



Technical Specifications

Playhouse

Document History

Revision #	Date	Author	Comments
5.5	January 2015	R. Last	Minor updates
5.4	May 2014	R. Last	Minor revisions
5.3	March 2013	C. King	Lighting console updates
5.2	21/8/2012	C. King	Update information on Sound Facilities
5.1	6/12/11	C. King	Update new name and logo
5.0	6/7/11	C. King	FOH Console & Speaker System alterations

General information

Address

100 St. Kilda Road
Melbourne Australia 3004
Reception Phone +613 9281 8000
Stage Door +613 9281 8320
Melway Reference Melway Ref 2F G7

Building Summary

Theatres Building

State Theatre
Playhouse
Fairfax Studio

Level 8: Reception, Administration
Level 6: St. Kilda Road, Café Vic, Curve Bar
Level 5: Sturt St, Stage door
Level 4: Staff Only
Level 3: Cafeteria
Level 2; Stage Level
Level 1: Orchestra Assembly
Stage Door access is from the rear of the building. Enter from Sturt Street

Contacts

Manager, Production +613 9281 8137
Operations Manager, Staging +613 9281 8142
Operations Manager, Lighting +613 9281 8365
Operations Manager, Sound +613 9281 8138
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Get In

Undercover loading is available at stage level via a scenery lift up to Sturt St. The lift is shared with the State Theatre and Fairfax Studio.

Side or end loading is available at stage level

Maximum height	4.300m
Maximum weight	25,000kg
Lift Size	15.370 x 4.100m
Door height between scenery dock and stage	8.900m

NOTE

- Vehicles longer than 15m must be able to unhook the prime mover.
- A range of manual handling equipment is available and shared between the venues
- Due to safety fencing, side loading height is limited to 2.750m

Auditorium Seating

Standard configurations

Orchestra Pit/Forestage	Set to Stage Level with no seats
Stalls Control Position	Seats installed

NOTE

- Presenters are charged for installation and removal of seats in each standard configuration listed above. The approximate charge is four staff for four hours each.

Capacities

Area	Full Orchestra or thrust	No Orchestra
Pit Seating Status	No Seats	AA-BB Installed
Stalls	491	526
Circle	353	353
Wheelchairs	5	5
Total Capacity	849	884

Technical & Production Seating

The following seats are held from sale until technical and production details are confirmed.

Seating Area	Seats	Seat Numbers	Approx Dimensions W x D
Orchestra Pit/Forestage	35	AA1-20, BB1-17	11.975m x 2.960m
Large Stalls Control Position	17	S10-17, T9-17	4.200m x 1.900m
Small Stalls Control Position	11	S12-16, T11-16	2.600m x 1.900m
Vomitory		C14 – 18, D15 – 19, E17 - 21	-
Steps from auditorium to Front edge of stage	16	AA1-2, AA19-20 A1-4, A22-25	-
Steps from auditorium to thrust edge of stage	8	A1-4, A22-25	-
Followspot Booth	1	Circle H40	-

Production Desks are situated over the backs of seats in Row L, with designers, etc sitting in Row M.

Orchestra Pit

Size

Orchestra Pit lift	11.970m wide x 2.960m deep
Orchestra Pit area	26.7m ²
Orchestra Pit travel	From stage level to 2.430m below stage

Orchestra Equipment

The following orchestral equipment is available. Please advise requirements at your earliest convenience as equipment is shared with the State Theatre and Fairfax Studio.

Type	Quantity	Comment
Orchestral Chairs	45	Tempo Musician chair
Music Stand	45	
Sconce Lights	45	
Conductors Podium	1	Height adjustable
Conductors Music Stand	1	

NOTE

- Please advise requirements at your earliest convenience.

Stage Details

Dimensions

Proscenium

Physical Height	9.143m
Width	12.080m
Height to bottom of Fire Curtain	7.228m

Stage Width

Fly Rail to Dock door	20.860m
Fly Floor handrail to handrail	17.860m
Dip trap to dip trap	17.384m

Stage Depth at Centreline from Setting Line

To rear wall	12.470m
To Fly Floor crossover	11.250m
To front edge of stage apron	0.060m
To DS edge of orchestra lift	3.020m

Stage Height

Floor to underside of grid	17.750m
Batten drift	17.480m
Stage floor to under flyfloors	8.120m
Stage floor to underside of Forestage Grid	17.100m
Stage above stalls auditorium	1.055m

Stage Description

Rake:	None
Area	150.76m ²
Surface	6mm tempered Masonite on 25mm plywood mounted on resilient pads
Maximum Floor UDL Loading:	750kg/m ²
Maximum Floor Point Load:	450kg
Stage Traps	By prior arrangement

