



**SYMPHONY  
HALL  
BIRMINGHAM**

# Technical Specification

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# 1. Seating

- Fixed theatre type seating, maximum capacity 2266 on four levels in a classical oval concert hall configuration.
- Seating division by areas is:

Stalls and Stalls Terrace	892 (see below) plus 4 wheelchair spaces
Circle	566 (includes 222 choir seats)
Upper Circle	291
Grand Tier	513

- When the stage extension is in use the Stalls capacity is reduced by 120.
  - When the touring sound / lighting area is in use (centre lift + audience right of lift), the Stalls Terrace capacity is reduced by 23.
  - When the house sound cockpit is in use the Stalls Terrace capacity is reduced by 11.
  - There are a further 6 demountable seats (audience left of the cockpit lift).
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# 2. Platform

- Semi-circular concert platform, 23m wide and 15m deep.
- With the stage extension raised the depth is increased to 18m.
- Stage height 1.2m.
- The orchestra/choir risers are on air ride castors and can be removed to create a fully flat stage.
- Steps to / from the auditorium are provided.
- Plans and photographs are available.

## Equipment

- 150 orchestral chairs (red coloured)
- 8 high chairs (red coloured)
- 100 music stands (with light if required)
- Conductor's podium
- Conductor's music stand
- 2 lecterns (red front)
- 6 lite-deck sections 8' x 4'
- Portable PA (recharge)
- 2 Le Maître 3004MVS Hazer (recharge)
- Christie LHD700 7000 Lumens Projector (recharge)
- 10.5' x 7' rear projection screen (recharge)

## Pianos

- 2 x Steinway D
- 1 x Steinway B (1 x on raised level)
- 1 x Yamaha CFIII
- 1 x Yamaha C7
- 3 x Uprights

## Special Effects

- Pyrotechnics - Please note that we need at least 14 days' notice for the use of pyrotechnics or other activities involving naked flames. These services need to be supplied & operated by a competent firm. Our Pyrotechnic Policy will be sent to you upon notification of the use of pyros, this includes a form which will need to be completed and returned, along with comprehensive risk assessments and safe systems of work documents. An inspection and test will need to be carried out on the day of the event with our Pyrotechnic Officer.
  - Smoke or haze - Please note that we need at least 7 days' notice for the use of smoke or haze etc.
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## 3. Access

- Flat access for platform area via loading door 3.3 m wide and 4.0 m high.
  - Covered loading bay area approximately 24 m long, 8 m wide, 4.0 m high.
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## 4. Suspension

- There is provision for point hoists over the stage (we have no motors or hoists).
- All primary suspensions are to be rigged by Symphony Hall staff (recharge).  
**NB. No points to be rigged from the canopy.**
- A curved cyc bar is available for masking drapes or in-house black drapes.
- A further black drape is available when the risers are removed. This is 10m x 12m and hangs approx. 30' from the stage front.
- Ceiling height is 18.75m above platform level.
- A rigging plan is available.

# 5. Lighting

## House

- Tungsten lighting dimmed by areas to allow blacking out of unused Sections of the auditorium.

## Concert

- Dedicated open-white permanent lighting rig mounted in the acoustic canopy and ceiling, and whilst independent of the main production lighting it can be integrated with it.

## Production

- A plan is available.
- Desk: ETC Congo
- Circuit loadings: 222 x 2.5kW  
8 x 5kW

## Production

- 14 x VL1000 ERS Tungsten (iris) (recharge)
- 16 x Silhouette 11/26 2kW Profile
- 12 x Source Four 750W Profile
- 4 x 10deg Source 4 Profile
- 4 x 19deg Source 4 Profile
- 4 x 36deg Source 4 Profile
- 2 x Juliat 15/38 1 kW Profile
- 4 x Strand 2kW PC
- 96 x Source Four PAR
- 24 x Apollo Colour Scroller
- 2 x Strand 24V 1kW Beamlight
- 2 x Juliat 2.5kW H.M.I. Follow Spot (recharge)
- The above production lighting is permanently rigged at the front and back of the acoustic canopy (over stage) and within the auditorium area on all levels of the tiers and in four roof lighting slots - one of which also houses the follow spot area.
- **NB. No extra lights are to be hung from the canopy, but may be rigged in some other areas.**
- **NB. All above lighting must only be focused by a THSH technician.**
- Lighting power (Stage right) is 200 amp 3 phase, via Powerloks, 32A or 63A 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 hangs above the platform and is fully variable in height (NB: it cannot tilt). It covers approximately 90% of the platform.
- The Reverberation Chamber contains a volume approximately 50% of the Hall itself. The reverberation time of the Hall is affected by a series of pneumatically operated doors above and around the Hall which open into these chambers.
- On certain upper wall areas there are power-operated Acoustic Banners which can be lowered.
- On other lower wall areas there are manually operated acoustically absorbent panels against the walls.
- All power operated units are controlled from stage left by THSH technical staff.

