

VENUE

AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE



Where would Australia be without the British? The latest contribution to Melbourne CBD's bustling bar and dining scene is not only part of an antipodean outpost of UK based Match Bar Group but also features a Funktion-One sound system. Jonathan Downey began the Match Bar Group in 1997 with the opening of Match EC1 in Clerkenwell, London. Since then they've opened bars, restaurants and members clubs across London, in Ibiza, Spain, Chamonix in the French Alps, New York and now Melbourne. Match Bar & Grill, as the name implies, is by no means a danceclub and there is no dancefloor to speak of, but that doesn't mean customers are restrained from dancing if they feel like it. Floor space is over 600 sq metres and caters to "anyone who knows the difference between good and bad food, drink and music".

Chris Kukielko, Match Bar & Grill's managing director and John O'Donnell of Funktion-One Australia gave **mondo** the full story: "Jonathan came over to Melbourne a few years back to see what was going on out here and liked what he found" says Kukielko, "a great city full of creative and cool people enjoying good food and drinks. From that point it was only a matter of time before we opened here."

An FI system is de rigueur in most Match Bars around the world and Downey suggested to Kukielko that they needed to do the same. O'Donnell tells **mondo*dr**: "Chris contacted me, and whilst the premises were still just a concrete box, asked me to come up with a system design that would really impress sonically and also cover the number of different situations the space would need to allow for. With the builder's drawings, I came up with basically the system that is in there now."

About four months before the install another member of the Match Bar team came out and they carefully refined speaker positioning and expanded the BSS Soundweb control system to give greater flexibility to the space and to ensure that every

Match Bar & Grill's relaxed interior belies a cutting edge Funktion One sound system, including F81s acting as DJ monitors. Match Bar & Grill pride themselves in providing the best food, drink and music



speaker zone was in true stereo. Once they had established these changes, Funktion One Australia installed and commissioned the system into the space.

Kukielko explained how it was all brought together conceptually: "It was important that the Match Bar & Grill site felt like one of our sites. All of our bars have a 'classic' feel to them which we had to work hard to build into this one. People's perception of us is also strange here. Yes we have bars in five countries, but in no way are we a franchise. All of our bars are our bars, no-one has bought the name or anything like that. It's just us."

"In actual fact the installation of the job was relatively straight forward," says O'Donnell. "The space was an existing part of a recently completed development in the city's CBD. We had plenty of time to run cables and ensure the correct power was run to all the relevant positions. It was really like starting from scratch. The design process was a little tricky as the owner is very creative and often would come up with new ideas on the fly, so the DJ position changed, as did the amp rack position. But it was relatively easy to deal with this as the space was literally a concrete box. The only real problem was the tradesman understanding the vision that Jonathan had for the space and working accordingly. I didn't have that problem as I was already so impressed with his vision just in terms of sound that I always felt it would work". He added further "Chris knew me and trusted my input and so we selected the best, proven technology available. BSS Soundweb, MC2 amplifiers, Funktion One speakers. All of which I have had installed in other venues with Funktion One. One thing that was requested by the UK team was the Funktion One designed Formula Sound FF6000 DJ mixer. These are not so common in Australia as the local DJs can't seem to move on from Pioneer, so it was great to get the nod on this from the UK."

For O'Donnell this was the first install he'd done in Australia that wanted quality sound everywhere. "Previously we have installed Funktion One on the dancefloor and then the owner has got another contractor to put cheap 'name' speakers in all the ancillary spaces. Its always a 'cost thing', but you have to laugh when you see someone passed out on the \$10,000 chaise longue, next to the \$5,000 lamp, being blasted by a \$300 speaker."

Chris Kukielko concurs, "The difference a great sound system makes to a bar is amazing. It adds an extra dimension to customer experience that sums up everything we try and acheive without food and drink. We love how we can move the decks around to so many positions within the bar. We particularly like having the decks outside on the deck and playing to the whole of the CBD. And, as I like to say, customers don't go home humming the decor!" **M**



multi-funktional speaker system

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

SOUND

2 x Funktion One MB212 compact bass; 2 x Funktion One Res 1 2-way hi-mid speaker; 2 x Funktion One MB212 compact bass speaker; 2 x Funktion One Res 1 2-way hi-mid speaker; 4 x Funktion One FB1 2-way hi-mid speaker; 2 x Funktion One MB210 ultra compact bass speaker; 4 x Funktion One FB1 compact hi-mid speaker; 2 x Funktion One MB210 ultra compact bass speaker; 4 x Funktion One F55 ultra compact hi-mid speaker; 5 x Aus. Monitor QF8 ceiling speaker; 2 x Funktion One FB1 2-way hi-mid speaker DJ; BSS Soundweb; MC2 amp

www.matchbar.com/melbourne.html

Visit us at Frankfurt Pro Light & Sound
April 1st - 4th 2009

FUNKTION-ONE

Demonstrations throughout the show
in Goodwill room off foyer to Hall 4.1

www.funktion-one.com Hall 4.1 Stand F10
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