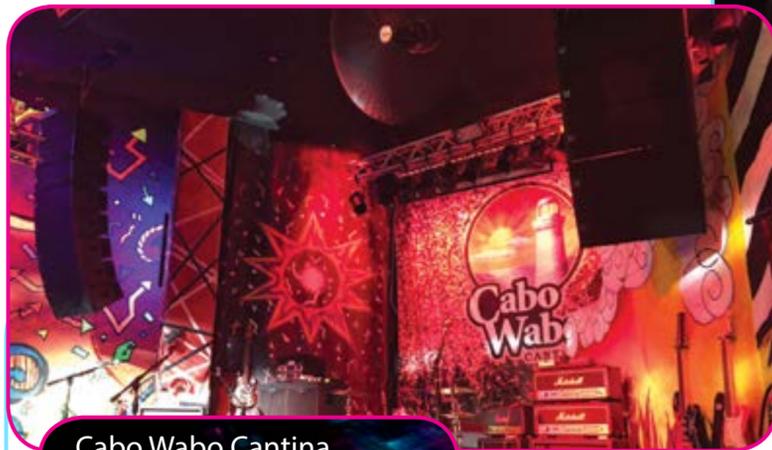


## INSTALLATIONS

# Recent Club Projects

By the FRONT of HOUSE Staff



### Cabo Wabo Cantina Cabo San Lucas, Mexico

Sammy Hagar's legendary Cabo Wabo Cantina in this seaside Baja California town recently underwent an audio upgrade with a Martin Audio system just in time for Sammy Hagar's rock 'n' roll birthday bash in mid-October.

Celebrating Sammy's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, the annual fan pilgrimage was filmed for a movie simulcast in 100 U.S. theaters with a list of guest stars that included Toby Keith, James Hetfield, Dave Grohl, Kenny Chesney, Eddie Money, Chad Kroeger, Bob Weir, Jerry Cantrell and Alex González of Maná.

First opened by Hagar in 1990, Cabo Wabo Cantina had been due for an audio upgrade. System designer Jim Risgin of OSA International, who worked with local contractors and Martin Audio Distributor Audio Acoustica on the project, found Martin Audio's Wavefront Precision Compact speakers to be a good fit for the venue.

"Martin Audio WPC was chosen because it was the proper form factor, right size and had a good aesthetic look for the club," Risgin noted of the speakers, which are designed for a scalable approach to resolution and control of coverage, working with external, dedicated multi-channel amplifiers in a flexible, upgradeable and affordable system.

"They needed a substantial P.A., so we flew six WPC boxes a side with four SX218 subs mounted in the front face of the stage," Risgin continues. "The monitor complement in-



cludes four Martin Audio XE500s and four XE300s," he adds.

The XE Series monitors feature Martin Audio's unique Coaxial Differential Dispersion technology and are designed as a complete system that maximizes the capability of the monitor while ensuring both engineer and artist will experience the same high level of consistent performance from an XE monitor anywhere in the world.

"The system will be used 365 days a year, and we fully anticipate the reliability to be great," Risgin says. "There are total nine iKON iK42 amps installed for system control and DSP tuning is all done inside the amps. All and all, the system did what we wanted it to do and more."

Asked about reaction to the WPC system's performance, Risgin responds: "Everyone is really happy with it. The club manager and Sammy's partner Jorge Viana was ecstatic about the way it sounded and how well it worked for the venue."

Regarding the XE Series monitors, Risgin recalls, "Sammy walked up to the wedges, sang a phrase, looked over at Jim Jorgensen, his monitor engineer, and said, 'I've never heard myself like that before.' Then he looked at me and asked, 'Are you responsible for this P.A.?' before thanking me, and saying, 'First time I've ever heard myself in here.'"

