



The 2 screen Leisure Cinemas complex in Gibraltar

Gibraltar had been served for many years by the 800 seat Queens Cinema which was equipped with 35mm projectors.

Understanding the need to modernise facilities, in 2008 they (Leisure Cinemas) moved to a new 2 screen development in the King's Bastion Leisure Centre equipped with new Cinemeccanica 35mm projectors. With the dawn of digital cinema they soon found it increasingly difficult and expensive to ship 35mm film prints from the UK. They were also aware of the potential in 3D cinema and the exhibition of a wide range of live events.

The owner of Leisure Cinemas, Odette Benatar, contacted Sound Associates for advice on the suitable specification of her proposed digital capabilities. Given her long association with Graham Lodge (Managing Director) and his father before him at Sound Associates, Odette had real confidence in the proposals we put before her: the installation of two 4K Barco projectors and Dolby DSS220 servers – both with Dolby 3D playback capability.

Joe flew to Gibraltar to carry out the installation single handedly over a period of 5 days. The new projectors slotted in neatly into the area vacated by the 35mm machines.

The improvement in picture and sound quality has been remarked upon by many audience members. This is proven by the marked increase in attendance figures.

Gibraltarians now enjoy a revitalised programme of screenings that include 3D versions of the latest releases and live events from Billy Elliot the Musical, opera and ballet broadcast from the Royal Opera House in London to live pop concerts such as the hugely popular "One Direction Live."

Fact file:

Auditorium: 2 screens with 99 and 136 seating capacity.

Activities: Part of King's Bastion Leisure Centre which also includes bowling and ice-skating facilities, a gym, restaurants, cafes and bars.

Web:
www.leisurecinemas.com

Address: Leisure Cinemas, King's Bastion, Line Wall Road, Gibraltar



Leisure Cinema Foyer



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Technical Manager, Stephen Cumming was impressed with Sound Associates' planning and efficient installation of the equipment over such a short period. The old projectors were removed, and the new equipment was set up and tested in one seamless exercise.

The equipment is monitored around the clock using the Barco Cinecare monitoring system which 'keeps an eye' on the health of the both the projectors and the servers and alerts Sound Associates by email if anything requires attention.

Graham Lodge, Managing Director of Sound Associates commented "We were delighted to work with Leisure Cinemas on the conversion of their two screens to Barco 4K DLP Projectors with Dolby 3D – the opportunities for showing not only Hollywood releases alongside Opera and other live events are enormous and we continue to work with Odette and her team at Leisure Cinemas to make the best use of their new facilities"

Technical specification:

- 2 Barco DP4K23B DLP Projectors with Dolby 3D
- Dolby DSS220 servers with Dolby CAT 745 Integrated Media Blocks mounted inside Barco projectors
- Dolby CP750 cinema sound processors



Leisure Cinema Projection Room