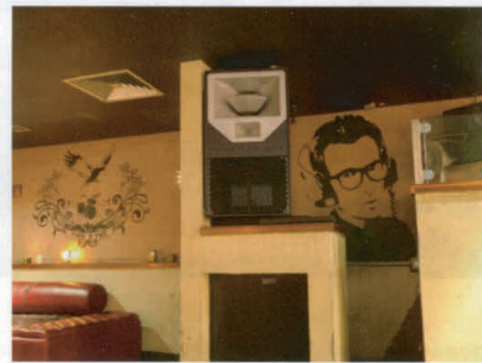


# TECHNOLOGY NEWS

TECHNOLOGY, INSTALLATIONS NEWS AND EVENTS



## ELECTRACOUSTIC ROCKS THE ROXY WITH FUNKTION ONE

Tucked away on Rathbone Place, in the bustling area between Oxford Street and Tottenham Court Road, is intimate club venue The Roxy. The 300-capacity club has been a popular party spot for students and young professionals for many years in its various incarnations. Its programme of events, steered by veteran general manager Ian Marriott, is highly eclectic, offering something for everyone. Customer interest is kept fresh by a different club night every night, spanning the genres of indie, electro, pop, post-punk, drum & bass, hip hop, reggae and grime. On Tuesdays The Roxy hosts longstanding club night, Panic, an 'indie night for the open-minded'.

The Roxy underwent a major aesthetic refurbishment in 2005, creating a glamorous interior of understated boutique glamour, complete with dainty chandeliers, retro portraits and leather seating. After three years of heavy footfall, Ian Marriott felt it was time to freshen up the club once again, but on advice from promoters and DJs, opted this time for an overhaul of the sound system and lighting. He commented: "Times are hard at the moment so we are trying to keep ourselves moving by having a really nice sound system. We're still doing well, and our weekend nights are always packed, but everybody is fighting for less and less business, so we thought we'd spend a bit of money

and make the place more appealing."

Jon Trotter, of installation specialists Electracoustic, has worked with Ian for 18 years, looking after the sound at The Roxy. Jon remembers when the club first opened: "It launched in the early '90s under the name Shuffles – there were large playing cards on the walls. We installed two full range Turbosound speakers above the stage, which rotated to switch between live and DJ setups." Back then the club functioned as a wine bar and live music venue. It later changed its name to The Office, but more recently evolved to capitalise on the late night market and became a full-on nightclub known as The Roxy.

Jon spoke about his brief: "They wanted to invest in a system that promoters and people would recognize with a very high standard of performance. Funktion One has a lot of kudos with promoters and I really love the sound." Ian commented: "Jon recommended a Funktion One sound system for the upgrade and we always trust his advice." Jon liaised with David Bruml and Tony Andrews from Funktion One over the loudspeaker design for the venue. Having recently designed a bespoke loudspeaker for an installation in Paris, Tony had just the product, the new Funktion One Res 1.5TT, which launched officially at Frankfurt's Prolight + Sound trade show in April. Jon commented: "I've never

been over keen on the traditional compression driver style of sound as I prefer something with a bit of finesse and less aggression. I was blown away by the Res 1 when I first heard it. The new Res 1.5TT is perfect for what I needed at The Roxy. It has a wide dispersion and suits a low ceilinged venue as it can push tight into the wall/ceiling corner without a bracket, with a built in downward angle."

For the dancefloor area Jon installed two Funktion One wide dispersion Res 1.5TT speakers facing each other and two Funktion One F118Mk2 bass loudspeakers, which he likes for their tight, snappy sound. For the main bar area, Jon needed to maintain a club sound in the middle space, but wanted it to drop off slightly on one side for the bar and the other side for the chillout area. To achieve power with a narrow dispersion, he chose two Funktion One Res 2 loudspeakers, which face each other across the middle of the space. These are supplemented by two Funktion One F121 bass loudspeakers. The entire system is driven by five MC2 T2000 power amplifiers, one Funktion One/MC2 E45 power amplifier, two Funktion One/XTA XO2 system controllers, and one LA Audio BCL20 analogue compressor. He redeployed existing equipment for the ancillary areas of the club.

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