### Cabo Wabo Cantina

**Capacity:** Approximately 500

**Key Components:** Martin Audio WPC; XE Series monitors

**Designer:** Jim Risgin, OSA International

**Integrator:** Audio Acoustica



### TrueColor Nightclub Guangzhou City, China

TrueColor in Guangzhou City is the flagship of a chain of clubs created in 1995, currently owned and managed by Alliance Art Group. After consultation with trusted colleague Mr. Tan, who represents dealer Guangzhou EGG Technologies Company, Alliance Art Group called on DMT, Clair Brothers' Chinese distributor, to help make the necessary improvements. The upgrade came on the heels of a complete redesign of the layout and style of the club in June of 2017.

TrueColor creates buzz with moving lights, lasers, smoke machines, acrobatics, dancing models — even an aquarium with live sharks (and people swimming with them.) It's also a venue where music plays constantly, seven days a week, so reliability was a key selling point. The sound system also needed to have bright high-end, clear mids and plenty of heart-pumping ultra-low bass in a bid to get customers moving and make them stay longer. Alliance Art Group compared top brands, but opted for a Clair Brothers system.

Guangzhou EGG Technologies Company supplied the gear and gave technical support to Alliance Art Group throughout the install. The main system flanking the large feature video wall includes three CAT215 per side with CS218 double 18-inch subs under the stage. Additional CS218s are spread through the club, tastefully integrated as cocktail table bases. The system consists of a range of additional Clair speakers for distributed coverage including the CAT115, kiTCURVE12, CS18-M, FF2-HX, and kiT12 as bar

fills. Two kiTCURVE12s are used as center fill, paired with four kiT12s and two FF2-HXs, which deliver the delay fill. Supporting the new loudspeaker system are Lab.gruppen FP Series amplification, and Lake Controller software for user operation of the system.

The bar-raising TrueColor-Guangzhou City installation represents the largest Clair Brothers install in China, and Alliance Art Group is already getting ready to use Clair Brothers for an even bigger new club in Beijing.



### TrueColor Nightclub

**Key Components:** Clair CAT215, CS218, CAT115, kiTCURVE12, CS18-M, FF2-HX, kiT12

**Integrator:** Guangzhou EGG Technologies Co.

### The Django New York, NY

The Django jazz club fires up every night in the depths below The Roxy Hotel in the Tribeca neighborhood of Manhattan in New York City.

Named in homage to the legendary jazz guitarist Django Reinhardt, The Django jazz club is like stepping into an underground time machine. Distressed paint, ornate molding and classy tables and chairs, making The Django feel like an out-of-the-way gem in mid-century Paris.

To complement its visual aesthetic, The Roxy invested in a state-of-the-art Meyer Sound system, to which AV integration firm Essential Communications recently added an Ashly Audio digiMix24 digital mixing console.

"The Roxy is our client, and they were in the market for a new live mixer for The Django," explained David Schwartz, president of Essential Communications. "They wanted all of the functionality and processing power of a large console, but they didn't have a lot of physical room to put it. The Ashly digiMix24 is compact and packs a ton of features into a small footprint. It's uniquely powerful, but also uniquely easy to use. They will use its full power for jazz shows, but they'll also use its 'EZ Mode' for meetings and other events."

Ashly Audio started out in the early '70s building live consoles. So, in one sense, the digiMIX24 represents a return to Ashly's roots, while leveraging its recent history building powerful DSP and intuitive user interfaces. The digiMIX24 will give The



Django tactile control, a touchscreen with intuitive menu architecture, 24 inputs, 14 mix buses, 32-bit conversion and processing, dynamics, EQ, digital effects and scene recall.

The digiMix24 includes an iPad remote control app. "The Django's FOH engineer wanted to have the ability to walk around the club and mix remotely," Schwartz said. "He wants to hear the mix from different perspectives; like looking at a work of art from different angles and under different lighting," Schwartz reports the app connected with the digiMix24 easily and reliably, with no detectable latency between changes made on the iPad and the mixer.

