area at the far end of the room have air vents in and are part of the passive air handling system in the room so these should not be covered or obscured.

2.5 Dimensions

The overall length of the room: 17.6m

The width of the room: 11.2m

The dimensions of the lower playing area: 13.25m (L) x 11.2 (W)

The dimensions of the upper area: 3.4m (L) x 11.2m narrowing to 10.5m (W) The roof line is pitched in an asymmetric fashion. At its lowest point on the north side in the main playing area it is 2770mm high, rising to a maximum height on 4360mm high and dropping again on the south side to 3330mm high.

It is important to note that the lighting to the room is via suspended raft lights that run the length of the room further reducing overhead height. In general therefore the room is only suitable for floor work and any raised level sets or work that is aerial based will need to be carefully considered as the room may not be suitable.

2.7 Lighting, sound and facilities

General lighting is via a series of raft lights that run the length of the room. These are a Fluorescent light source which is dimmable via a press and hold set of buttons by the entrance- so differing levels of brightness can be achieved.

At each corner of the room, the far end raised level and at high level on the wall above the lobby door is a technical facilities panel. Each of these has a single socapex outlet which is fed from a master panel to the right of the lobby door- allowing dimmers to be plugged in and then fed to each panel saving lengthy socapex runs.

Each facilities panel has a DMX outlet which is installed on a plug through loop- so a single universe of data can be daisy chained around the room. There is a double Cat5e data point in each panel- this runs back to a patch panel in the plant room in the shared lobby- it can be patched as required to the internet or to allow some cat5 connectivity between the Roddick room and the Rehearsal room.

The panels also have a range of audio connections and VGA outlets to connect the various areas of the room saving cable runs.

2.7 Temporary power

There is a substantial ring of double 13A sockets at low level around the perimeter of the room for general power.

In addition to the left of the main lobby doors is a 63A and a 32A SPNE commando outlet each with local RCD.

Each facilities panel has a double 13A socket adjacent and the high level facility panel has its own 13A projector power outlet.

2.8 Overhead rig

There is no overhead rig no any loading points of significant capacity. There is a grid of 8 heavy duty M12 screw eyes fixed into the timber rafters. These give a nominal 50kg loading capacity suitable only for light weight suspension of pipe and drape systems. Any lighting or sound rigging needs to be ground supported only- the roof structure is not designed to take any additional heavy loads

3. Rehearsal Room

3.1 Layout

The Rehearsal room is on the right hand side of the shared lobby. It is the smaller of the 2 rooms in The Pimlott centre and is used primarily as the main production rehearsal space.

It has a double height ceiling, and a permanently installed and underlaid heavy duty grey dance floor.

The room has an additional store cupboard accessed from within the room and 2 sets of exterior doors to facilitate scenic access.

3.2 Doors

The doors from the Lobby into the Rehearsal room measure:

915mm(w) x 2050mm(h) and are a single leaf.

There is a further door in the far corner which is 1 and a half leaves accessed via an access ramp. The narrowest point of the access ramp is 1090mm wide. The door measures: 1350mm(w) x 2320(h).

Finally, there is a large set of double doors at the far end of the room. These are accessed via a set of 3 treads outside, but there is a large lawned area adjacent so there are routes to get larger items through. The doors measure: 2000mm(w) x 2260mm(h)

3.3 Windows

There is full; height glazing across the north side of the room affording views across the park. There are 2 panes at the top of this which are openable for additional ventilation. There are also 5 large ceiling windows along the southern side of the roof, which do not open.

There are electric and manual blinds, affording a reasonable blackout in the room.

3.4 Walls

Along the south side of the room are full length mirrors for dance use, with noticeboard material at either end for affixing notices, plans, images etc. There is a full length oxford blue serge curtain on a track to cover this wall if mirrors are not required.

There is also a full length oxford blue wool serge curtain across the northern face full height windows also- this is so both can be closed for a better acoustic performance if required.

The walls are all an exposed bare timber construction with grey acoustic treatment to some areas.

On the eastern end of the room, adjacent to the door onto the lobby area, are a series of cupboards which are used by the LEAP dept to store workshop materials. These are usually kept locked- if you need access please ask at stage door. Next to these is a door to an additional store cupboard where chairs, tables and additional rehearsal equipment can be stored.

3.5 Floor

The floor is a permanently bonded heavy duty Harlequin dance floor with a thick underlay. It can have PVC tape markouts on it- **but no screwing, drilling of fixing is permitted to it.** If a fixing is required then a secondary sacrificial floor needs to be laid to fix to.

The floor is not intentionally sprung however it is of a suspended construction so does have some give and is pleasant to use for dance rehearsals etc.

At the far end of the room are air vents set into the floor in that are part of the passive air handling system in the room so these should not be covered or obscured.

3.6 Dimensions

The overall length of the room is: 13m

The width of the room is:11.2m narrowing slightly to 10.7m

The roof line is pitched in an asymmetric fashion. At its lowest point on the north side in the main playing area it is 4680mm high, rising to a maximum height on 5140mm high and dropping again on the south side to 3320mm high.

It is important to note that the lighting to the room is via suspended raft lights that run the length of the room further reducing overhead height. It is advisable to do an audit of the room before constructing and high level structures.

3.7 Lighting, sound and facilities

General lighting is via a series of raft lights that run the length of the room. These are a Fluorescent light source which is dimmable via a press and hold set of buttons by the entrance- so differing levels of brightness can be achieved.

