



TOWN  
HALL  
BIRMINGHAM

# Technical Specification

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# 1. Seating

Maximum capacity = 1086

## Stalls

- Theatre style seating - all removable if required.
- 497 chairs plus 6 designated wheelchair positions.
- When the touring mixer position is in use - reduce by 19 seats.
- When the stage extension (see below) is used at 2m, reduce by 85 seats (3 rows - A, B, C).
- When the stage extension (see below) is used at 3m, reduce by 114 seats (4 rows - A, B, C, D).
- With ground stacks either side of stage, reduce by 10 seats for sightlines. These can be released if necessary.
- When stage steps (see below) are used; no extension - reduce by 10 seats (A1-5 & 24-28 / B1-5 & 24-29); 2m extension - reduce by 11 seats (D1-5 & 24-29); 3m extension - reduce by 10 seats (E1-5 & 24-28).

## Circle

- 358 seats.

## Circle (sides)

- 52 seats.
- 4 wheelchair positions.

## Choir

- 179 choir benches. (Restricted sight-lines & possibly sound - to be put on sale only in agreement with Town Hall management.)

## Part Seated / Part Standing

- It is possible for certain events to remove all of the stalls seating, and to have a standing area instead.
- The maximum capacity for a standing audience in the stalls is 800, and this will require the hiring of a crowd barrier (approximate cost £600+VAT), and the agreement of THSH management.
- With the circle seating, this takes the overall capacity to 1,200.

## 2. Platform

- Flat upstage wall with diagonal corner sections, 14.6m wide and 8.0m deep.
- Stage height 1.25m.
- A corridor lift provides a level access route from the get-in to the auditorium and to raise items to stage level. This is 8.0m x 2.0m. There is no other route for items into the hall or onto stage.
- Two lifts allow the rear part of the stage to be tiered. These are each 2.2m deep. Downstage lift rises to 360mm max. Upstage lift rises to 720mm max.
- A temporary stage extension is available. This is constructed from steel deck and extends the stage by 2m or 3m (recharge).
- Steps are available for access from / to the auditorium.

## Equipment

- Conductor's podium
- 100 orchestral chairs (blue coloured)
- 4 stools with backs (blue coloured)
- 50 music stands (with lights if required)
- 1 conductor's music stand (with light if required)
- (4) x 4'x4' Lite deck (with 1' legs)
- TV / DVD Player (recharge)
- Small portable PA (recharge)
- 2 x JemZR24 Hazer (recharge)
- Christie LHD700 7000 Lumens Projector - permanently hung in canopy (recharge)
- 14' x 10.5' front/rear screen - hung on cyc bar or for stage (recharge)
- Sanyo PLCXT25 XGA 4500 Lumens Projector (1:1.28-1.64) - for stage (recharge)
- 10.5' x 7' rear projection screen - for stage (recharge)
- Panasonic PTLB50NTEA Projector - for Lower Bar (with pull down screen)

## Pianos

- 1 x Steinway D (recharge)
- 1 x Steinway B (recharge)
- 2 x Uprights - Dressing Rooms 1 & 2

## Organ

- 89 stop pipe organ (William Hill, 1834) (recharge)  
with attached draw-stop console

## Pyros

- Please note that the use of pyrotechnics or other activities involving naked flames, confetti or glitter cannons are strictly forbidden in Town Hall due to the Health and Safety risks.

## Haze / Smoke

- Please note that only TH house hazers are permitted for use. No other hazer or smoke machine may be used.

## 3. Access

- 2 loading bays, 3.0m wide, 13.0m long, (a) 0.80m (b) 1.10m high, off Paradise Circus, flat access around outside of building. Get-in doors 1.30m wide and 2.04m high.
  - Flat access (down short ramp) to stage get-in.
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## 4. Suspension

- There is provision for point hoists over the stage (we have no motors, etc.).
- All primary suspensions are to be rigged by THSH rigging staff (recharge).
- NB. No points to be rigged from the canopy.
- **Truss-walking is prohibited (we have no access for focusing touring lights)**
- A cyc bar (following the upstage wall) is available for black drapes or star cloth (recharge).
- Ceiling height is 17.90m above platform level.
- Loads that can be hung from the rigging points are as follows;
  - Truss 1 350kg per point (audience end)
  - Truss 2 350kg per point
  - Truss 3 350kg per point
  - Truss 4 350kg per point
  - Truss 5 350kg per point
  - Truss 6 350kg per point (organ end)
- A rigging plan is available.