NOTE

- Restoration and/or damage to the stage are made good by Arts Centre Melbourne approved carpenters at a cost to the Presenter. For further information contact Operations Manager, Staging.
- The setting line is the upstage edge of the Proscenium wall

Fire Precautions & Safety Requirements

1. All scenery, props, masking etc must be rendered non-flammable to the satisfaction of the Victorian Arts Centre Trust.
2. No scenery, props, masking etc shall be placed in such a manner as to hinder the operation of the Fire Curtain or in any way affect the smoke seal created by the Fire Curtain.
3. The Fire Curtain release mechanisms must not be covered or made inaccessible at any time.
4. A Fire Cabinet is available upon request. Presenter is to provide their own lock & key. A key is to be left with Security.
5. All Presenters shall present a Risk Assessment to the Victorian Arts Centre Trust. Templates and assistance can be provided, please contact the Event Coordinator for more details.
6. A Gun Safe may be available for use. Please contact the Operations Manager, Staging for more information

Stage Drapes

The following drapes are available.

Drape	Quantity	Width (m)	Height (m)	Fullness	Colour	Material
House Curtain	1			0%	Brown	Velvet
Tabs *	1 pair	8.000	8.800	0%	Black	Wool
Legs	6 pairs	3.600	8.800	0%	Black	Wool
Borders	10	16.400	4.000	0%	Black	Wool
Smothers	1	16.400	9.000	0%	Black	Wool
	1	16.400	9.000	0%	Black	Velour
Cyclorama	1	16.000	8.800	0%	White	Plastic
	1	15.200	3.900	0%	White	Nessel
Side Masking	8	3.500	8.600	0%	Black	Wool
Gauze	1	16.000	9.000	0%	Black	Sharkeetooth

E-Track is available on request.

NOTE

- The standard configuration is without the House Curtain hanging. Extra crew is required to hang and remove the House Curtain.

Flying System

Mainstage Battens

Manual System

Type	Manilla rope Counterweight system
Purchase	14 double purchase and 62 single purchase
Operating Position	Stage level PS wing

Mainstage Batten Information

Number of mainstage battens	72
Panorama battens	4 (2 each side)
Batten length	15.200m
Batten extensions maximum	610mm at each end
Batten spacing	150mm centres
Batten size	76 x 51mm RHS
Number of pickups	5
Pick-up spacings	3655mm
Batten Maximum load	375kg
Batten drift	17.480m
Panorama batten length	10.262m
Panorama distance from centre	8.380m
Panorama batten spacing	295mm

Forestage Batten Information (F1 & F2)

Number of battens	2
Batten Length	7.190m & 5.890m
Batten spacing	480mm
Batten size	76mm x 51mm RHS
Pick-up spacing	2895mm
Batten maximum Load	300kg
Batten drift	17.480m

NOTE

- Battens 1-10 & F1-2 are double purchase battens operated from the PS stage level mezzanine.
- The Panorama Battens are double purchase and are operated from the USOP Level 5 Fly Floor.
- The Forestage battens are diverted battens and should only be used as static battens.

Playhouse Theatre Hanging Plot

Line No	Distance from Setting Line (mm)	Line No	Distance from Setting Line (mm)	Line No	Distance from Setting Line (mm)
F2	-1390	23	3970	49	7870
F1	-1930	24	4120	50	8020
Pelmet	370	25	4270	51	8170
House Curtain	520	26	4420	52	8320
1	670	27	4570	53	8470
2	820	28	4720	54	8620
3	970	29	4870	55	8770
4	1120	30	5020	56	8920
5	1270	31	5170	57	9070
6	1420	32	5320	58	9220
7	1570	33	5470	59	9370
8	1720	34	5620	60	9520
9	1870	35	5770	61	9670
10	2020	36	5920	62	9820
11	2170	37	6070	63	9970
12	2320	38	6220	64	10120
13	2470	39	6370	65	10270
14	2620	40	6520	66	10420
15	2770	41	6670	67	10570
16	2920	42	6820	68	10720
17	3070	43	6970	69	10870
18	3220	44	7120	70	11020
19	3370	45	7270	Panorama OP1	8380 from centre
20	3520	46	7420	Panorama OP2	8675 from centre
21	3670	47	7570	Panorama PS1	8380 from centre
22	3820	48	7720	Panorama PS2	8675 from centre

NOTE

- The Setting line is the upstage edge of the Proscenium.
- Line 1 is 670mm upstage from the Setting Line.
- The Pelmet Border Line has a limited travel due to proximity to Fire Curtain Drencher system. The batten cannot travel in show conditions.
- Both the Pelmet Border and House Curtain lines are operated from stage level on the OP side of stage.
- All panorama battens are operated from the Level 5 Fly Floor, USOP.

