

FUNKTION ONE ON 100TH WINDOW TOUR

Sound for the *100th Window* tour was delivered by a Funktion One Resolution system, powered by QSC amps, controlled by XTA and mixed at FOH on a Midas Heritage 3000. Gary Young of GPA Hire fulfilled both roles of FOH Engineer and Audio Supplier. Production Manager Ivan Kushlick sought the same equipment and engineering package that he had used to good effect on Leftfield tours in the past. During rehearsals, Kushlick reported that the band's manager commented on how he was delighted with the quality of the audio which allowed his band to sound the way they always should have.

The Funktion One Resolution system comprised 40 F218 bass enclosures, 32 Resolution 5 mid-high cabinets, 10 Resolution 4D downfills and a few Resolution 2 full range enclosures used as infills. The system offered great flexibility for the different venues on the tour and was deployed in different configurations depending on the shape of the required coverage. Keeping the sound aimed precisely on the audience and off the walls produced consistently high quality results.

In big arenas the system was flown five wide, three deep with five downfills per side (see picture opposite of this configuration from *Lisbon Coliseum*) with the bass ground stacked two wide and up to eight high. In the smaller theatre venues on the tour, the system was ground stacked and the number of boxes reduced according to the dispersion required. Massive Attack used Shure PSM700 in-ear monitors, mixed through a Yamaha PM1D. For festivals, GPA supplied its own FOH and monitor desks, FX racks, IEMs and multicore.

Gary Young enthused: "We were doing such varied event sizes from 1,500 indoor venues to 15,000 outdoor shows and found the Resolution System suited these different event types perfectly especially when I contrast this with the lack of flexibility I have experienced with line arrays. Throughout the tour from March to the end of August we have done over 75 gigs and also hooked up with other F1 users in Australia and Japan as well as touring extensively in the UK and Europe."

System Technician Jem Kitchen commented: "The small size and low weight of the Res 5s [under 50kg each box], combined with the excellent and innovative built in flying system, makes the system extremely fast to set up — we typically took under an hour and a half from opening the truck to having an arena size system flown. There is



much detail about the Resolution system's design that makes handling and usage a pleasure. In my opinion, this is also the best sounding system on the market with high efficiency, control and accuracy combined with low distortion. Also, equalisation is unnecessary — the XTA DP224s are just used for crossover point and frequency band level management. Tony Andrews has a very pure approach to loudspeaker design."

Owing to a number of logistical issues, the sound for Massive Attack's final tour dates at Creamfields in Liverpool and Bristol's Queens Square was serviced by Canegreen, who supplied Meyer M3D systems and EAW SB-1000 sub bass cabinets, processed via BSS Soundweb and the new Symetrix PA controller.

Mark Cunningham
Photo by Jem Kitchen



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