# 5. Lighting

## House

- Tungsten lighting.

## Concert

- 24 x Source Four Par 575W open-white permanent lighting mounted within the canopy, and whilst independent of the main production lighting, it can be integrated with it.

## Production

- A plan is available
- Desk
  - ETC Congo (with Cobalt software)
- Circuit loadings
  - 96 x 10Amp
  - 24 x 25Amp
- Luminaires
  - 5 x VL1000 ERS Tungsten (shutter)
  - 9 x VL1000 ERS Tungsten (iris)
  - 11 x VL500 wash Tungsten
  - 24x Source Four Par 575W (concert lighting only)

The above is permanently rigged within canopy.

- 24 x Source Four Par 575W
- 4 x ETC Selador Vivid-R LED (organ specials)

The above is permanently rigged on 6 side wall lighting frames.

- 2 x Robert Juliat Flo 1.8 MSR Follow Spot (recharge)

Only THSH technicians are permitted to operate follow spots due to evacuation training requirements.

- Chauvet floor package including Slimpar Tri12 LED x 6, Colorado 1 TriTour LED Wash x 6 and Rogue 1 Spot Moving Heads x4 (recharge)

- NB. No extra lights are to be hung from the canopy or side frames.
- For touring shows, a large area is available at the rear of the stalls for lighting desk etc.
- Touring followspots can be accommodated either side of the control room (on balcony) via 2 x 32A/single sockets.
- Lighting power (Stage right) is 400 amps 3phase via Powerloks, 32A/3phase cee-form or 63A/3phase cee-form.

# 6. Sound

## Acoustic Systems

- The acoustic adjustments within the auditorium are entirely by physical means and no electronics are employed.
- The acoustic canopy is a series of reflectors in a checker board style, suspended over the stage and auditorium and can move to preset positions that alter the acoustic character of the hall.
- 27 acoustic blinds over the main windows are used to vary the acoustics of the hall.
- All power operated units are controlled from stage right by Town Hall technical staff.

## Amplification Systems

The in-house PA system is capable for speech and light instrument amplification only. It is only to be used for this purpose. We have no ground stacks or monitor mixer.

If you require further amplification, we can provide a PA company to supply this, subject to quotation. This quote will include crew and operators. Standard PA cost is approximately £900.00 +VAT dependent on requirements. Auxiliary equipment will be an additional charge.

- The house loudspeaker system is manufactured by Duran Audio (**not available for touring shows**).  
Coverage is via flown loudspeakers from the centre of the canopy.  
This comprises of 7 x Target U16 units & 2 x Target B215 subs.  
In addition there are 2 x U16 units for choir seating. There are also 5 x Axys U-12+ for front fill. Also, 2 x RCF TT08A fills for side balconies.
- The mixer is an Allen and Heath GL2800 32:8:8:3, supported by a Tascam CD-RW900 CD recorder, Tascam CD-A700 CD / cassette player, Tascam MD-350 mini disc recorder, dbx 166XL compressor / limiter (2ch), Yamaha SPX2000 multi effects processor and 2 x Yamaha Q2031B stereo 31 band graphic equalizers. Control position is within the control room at the rear of the circle (open sides / roof).
- There are also 4 x RCF 310 monitors available and a selection of microphones.
- A list of available microphones is available.
- There are tie-lines around the stage for the in-house sound system.
- For touring shows, a large area is available at the rear of the stalls for mixer etc. There are pass throughs each side of the stage and cables can run along suspended hooks under the circle at approximately 2m high (no ladder provided). There are flown speakers, 2 x RCF TT08A, on the canopy to plug into (at mixer position) which cover the rear rows of the circle. **Adequate coverage must be provided to the side balconies. The house PA system is not available to be used in conjunction with touring systems.**
- Sound power (Stage Left) is 63A/3phase cee-form or 63A/single phase cee-form.
- Additional power at loading bay is 63A/3phase via 3x 32A/single phase cee-form and 3 x 16A/single phase cee-form. This supply is situated beneath the pavement in the loading bay and is activated by Town Hall stage door staff.
- The route for cables from loading bay to stage right is approximately 40m.