### The Django

**Capacity:** 150

**Key Components:** Meyer Sound P.A. rig (existing); Ashly digiMix24 console

**Designer:** David Schwartz, Essential Communications

**Integrator:** Essential Communications



### Ulysses' Folk House New York, NY

Located in the heart of the Manhattan's Financial District, Ulysses' Folk House takes its name from the legendary novel written by James Joyce, hailed by some as the best novel ever written in English, but decried by others as one of the most difficult literary works to actually read.

If it were true to its namesake, which references the hero of Homer's ancient Greek epic poem, *Odyssey*, the entrance to the place would incorporate an alternately entertaining and exasperating obstacle course, with artsy but off-putting atonal music once you finally got inside.

The founders of the establishment, who hail from both Ireland and Greece, wisely opted against that strategy, and since it opened in 2003, Ulysses' Folk House has become a popular downtown destination with live music on Saturdays and DJ's three nights a week.

To ensure its continuing allure, the venue's owners reached out to New York-based Canal Sound & Light for a sound system upgrade that included the Vantec Series loudspeakers from D.A.S. Audio. Jeffrey Kwan, Canal Sound & Light executive VP, worked on the project.

"Ulysses' Folk House has three components," Kwan notes. "There's the main bar (where the DJ booth is located), the Carvery bar (where the live music stage is located), and an outdoor beer garden. The venue's approximate size is 5,000 square feet, plus the outdoor space. The Carvery bar is where the live music takes place, and this is where the new D.A.S. Audio equipment was installed."

The main P.A. now includes two DAS Vantec 15A powered, two-way point source enclosures and two Vantec 18A powered subs. Additionally, there are two flown Vantec 12A powered,



two-way speakers serving as a sidefill/delay setup to add further depth to the room's sound.

Kwan credits the Vantec series as "a high-quality point source loudspeaker that has high output and, most importantly, rigging points for both the mains and subwoofers. Given the low ceilings in this space, we wanted to fly the loudspeakers upside down to put the horn driver closer to the listener. Our installation partner, AVprosNY, and I were very pleased at how easy it was to do this."

"We love the music reproduction and speech intelligibility characteristics of these loudspeakers," Kwan continues. "The Vantec series has proven a versatile loudspeaker line that handles the various activities that occur in this space very well. And D.A.S. Audio's DSP options make the Vantec line a great box to set up and modify as required."

Kwan adds that the new P.A. has been well-received. "The owners are ecstatic about how the new sound system impresses both customers and bands alike. Already, they look forward to adding some D.A.S. monitor wedges in the near future."

### Ulysses' Folk House

**Capacity:** N/A (5,000 sq. ft.)

**Key Components:** D.A.S. Vantec Series speakers

**Designer:** Jeffrey Kwan

**Integrator:** AV pros NY and Canal Sound & Light

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## INSTALLATIONS

### The Joint, Hard Rock Casino Las Vegas, NV

The AV Division at 3G recently completed an audio upgrade with d&b audiotechnik components in The Hard Rock Hotel and Casino's showroom, The Joint. According to the facility's VP of entertainment Chas Smith, the install has produced "an unbelievable improvement in terms of sound quality."

The 4,000-seat venue has hosted a variety of leading classic and modern rock artists such as Paul McCartney, Kiss, Guns N' Roses, Def Leppard, Bon Jovi, Kings of Leon and more.

"The original system sounded old and muffled and just wasn't cutting it anymore," says Smith. "We reached out to 3G and they recommended some new amps and processing software to bring the system up to the level of quality we needed."

In terms of the actual upgrade, 3G designed a system that supplemented the 28 d&b J-Series full range loudspeakers with 14 new d&b 30D installation amps. These operated in conjunction with the company's unique ArrayProcessing technology that uses ArrayCalc V8 simulation software to extend the coverage and audio quality of the system, which also includes six d&b J-sub's flown per side.

Each loudspeaker is independently powered with two channels of amplification and individual processing designed to optimize the tonal balance and SPL levels of the system over the entire listening area.

"Once we fired the system up after the installation," Smith explains, "it sounded incredibly crisp and bright — you could hear every instrument, every guitar note, every crash of the cymbal. It made everything sound more precise and direct with a lot of punch. It immediately made an amazing difference in the way the system sounds — it's like night and day."



