

QSC AND FUNKTION ONE - A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN



Heaven, often cited as the most famous gay nightclub in the world, and now well into its third decade, has taken delivery of a new high-powered 4-way sound system. Inspired by its new owners, David Inches (who has been involved with the club since its inception), Jeremy Millins and Paul Savory - who recently bought out Virgin Clubs' interest in the venue - the contract was entrusted to experienced installation contractors, Blue Box Company. Headed by Mark Metcalf - who has

a long association with Millins - Blue Box specified a QSC PowerLight system to drive the component parts of a carefully thought-out Funktion One system design.

Resident production manager, Rob Barton said that the venue, situated under vaulted arches at London's Charing Cross, had recently benefited from £50,000 of sound screening and acoustic treatment, which had prevented sound leakage and enabled Heaven to raise the power rating from the previous cap

of 96dB(A). This will prove popular with the high profile DJs such as John Digweed and Paul Van Dyk who regularly play at the club.

Mark Metcalf took the opportunity to optimize the sound coverage in the hard rectangular main room by designing a quad system, with two clusters of three Funktion One Skeletal Resolution 5s, flown on trusses either side of the stage at one end, facing two pairs at the other end. Further mid-highs form four stacks with Funktion One F218 (2 x 18) bass cabinets.

Using the highly controlled dispersion pattern of the speakers, correctly arrayed, Metcalf has achieved the desired projection and solved the cancellation problems previously experienced. Coverage, which previously required six speaker positions, has been comfortably achieved with four of the new system.

The 48K rig will now comfortably deliver the new maximum cap of 106dB(A) on the dancefloor, and has delighted the new owners, engineers and customers alike. Metcalf has carefully calculated a power assignment to optimize the

system, commissioning four powerful QSC PowerLight PL6.0s to drive the lows, a pair of PL4.0s running the low mids and PL2.0s to drive the high mids and tops. All were supplied by HW International, QSC's UK distributors.

"I deliberately opted for the more powerful QSC amps to power the system's low end; the PL6.0 power reservoir allows the F218s to open out and provide an effortless low end to the system," says Mark. The installer believes that in the Funktion One / QSC combination he has found the perfect match. In fact it was an earlier sound demo that had won Blue Box the contract. Mark continues: "I was doing a sound test at the Coronet Cinema, which Jeremy Millins witnessed. He was so impressed that he brought his other partners along - and they asked how soon we could get it into Heaven."

Blue Box have a long and distinguished pedigree of selling QSC amplification extending back to the EX Series, before being swept along in QSC's new generation of switching technology. Says Mark: "At that time we had the biggest QSC touring inventory in the country. Sonically they are superb and they are also dependable - there's nothing that makes me want to change."