



Stage Technical Specification

Last updated 07/01/26 by CHTJ

Full address: ADC Theatre, Park Street, Cambridge, CB5 8AS

Office hours: 11am – 6pm, 7 days a week during performances, 5 days a week otherwise

Office number: 01223 359547 (not for box office enquiries)

Stage

Depth: 8.4m from safety curtain to back wall.

Proscenium opening: 6.55m x 3.81m – approx. 2m of wing space to either side plus large space further offstage left for storage (not full height).

Grid at 12m: 20 counterweight sets (250kg WLL UDL) and 22 hemp sets (50kg WLL UDL) over stage – maximum bar dead of 11.4m. Additional 3 hemp sets (50kg WLL UDL) and 1 winch set (250kg WLL UDL) at rear of stage – maximum bar dead of 7.75m.

Stage floored in matt black hardboard. Black dance floor available to cover full stage. Large MSC traps section and various smaller dip traps into scene dock below stage.

Forestage consists of deck sections, removable to use orchestra pit (seats 10-12) or adjustable in height. Stepped or trap forestage sections available.

Full set of borders, soft legs, hard legs, cycs, gauzes, full blacks, split blacks and other miscellaneous drapes available.

N.B. the safety curtain rises *up* from the stage floor. No set pieces or cables can cross the line of the safety curtain at any time, except for custom flooring which *must* be discussed in advance of the get-in with the Technical Manager.

The use of 'prompt side/PS' to indicate stage left and the use of 'off prompt/OP' to indicate stage right is customary at the ADC.

Auditorium

228 seats with front half of auditorium (rows A to I) stepped at approximately 1 in 5.5 and rear half (rows J to O) stepped at 1 in 3.3. Seats A11-12 and A13-14 removable for the seating of up to two audience members in wheelchairs. By default, seat A1 is removed to leave room for access to the stage from the auditorium via a set of black treads (stairs) – please discuss in advance with the Production Manager if you wish to offer this seat for sale instead.

Larkum Studio available for use as a band room, audience/VIP breakout space or for pre-/post-show Q&A events. All use of the Larkum Studio *must* be discussed in advance of the get-in with the Production Manager. Soft & alcoholic drinks and light refreshments may be arranged at cost.

Lighting

Control by ETC Gio@5 console with ETC Puck backup. 116 channels of dimming, fully patchable with hardpower around stage and auditorium. DMX patchable to various facilities panels around stage. GDS ArcSystem LED houselights, controllable by DMX and by various outstations around building.

See 'LX Patching and Control' document for further details. See 'Lantern List' for details of lanterns and accessories.

Sound

Control by Yamaha CL3 with 2x RIO 3224-D and a Mac Mini with QLab and Dante Virtual Soundcard. Additional Mac Mini and 2x portable iMac available for running Wavemark Wavetool software. Installed FoH PA is D&B Ci90 tops and Ci-SUB subs running through four E-PAC amplifiers. Additional speakers include QSC E10, K10, and 8 channels of QSC amplification. 16 channels of Sennheiser G3/G4 radio mics available.

Full Dante patch available around stage, backstage and in the Larkum Studio, green room, sound control box & Patchbay. Patchable to other areas of the building via prior arrangement with the Technical Manager.

1 baby grand (in the Larkum Studio – can be moved to stage and/or tuned at cost), 1 electric stage piano, various music & conductor stands. Please see ‘Sound Specification’ and ‘Sound Patch Details’ documents for further information.

Video

Full HD video system running at 1080p60 via 3G-SDI signals. Ample cameras, monitor screens, converters and video production equipment – please refer to ‘Video and Intercom’ document for details.

Power

Local power available on 13A and 15A socket outlets around stage. Hardpower for lighting fixtures on power patch and locally at facilities panels. Sound power on separate distribution board with sequenced starter. Various 32A and 63A single-phase and three-phase CEEform socket outlets installed around stage. See ‘LX Patching and Control’ document for further details.

Networking

Cat 5e tielines provided in all areas of the building. Full wired and wireless IP networking segregated into LX, Sound and Show network subnets for separation of broadcast traffic with each network fully routable to others. Patching to certain locations FoH or in the offices requires prior discussion in advance of the get-in with the Technical Manager.