Commenting on the upgrade, 3G's COO Keith Conrad added, "We were excited and pleased that Chas and his team entrusted us to carry out this project. The Joint is one of the most iconic music venues in Las Vegas. With this system upgrade, the venue's audio system quality is now at the very top of the spectrum. d&b's array processing technology is unparalleled in terms of how it can transform the crispness and clarity of a system just by upgrading the amplifiers."

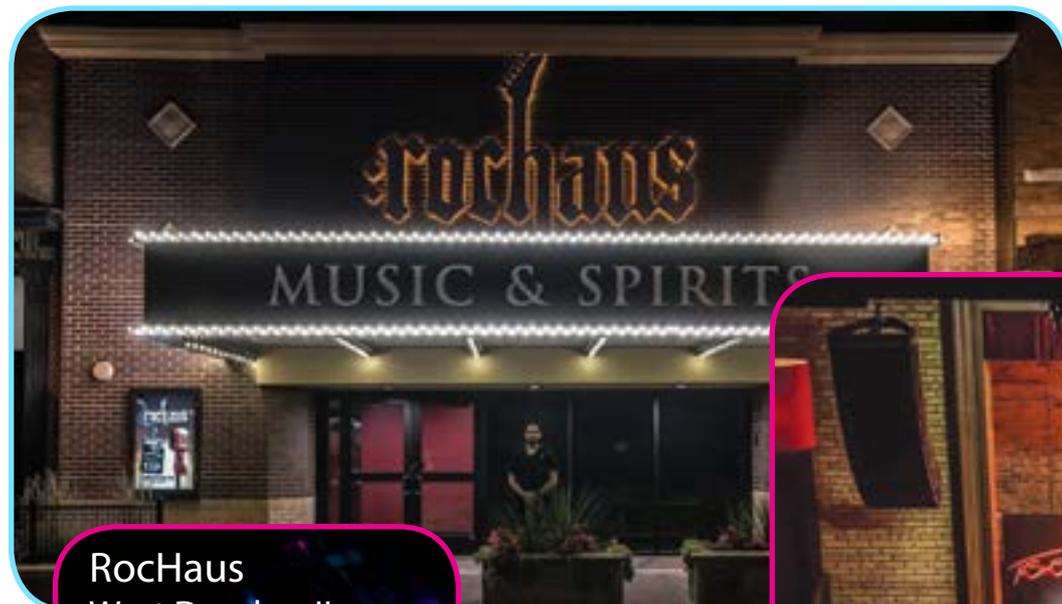
#### The Joint

**Capacity:** 4,000

**Key Components:** d&b audiotechnik J-Series

**Designer:** 3G Productions, Inc.

**Integrator:** 3G Productions, Inc.



### RocHaus West Dundee, IL

The CEO of Gallant Building Solutions, Kevin Krak, was driving through the small Chicago suburb of West Dundee, IL, and saw a "For Sale" sign on a building that recently housed a rock club.

"I had been in the club when it was in operation, and knew what a great old theater it was," Krak says. "Being in the construction business, and knowing some of the history and where the bones lay, I saw the possibility of turning it into a special entertainment venue."

