

Welcome!

This is the Technical Specification for **Downstairs at the MAC**.



Please ensure you read this document fully - this will help ensure that you will have a straightforward and pleasant experience on-site at The MAC.

As a climate-conscious venue, we strive to reduce our carbon impact as much as possible in every aspect of production. We also strongly encourage incoming productions to consider the most ecologically-friendly ways to tour shows - from planning and transport, to energy usage and zero-production-waste. We are happy to provide local knowledge if it can help minimise our impact on the planet.

Loading Area, Scene Dock and stage proper are situated on the ground floor.
All measurements in metres unless specified.
All control equipment in Control Room unless specified.

Any questions or queries, please contact the Technical Team (tech@themaclive.com). E+OE

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Venue Capacities, Dimensions and Facilities

Principal Dimensions & Capacities (subject to configuration)

Audience seated, end-on	343
Standing (+ seated balcony and mezzanines)	550
Cabaret	290
Overall venue width	14.2m
Overall venue length	23.3m
Stage width (wall to wall)	14.2m
Stage width (proscenium opening DS)	9.9m
- Proscenium border height from floor	5.25m
Stage depth (edge of seating pit to US wall)	10.8m
Height (to underside of RSJs/runway beams)	10.7m
Height (to underside of technical galleries)	8.5m

Standard Performance Dimensions

10m wide by 10m deep

with a 3m Stage Left Wing and 1m Stage Right Wing

This is based on a Centre Line relative to the main seating bank

Stage

2x	cross stage motorised hoist bars	10.9m long, 250kg payload
14x	cross stage hand winch bars	11.1m long, 250kg payload

NB: Dynamic (mid-show) flying in and out not available

1x	full stage tab track
1x	full stage swipe track
1x	swipe masking
1x	German masking swipe track per side (fixed, in line with underside of Tech gallery)
	Immovable False proscenium (grey colour)
	Retractable stalls seating to create flat floor
	Seating pit infill to create flat floor

Stage Floor has a 7.5kN distributed Floor Loading with a 6kN point Floor Load

Drapes

2x	borders (black wool serge)	13m (wide) x 2.5m (drop)
7x	legs (black wool serge)	2m (wide) x 8m (drop)
6x	legs (black wool serge)	1m (wide) x 8m (drop)
2x	half tabs (black wool serge)	6.8m (wide) x 8m (drop)
1x	white backcloth (filled cloth)	11m (wide) x 8m (drop)
5x	German masking legs (fixed, per side)	2m(wide) x 4.8m (drop)

Control Room

The control room, for the operation of sound, lighting, AV and Stage Management, is located at the rear of the first tier. The room is fully open into the auditorium from waist height. In the event of emergency, a fire curtain drops automatically to cover this void fully, therefore all cabling must be routed appropriately elsewhere.

Audio description is also located within the control room in a separate booth isolated from the audience by a plain glass window.

Performance Lighting

PLEASE NOTE - THE MAC IS A 16A VENUE (CEEFORM OUTLETS)

Auditorium Lighting Positions

2x	fixed bridges suspended in auditorium (Bridge 2 - reduced view of stage)
1x	Balcony rail front (equivalent to Circle)
1x (per side)	Proscenium booms (reduced view of stage)

Control + Dimmers

ETC Ion & Universal Fader Wing (running Eos v3)
DMX and Ethernet patching throughout

ETC Sensor: 116 x 3kW and 10 x 5kW
Non-Dims: 32 x 3kW

Focus is done by a Genie lift or (as a last resort) ladders (maximum LX trim height of 6.50m only for ladders)

Power Supply

Installed dimmers	300A TPN
Scene dock	125A TPN (spare power)
Scene dock	63A SPN (spare sound power)
Scene dock	63A TPN (outside broadcast power)
Stage right	125A TPN (spare power)

Please note all power outlets are on Ceeform Type sockets.

A follow-spot position can be made available, if requested in advance. Please note that no follow-spot is available in-house.

Lantern Stock

30x	Selecon Rama 1kW Fresnel	6kg
8x	Selecon Arena 2kW Fresnel	11kg
10x	ETC S4 15-30 Zoom Profile	9.5kg
10x	ETC S4 25-50 Zoom Profile	8kg
20x	ETC S4 Jnr 25-50	5kg
12x	Par 64	2kg

3x	Elation Satura Profile (440W cool LED source w/ CMY mix)	35kg
9x	Elation Fuze Z350 Wash (350W LED RGBW source)	21kg
9x	Elation Fuze Par Z175 (Static, motorised zoom Fresnel-style)	10kg

These LED based items form our 'generic' LX rig and draw considerably less power than conventional fixtures. We will always use these lanterns in preference for stage colour wash and will encourage you to do the same. (plan available on request)

Accessories:

1x	ETC S4 Iris
2x	ETC S4 Jr Iris
6x	ETC S4 Gobo Frame (B-size)

max 10x Floor boom bases

max 20x LX boom arms

These are shared between our two theatre spaces and are subject to availability.

Performance Communications

- 1x Stage manager's desk (sockets located DSL, DSR and in the control room)
- 6x cue light circuits (through Stage manager's desk only)
- 14x cue light outlets

- 4x wired digital intercom systems
- 4x wireless intercom
- 23x intercom outlets

Audio show relay available to all backstage areas and dressing rooms

Video relay (composite - SD quality only) to rear of control room and cabling infrastructure to most technical service panels.

Fixed colour and low-light-IR camera at rear of audience balcony

Audience Accessibility

A Sennheiser IR system is in place to facilitate necklace-style earphone receivers. Currently set-up with one channel for Audio Description (where provided by the company / show) and another channel for the house show relay microphone.

