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ARBITER SUPPLIES JBL FOR OCEANA

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, UK – May 20, 2003 – Arbiter Pro Audio, exclusive UK distributor for JBL, has supplied a variety of JBL audio elements to the new Luminar Leisure flagship multi-scene Oceana venue in Kingston-on-Thames.

The 2,200 total capacity venue is no ordinary nightclub. It's a spectacular omni-themed environment and features seven very different and imaginatively designed rooms, ranging from the jazzy, still-life, red French Boudoir suite to the massive 1000 capacity Vienna Ballroom. The latter is complete with an enormous chandelier centerpiece, opulent feeder bar hall and grand sweeping staircase entrances.

Audio contractors were Liverpool-based Over Audio. Sound throughout was designed by Ed Manwaring, who also oversaw and project managed the installation for Over Audio. Manwaring chose JBL speakers for Oceana's main areas - the Vienna Ballroom and the Disco New York area.

Manwaring needed powerful, large-volume enclosures for the spherical Vienna Ballroom, which also has a large balcony/VIP area. He selected JBL Sound Power SP225-6s to make up the room's two main speaker stacks – six per stack.

The Ballroom is in a listed part of the building that now encompasses Oceana, dating back originally to the Art Deco heyday of the early 1930s, and more recently converted into two cinemas. Consequently nothing could be bolted to the



The Vienna Ballroom at Oceana

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ceilings or walls, and the main sound system is ground stacked, with all speakers neatly ensconced in customized scenic enclosures, complementing Bignell, Shacklady & Ewing’s interior design.

Sound design in a circular room is always a great challenge, and the Sound Power speakers, with their twin 15-inch woofers and 70-degree horn are ideal for both directional qualities and efficient dispersion. This room is completed with four ground-stacked JBL Sound Power SP128 subs for plenty of hard driving bottom end, to pump up the Ballroom’s music policy of club classics and commercial R&B.

For peripheral infill, four JBL MS112 enclosures from the Marquis Series are fixed to Design Intervention’s lighting rig. An additional pair of MS112s is located on the Ballroom’s upper balcony/VIP area, and these, together with the lighting rig speakers, are time aligned to the main system.

The New York Disco area is a splendid three-level 21st century technological paean to classic Studio 54 style. The space oozes 1970s and 80s pastiche, a mega-lightshow, mirror ball mania, swirling metallic staircase and an LED paneled dance floor. Manwaring again used JBL, this time four MS112 enclosures and two SP125S subs for the main dance floor.



The New York Disco in Oceana

Manwaring is a firm JBL advocate, who’s utilized the brand many times in numerous sound designs and installations. He says, “I used JBL in Oceana’s main areas because of the aesthetics and the quality and type of sound it produces. It sounded, looked and cost right for the project”.

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