N.B. Internet access is not available on technical networks – please use the Production Office computers instead.

Stage Management

Stage Manager’s desk situated DSL with cue lights (fully patchable), Tecpro intercom/cans system, paging to dressing rooms & FoH, bar & DR bells and FoH warn (clearance) system. HD video monitors with switchers. Show relay camera with separate IR camera for blackouts. Fully patchable video and audio show relay to most areas around stage, backstage and elsewhere in the building.

Get-in

Stage on first floor of building.

Get-in doors: 1.14m x 2.19m high and 0.76m x 2.04m high at the top of staircase. Staircase should be checked if large pieces of scenery are to be used.

Passenger lift from yard to auditorium level: 1.34m x 1m (640kg maximum load).

Traps to scene dock below stage: 3.55m x 1.03m.

Offices

Clubroom with sofas for use as a communal R&R or meeting space. Small shared-use kitchen with 2x kettle, 1x large toaster, 1x fridge-freezer, 1x microwave, 1x electric cooker oven and 1x dishwasher. 2x 2-ring portable electric hobs also available. Ample cookware, bakeware, utensils and crockery provided.

Small production office with meeting area and computers running Microsoft Windows & Apple macOS with QLab, EOS, SketchUp, Microsoft Office etc. installed. A3 and A4 multi-function

printer, scanner & photocopier – please speak to the Production Manager regarding printing prices. A1-width continuous roll printing on large format graphics printer plotter by prior arrangement. A3-width continuous roll laminator.

Dressing Rooms & Green room

Two dressing rooms (accommodating 25-30), each with its own shower and two sinks. Sewing machine, iron and ironing board available. Use of washing and tumble drying facilities by shows is possible with prior arrangement with the Operations Manager.

Green room with some seating, three gender neutral toilets and refrigerated drinks machine. Technical facilities panel for patching of show services.

Workshop & Scene Dock

Small workshop with various fixed and portable power tools. Full 240V and 110V workshop power system with distributed emergency stop controls. Automatic dust extraction system with additional vacuum cleaners for portable tools. Centralised pneumatic air provided by a permanently installed compressor. Please see 'Workshop Technical Specification' document for more details.

Scene dock for small-scale set building with electric wire rope hoist (WLL 750kg) to raise larger set pieces to stage through MSC traps (mentioned above). Trap flying *must* be discussed in advance of the get-in with the Technical Manager and directly supervised by a member of theatre staff.

Accessibility

The working language of the ADC Theatre is English. All production personnel are expected to have at least basic English language competency in order to understand important H&S information.

Step-free access is possible to all areas of the theatre front of house and backstage except the fly galleries, lighting patchbay, roof void, scene pit and orchestra pit.

Accessible gender neutral toilet on the ground floor in the foyer.

Sennheiser infra-red audio system designed to help d/Deaf or hard of hearing persons seated within the auditorium.

N.B. due to emergency exit restrictions, persons unable to use ladders to evacuate themselves confidently and unassisted by others are regrettably not permitted in the lighting and sound control boxes. Please contact Theatre Management in advanced if this is a problem for your production – both lighting and sound control systems can be operated from accessible locations elsewhere in the building, though with a much more restricted view of stage.

Production personnel who are not capable of evacuating themselves confidently without assistance from others in the event of an emergency *must* contact Theatre Management in advance of the get-in so that an appropriate PEEP can be put in place.

Road & Rail Access

Road access is easiest from North Cambridge; take Victoria Avenue south from Chesterton Road, turn West onto Jesus Lane, and take road approx 0.3 miles until Park Street is on the right.

The nearest railway station is Cambridge (approximately 2 miles away).

Parking

There are bicycle racks in front of the Theatre. Bicycles must not be left in the theatre yard.

The theatre's yard (off Park Street) can accommodate a maximum of three cars or one Transit/Luton style van, however if a skip is present only one car or van can be parked. Absolutely no parking on the premises is permitted during performances. On street parking on Jesus Lane becomes free at 6.30pm. It is strongly advised that any & all parking on the premises is checked in advance with Theatre Management as contractors and loading/unloading have priority.