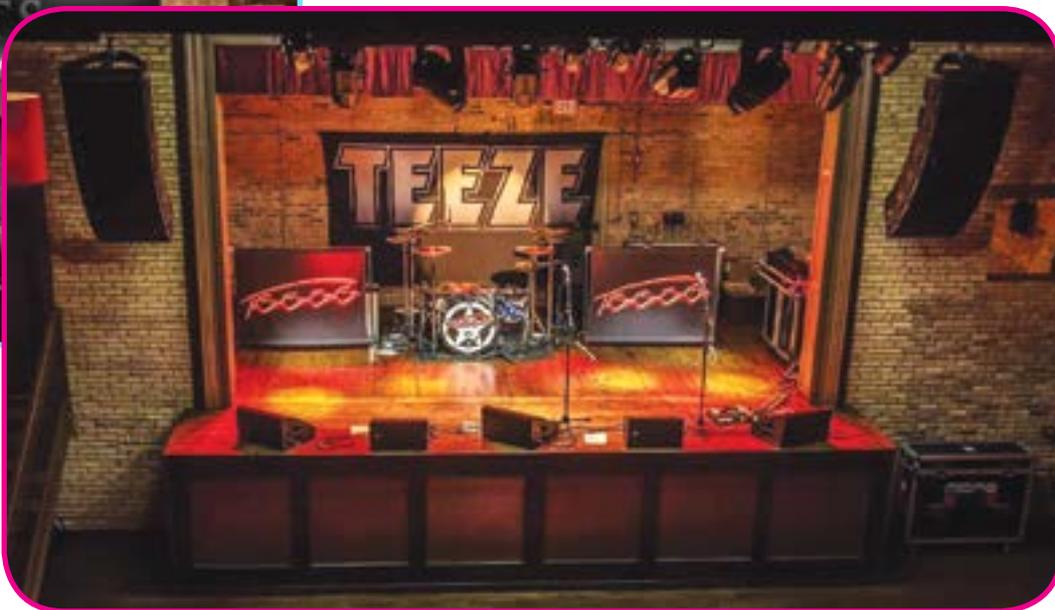
Originally built in 1912 as a vaudeville theater, the venue served as a tour stop for everyone from the Three Stooges to Bob Hope. From there, it evolved into a movie theater until even second-run movies could no longer support keeping it open. In 2002, the venue became Clearwater, a rock club, but that went dark in 2011.

Krak wanted to create an intimate environment for the audience and a space for the artist. "I don't intend to be a bar owner," says Krak. "The RocHaus is creating a space for musical performance. Creating a space for the artist." And the timing is right for RocHaus to open, with the recent resurgence in the sleepy suburb's downtown area mixing historic charm with modern commercial and residential development.

The outside of the venue maintains the movie theater marquee motif. Yet, once inside, it has a modern, cosmopolitan look. The main floor is open, able to accommodate SRO crowds or the ability to put in tables and chairs, depending on the performance. The lounge-style balcony has couches and plush chairs to enjoy the performance as if sitting in your living room.

Krak called on FM Productions and Sounds Cool Live Audio to design a stage system that artists would be happy to perform on. Familiar with the quality and artist acceptance of RCF, Sounds Cool Live Audio owner Brian Wynn installed a line array system comprised of 16 HDL20-A dual-10 two-way active cabinets along with eight SUB9006-AS dual-18 active subs framed in under the stage.

Two RCF HDL10-A dual-8 active cabinets were mounted on the front lip of the stage



for front fill with two additional cabinets for balcony fill.

The monitor rig includes six JBL M20 dual-10 wedges with JBL PRX815M and VRX-918SP for drum monitor, all powered by Crown IT 4x3500HD amps.

Two Midas Pro2 consoles handle both FOH and stage systems; four 12-channel EMG drop snakes are located upstage and downstage and two spare Cat-5e lines are run from stage to the FOH position for signal distribution.

When Krak acquired the building, he also bought the adjacent former three-story hotel. He outfitted a "Green Room" in the space — a lounge area where artists can relax and prep for the show.

Opening night featured Living Colour, best known for their 1988 hit, "Cult of Personality." Other recent shows in November and December included country artist Trent Tomlinson, hard-rocking songstress Diamante and Southern alt-rockers Saving Abel.

"We want the entertainment schedule to be diverse, and not specialize in a targeted format," Krak says. Of the opening night, he notes, "The whole system was immersive. The vocal intelligibility was impressive and the clarity was astounding."

#### RocHaus

**Capacity:** 500

**Key Components:** RCF HDL20-A line arrays; SUB9006-AS subs

**Designer:** FM Productions and Sounds Cool Live Audio

**Integrator:** Sounds Cool Live Audio