At each corner of the room and at high level on the wall above the lobby door is a technical facilities panel. Each of these has a single socapex outlet which is fed from a master panel to the right of the lobby door- allowing dimmers to be plugged in and then fed to each panel saving lengthy socapex runs.

Each facilities panel has a DMX outlet which is installed on a plug through loop- so a single universe of data can be daisy chained around the room. There is a double Cat5e data point in each panel- this runs back to a patch panel in the plant room in the shared lobby- it can be patched as required to the internet or to allow some cat5 connectivity between the Roddick room and the Rehearsal room.

The panels also have a range of audio connections and VGA outlets to connect the various areas of the room saving cable runs.

3.8 Temporary power

There is a substantial ring of double 13A sockets at low level around the perimeter of the room for general power.

In addition to the left of the main lobby doors is a 63A and a 32A SPNE breaker for tailing in power but please note there is no circuit protection local to these outlets.

Each facilities panel has a double 13A socket adjacent and the high level facility panel has its own 13A projector power outlet.

3.9 Overhead rig

There is no overhead rig no any loading points of significant capacity. There is a grid of 8 heavy duty M12 screw eyes fixed into the timber rafters. These give a nominal 50kg loading capacity suitable only for light weight suspension of pipe and drape systems. Any lighting or sound rigging needs to be ground supported only- the roof structure is not designed to take any additional heavy loads

4 Shared Facilities

4.1 Lobby Area

In the lobby area is a shared kitchen. This has an under counter fridge and dishwasher, a plumbed water boiler for tea and coffee, sink with drainer and a range of high and low level cupboards containing crockery and cutlery. There is a plumbed chilled water cooler adjacent to the kitchen.

Please note as a shared facility personal items should be marked and the area needs to be kept tidy and clean

4.2 Toilets

There are 4 toilets in total. An accessible unisex toilet, a unisex toilet with baby change and then a male and female toilet. Note that the toilets all have identical sanitary items so their use can be adapted as required by the users of the Pimlott (for segregation by age groups or to make non gender specific).

4.3 Telephones and connectivity

There is a telephone in each room - charges might prevail for outside line use. Dial '0' for stage door and '9' for an outside line.

There is also wifi across the whole building- please consult stage door for the relevant codes.

4.4 Heating and cooling

The whole building is underfloor heated and is set to a suitable temperature. If you need the temperature altered please contact stage door.

The building has a passive cooling system in both rooms, not air conditioning. This should keep the room at a good temperature but if you have any issues contact stage door.

If you prop open any doors please ensure you shut and lock them when you leave the room unattended for security reasons.

4.5 Equipment in rooms

Both rooms have an upright piano, up to 50 stacking upholstered chairs and a selection of trestle tables.

There are a selection of additional tables and chairs available please enquire.

Additional equipment such as keyboards, sound playback systems, music stands etc are available on request and may be chargeable.

4.6 Smoking

The CFT is a NO SMOKING site except in 3 designated areas, Festival theatre green room garden, immediately outside the Minerva backstage door, and around the back of the Pimlott building by the garden area. Smoking in all other areas is strictly prohibited. Only herbal cigarettes and e cigarettes may be used on stage in the FT as part of a performance for reference- in the Minerva only E cigarettes are permissible on stage.

4.7 Fire detection

The Pimlott has a sensitive fire detection system that is networked back to the main theatres for monitoring. All detector heads are smoke heads (not heat) so it is imperative that no smoke or effects that are likely to produce smoke are used without prior consultation with CFT.

4.8 Exterior lighting and security

There is low level exterior lighting around the perimeter of the building as well as PIR floodlights to the rear of the building by the bike storage. Please note however that the area is quite dark and the building opens onto the access road so care should be taken by users and participants when exiting the building at night.

There is CCTV coverage of the buildings, however all personal contents are the property of the owner and CFT will not be held liable for any loss or damage. You can request to view the CCTV footage if there is any incident that you are investigating.

4.8 Parking

There are no on site parking spaces but there is a 900 space public parking area adjacent to the theatre with parking costing under £6 for an entire

5 General

5.1 Access control

CFT has an access control system to protect all staff and visitors at CFT. You will be issued with a pin by stage door. This pin will grant access through all doors that CFT anticipates you needing. If there are any issues please contact stage door

5.2 Food

CFT has a range of Cafés, bars and restaurants with various opening times. Please enquire with stage door for details of these

5.3 Shopping and Location

CFT is located at the northern tip of the City of Chichester which has excellent shopping facilities. Chichester city centre has a large selection of high street shops and more boutique options. Around the periphery are the usual supermarkets as well as Homebase, Screwfix and various timber merchants and suppliers. Please enquire with stage door or CFT staff for any advice.

5.4 Bikes

CFT takes its environmental responsibilities very seriously and it actively promotes non-polluting forms of local transport. We have a sizeable number of cycle storage racks with CCTV and lighting deterrents. We also have a fleet of "rental" bikes that can be loaned to visitors for their use whilst at CFT. If you are interested in making use of one please contact the Stage door who can put you in contact with the relevant department to hire one during your stay.

6.1 *6.5* Contacts

 Stage Door
 01243 784437

 Box Office
 01243 781312

 Fax
 01243 787288

 Brasserie
 01243 782219

 Technical
 01243 812921

Theatre Manager Janet Bakose	01243 812916
Head of Customer Operations Ben Geering	01243 812927
Marketing Lydia Cassidy	01243 812929
Tech Director Sam Garner-Gibbons	01243 812921
Head of Stage Karl Meier	01243 812895
Head of Sound Mike Keniger	01243 812926
Learning, Education & Participation Dale Rooks	01243 812919

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