Performance Audio

FOH PA system

Proscenium mounted Martin Audio FOH system

- 3x W3P main (lower, mid, upper house) per side;
- 1x AQ10 fill (mezzanine) per side;
- 1x ASX18 sub per side

Powered by Martin Audio MA series amplifiers with locked DSP

FOH fed from L+R (balanced analog from control room only)

Small centre fill available DSC, show (setting) dependent

- 4x Adorn A55, equally distributed across DS performance line

Fill fed from L+R or balanced analog mono from control room only

(Please note - appropriate for additional coverage only)

Monitors / Effect Speakers

- 6x Auxiliary amplifier channels
- 16x Auxiliary amplifier outlets

Additional speakers, ALL subject to building-wide availability:

- 6x Martin Audio F10 Blackline loudspeaker
- 2x Martin Audio F12 Blackline loudspeaker
- 4x Martin Audio DD6 loudspeaker (on request and subject to availability)
- 1x Sennheiser ewG4 wireless IEM system w/ 2x beltpack Rx

Audio Mixing

DiGiCo SD12 96 w/ SDrack over Optocore; Dante 64@96 DMI card; DiGiCo AMM DMI card

SDrack:

- 56x analog XLR inputs (32bit input cards)
- 32x analog XLR outputs (32bit output cards)

Surface:

- 8x analog XLR inputs
- 8x analog XLR outputs
- 4x pair AES XLR I/O

Other Audio Infrastructure

- 83x Microphone lines
- 30x Audio tie lines (in/out)
- Dante Network (within venue only)
- AMM DMI card

Microphone Spec

A selection of microphones are available on request. These are shared between our venue spaces and must be cleared with the Technical Team in advance.

At additional cost:

- 1x 12way Shure ULX-D (comprising of 10x beltpack & 4x handheld Tx [SM58 capsule])

Performance AV and Playback

AV Equipment

- 1x Panasonic PT-RZ970 (10k lumens, laser 1 chip DLP, WUXGA)
- DLE170 zoom lens (1.7 - 2.4 ratio)
(hanging central to seating bank, in front of Control Room)
- 1x Projector screen (front only) 5.5m (wide) x 3.1m (tall)
- 1x Roland V60HD video switcher
- 1x SDI tie-line (DSL to/from control room)

Computer Playback / Sync

MacMini (2025 M4 Pro Model)
Software - Qlab v5 (licensed for Audio + Video only); Dante Virtual Soundcard

Cat5e/6 + WiFi control network (no internet)

Elgato Stream Deck 15 + 6 running via network for Qlab/ETC Eos/Roland V60 over OSC
Dante Network (MacMini; SD12 DMI; Shure ULX-D; Dante USB-C AVIO)

Loading Access + Parking

Loading access is available from Edward Street, BT1 2LR ([map here](#)).

NB: the intercom at the rear access is not in use - on arrival, please report directly to Box Office via the St. Anne's Square entrance.

For large, heavy and awkward items (props, set, staging, technical or other), it may be necessary to remove the bollards at the access point. This **must** be advised and discussed at least **one week** in advance, as we require written requests to the landlord for their removal.

Loading Area, Scene Dock and stage proper are situated on the ground floor.

Loading Door: maximum 2.9m wide by 2.5m high.

Stage access door (from Scene Dock to stage) is situated Up Stage Left and is 2.2m wide by 4.7m high.

Please note that there is no on-site parking at The MAC.

For small vehicles (cars, car-form vans eg: Transporter, Kangoo etc), there is on-street (ticketed/app) parking on Academy Street, Exchange Street West and Talbot Street, whilst Saint Annes Square (ticketed) is a paid multi-storey.

For larger vehicles (LWB vans etc), there is a car park at Tomb Street/Corporation Street, or some larger on-street spaces (both ticketed).

For large vehicles (Luton-style and larger), we can arrange for unsecured parking off-site (and a return taxi), or Applegreen services both M1 southbound or M2 northbound can provide short-term facilities.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Any proposed use of naked flames, pyrotechnics etc **must** be cleared well in advance of arrival.
- All scenery must be treated with fire-retardant spray (eg Flamecheck or Fire Check).
- All touring electrical equipment (lighting, audio, AV, other) must be Portable Appliance Tested (PAT) prior to arrival.
- All relevant Risk Assessments (RAs), Certificates and other documentation must be supplied in advance of arriving on-site (preferably no less than 6 weeks in advance, where possible).
- Crew requirements must be requested and mutually agreed in advance.
- The Scene Dock **must not** be used as a workshop and must always be kept clear.
- All venue fire procedures must be followed (no blocking fire routes, exits, extinguishers etc).
- All backstage areas painted red **must be clear at all times, with no exceptions.**
- **Painting of the stage floor is strictly prohibited.** Show floors are permissible but must be discussed in advance.
- Where supplying a hanging plot / LX plan, ensure that hanging weight is evenly distributed and **does not exceed the maximum SWL.**
- All incoming suspended items (electrical, masking, other) **MUST** have a known weight (in kg, including accessories), have correctly rated secondary safeties, and be rigged by a competent and qualified operator.
- Incoming suspended items must be covered by your H+S protocols and included in your RAs.
- The theatre, back- and front-of-house areas are not a disposal facility. At the end of your visit, all production assets (set, props, costumes, branding, packaging, food waste etc) must be removed. If any area of the building has been left with detritus at the end of your visit, the MAC **will** engage professional waste disposal (at a cost of £250ex VAT) and **the cost will be deducted from your settlement / added to your bill.**