## 7. Ancillary Accommodation

### Backstage area

- Platform level  
There are drop down shelves on the walls for instrument cases etc.

### Dressing Rooms

- Platform level
  - Principal dressing room - full en suite (No.1)
  - Principal dressing room - full en suite (disabled) (No.2)
  - 2 x dressing rooms - full en suite (No.3, No.4)
- Above platform
  - 2 x dressing rooms - toilet only (No.5, No.6)
  - 2 x dressing rooms (No.7, No.8)

### Offices

- A production office is available opposite stage door.
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## 8. Health & Safety

- All events will need to send a risk assessment to us covering all activities undertaken at our venue by members of your company. This is a mandatory legal requirement under the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, and it is essential that we have this information.
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## 9. Staffing

- The following technical staff are included within the rental
  - Stage Manager
  - Assistant Stage Manager
  - Lighting Technician
- A Sound Technician (if required) is charged as below and will be called for the duration of the other technicians.

## 10. Recharges

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • Stage Extension - 2m                    | Price on request                              |
| • Stage Extension - 3m                    | Price on request                              |
| • Sound Technician / equipment            | £20.50 per hour (min 4 hour call) - see below |
| • Basic sound equipment                   | £55.00  |
| • TV / DVD Player                         | £55.00  |
| • Portable PA                             | £55.00  |
| • 2 x JemZR24 Hazer                       | £25.00 each                                   |
| • Mirror ball                             | £25.00  |
| • 14' x 10.5' front projection screen     | £65.00  |
| • Projector - Christie LHD700 7000 Lumens | £225.00                                       |
| • Piano (Steinway B or D)                 | £220.00 (includes 1 tuning)                   |
| • Extra piano tuning or attend            | £85.00  |
| • Organ                                   | £450.00                                       |
| • Rigger                                  | £415.00                                       |
| • Loaders                                 | £60.00 each / per 4 hours                     |
| • Dance floor (black)                     | £120.00                                       |
| • Black floor covering (pop shows)        | £120.00                                       |
| • Removal/reinstatement stalls seats      | £480.00                                       |
| • Star cloth                              | £275.00                                       |
| • Follow spots                            | £70.00 per spot / per 4 hours                 |
| • Professional recording                  | £550.00                                       |
| • Archive recording                       | £275.00                                       |
- NB. ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO VAT
  - If the Hirer uses the Town Hall PA system, there is an applicable charge of £20.50+VAT per hour (minimum 4 hours), to cover the cost of the equipment including setting up, and a THSH sound technician. Please note that the hirer may bring their own PA system operator, but the Town Hall charge will still be applicable, due to set-up requirements and the supervision of the in-house equipment.
  - If the THSH production team, Head of - or Assistant Head of - Technical Services confirms that the Hirer's sound requirements are basic and can be deemed to be managed by the THSH lighting technician, then the Hirer will pay a one-off charge of £55.00+VAT to cover the use of the required equipment.



# 11. Contacts

## Production Team

Email: [production@thsh.co.uk](mailto:production@thsh.co.uk)

**Kat Hodgkinson**, Production Liaison Officer

Tel: 0121 644 6015 / Email: [kat.hodgkinson@thsh.co.uk](mailto:kat.hodgkinson@thsh.co.uk)

**Sarah Taylor**, Production Liaison Officer

Tel: 0121 644 6166 / Email: [sarah.taylor@thsh.co.uk](mailto:sarah.taylor@thsh.co.uk)

## Technical Team

**Simon Creed**, Head of Technical Services (including facilities)

Tel: 0121 644 5057 / Mob: 07718864441 / Email: [simon.creed@thsh.co.uk](mailto:simon.creed@thsh.co.uk)

**Phil Morris**, Assistant Head of Technical Services (including commercial/corporate hire)

Tel: 0121 644 6300 / Email: [phil.morris@thsh.co.uk](mailto:phil.morris@thsh.co.uk)

**Paul Bennett**, Technician

**Lee Hegan**, Technician

**Andy Pitt**, Technician

**David Shephard**, Technical Assistant

**Andy Lindsey**, Technical Assistant

**Greg Andrews**, Technical Assistant

## Other Contacts

**Chris Proctor**, Programme Manager

Tel: 0121 644 6157 / Email: [chris.proctor@thsh.co.uk](mailto:chris.proctor@thsh.co.uk)

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