### Amplification Systems

- Please note, we have no ground stacks or monitor mixer. We would STRONGLY suggest that all touring shows bring their own complete PA (FOH mixer, multicore, mics, monitors etc.). Our flown L&R clusters ONLY (below) are available (at no cost).
- Loudspeaker coverage is via flown loudspeaker pods in a left, centre, right configuration. (Only left & right available for loud amplification / touring shows)
- The left and right clusters comprise of 4 d&b 402 C4 tops, 3 d&b 402 C4 subs & 4 d&b max12s, giving 112dB (unweighted) at the mix position with OdBu input.
- The centre cluster comprises of 2 d&b 602s and 4 d&b E3s and will provide speech coverage to the hall in conjunction with the left & right clusters.
- The Control Room console is a Soundcraft MH4 24:8:8:2 with 8 aux sends supported by a CD player and a floating minidisc recorder.
- The Cockpit console is a Soundcraft MH4 40:8:8:2 with 8 aux sends supported by CD player, mini-disc recorder / player, Yamaha SPX2000 effects unit, 2 Klark Teknik DN 405 parametrics and 8 DBX 900 series comp/lim and parametrics.
- The cockpit desk can be removed on a lift to accommodate a production's own equipment
- There are also 4 Martin Audio LE1200 monitor wedges available and a selection of microphones.
- There are tie-lines around the stage, with the option of 2x 12 way stage boxes.
- A list of microphones is available.
- Sound power (Stage Left) is 100 amp 3 phase, via 63A 3 phase cee-form and 63A single phase cee-form.
- Additional power at get in dock is 250 amps 3 phase, via 125 amp single phase and 63 amp single phase.

## 7. Ancillary Accommodation

### Dressing Rooms

- Platform level: Disabled principal artist's dressing room. (No.6)
- Above platform level: Visiting conductor's suite. (No.2)  
3 x principal artist's dressing rooms. (Nos.3/4/5)  
**All above rooms have showers and toilets en suite.**
- Below platform: 4 x orchestra / band rooms capable of accommodating up to 120 musicians in total.  
**Showers are available within the toilet areas.**

### Offices

- A production office is available at the same level as the conductor's and principal's rooms.
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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 usually included within the rental;
  - Stage Manager
  - Assistant Stage Manager
  - Lighting Technician
- Sound Technician (if required) is charged as below and will be called for the duration of the other technicians.

# 10. Recharges

• Production lighting	£350.00
• Production lighting (Inc. Vari*lites)	£550.00
• Vari*lites (local hire)	£300.00
• Sound Technician / equipment	£20.50 per hour (min 4 hour call)
• Basic sound equipment	£55.00
• Portable PA	£55.00
• TV Monitor	£25.00
• Le Maître 3004MVS Hazer	£35.00
• Projector - Christie LHD700 7000 Lumens	£225.00
• 10.5' x 7' rear projection screen	£55.00
• Pianos	£220.00 (includes 1 tuning)
• Extra piano tuning or attend	£85.00
• Piano in another Hall	£60.00
• Organ	£550.00
• Choir boxes	£165.00
• Rigger	£415.00
• Loaders (in house)	£60.00 each / per 4 hours
• Follow spots	£70.00 per spot / per 4 hours
• Follow spots (no ops)	£25.00
• Professional recording	£550.00
• Archive recording	£275.00
• Balloon Drop	£300.00
• Pyro inspection	£150.00

▪ **NB. ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO VAT**

- If the Hirer uses the Symphony 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 THSH charge will still be applicable, due to set-up requirements and the supervision of the in-house equipment.
- If the THSH Production Coordinator, Production Assistant or 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 £65.00 + 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)

**David Mayne**, Production Liaison Officer

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

**Sarah Taylor**, Operations Assistant

Tel: 0121 644 5173 / 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

**Dave Shephard**, Technical Assistant

**Andy Lindsey**, Technical Assistant

## Other Contacts

**Chris Baldock**, Head of Commercial Programming

Tel: 0121 644 5200 / Email: [chris.baldock@thsh.co.uk](mailto:chris.baldock@thsh.co.uk)

**Nikki Fellows**, Assistant to Head of Commercial Programming

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**Jane Cooper**, Head of Customer Services

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