Lighting Facilities

Single Insulated Cable Policy (FMV013)

No single insulated cable is permitted to be connected to any Arts Centre Melbourne power source. This applies to all voltages including extra low voltage (under 32 volts).

NOTE

- All electrical appliances shall be tagged with an appropriate safety tag in accordance with AS 3760:20003.

FOH distances to setting line

Position	Distance to setting line	Angle to setting line
Followspot Booth	27.000m	27°
Rear Circle Lighting Bar	25.500m	30°
No 3 Lighting Bridge	18.000m	39°
No 2 Lighting Bridge	13.000m	48°
No 1 Lighting Bridge Top Bar	9.500m	67°
No 1 Lighting Bridge Bottom Bar	9.500m	64°
Circle Front	14.500m	24°
Projection Room	20.000m	13°

NOTE

- The number 3 Lighting Bridge does not have clear line of sight to the setting line.
- The Followspot Booth is not acoustically isolated from the auditorium.

Control System

Quantity	Equipment	Comments
1	PRG v676	4000 fixture capacity
1	Backup pc & V676 control rack	
1	Designers View pc	
1	Onstage remote control	

Dimmers

Quantity	Type	Protocol	Capacity
180	Strand PAM	Analogue	5kW
180	Bytecraft IDS	Analogue	2.4kW
84	LSC WallPak	Digital	2.4kW
36	LSC E-Pro	Digital	2.4kW

480 Total Dimmers

NOTE

- All analogue dimmers are controlled via LSC Linklight digital to analogue converters.

Standard FOH Lanterns

Position	Lantern Type	Quantity	Beam Angle	Power Rating	Comment
FOH Bridges and Rear Balcony Bar	ETC Source4 Profile	20	10°	750W	
	ETC Source4 Profile	88	15/30°	750W	
Balcony Front	ETC Source4 Profile	8	15/30°	750W	With Balance Yokes
PS Balcony Boom	ETC Source4 Profile	8	15/30°	750W	With Balance Yokes & Top Hats
OP Balcony Boom	ETC Source4 Profile	8	15/30°	750W	With Balance Yokes & Top Hats
PS Juliet Balcony	ETC Source4 Profile	6	15/30°	750W	With Balance Yokes & Top Hats
OP Juliet Balcony	ETC Source4 Profile	6	15/30°	750W	With Balance Yokes & Top Hats

Stage Lanterns

Type	Quantity	Beam Angle	Power
ETC Source4 Profile	50	26°	750W
ETC Source4 Profile	20	19°	750W
ETC Source4 Profile	32	36°	750W
ETC Source4 Profile	20	50°	750W
ETC Source4 Profile	20	25/50°	750W
Selecon Pacific Profile	10	90°	600W
Strand Pollux	2	12.5° - 56.5°	5kW
Selecon 10" Fresnel	30	8 - 60°	2kW
Strand Cantata Fresnel	20	8 - 50°	1.2kW
Strand Cantata PC	20	4 - 52°	1.2kW
Iris4 cyclorama units	12	Flood	1kW
Quartz Colour Orion 4	12	Flood	1kW
ETC Source 4 PAR	20	Assorted lenses	750W

NOTE

- All Iris, Orion and Coda units are fitted with multi-pin connections and no individual patching is possible.

Accessories

All lanterns have accessories available. Presenters should consult with the Operations Manager, Lighting to confirm details and quantities.

- All Fresnel's have 4 leaf barn doors
- All profiles have a range of accessories available including Top Hats, Donuts, Irises, Gobo Holders, and gobo rotators
- All gobo holders are 'B' size apertures

Lighting Hardware

Quantity	Item
15	12 Circuit Spot Bar Sections
6	6 rung panorama ladders
2	8m high Perch Ladders
6	3.5m Boom Trolleys
10	Boom bases. Not free standing
40	Boom arms

Three Phase Power

Quantity	Location	Amps/Outlet 3Ø	Connection
Level 1 Basement			
2	USOP under stage	40A	5 Pin
1	PS understage	30A	5 Pin
2	PS understage	32A	5 Pin
Level 2 Stage			
1	USOP	40A	5 Pin
1	DSOP	40A	5 Pin
1	DSP	40A	5 Pin
Level 5 Fly Floor			
1	DSOP	40A	5 Pin

Stage Management Facilities

Standard Operating Position
Alternate Operating Position

PS of stage
OP Side of stage

The Stage Management Console contains all standard facilities including:

- Auditorium announcement via a Shure SM58-S microphone
- BOH Paging
- 12 Channel Soft Cue, Cue light system
- Telephone
- CCTV monitors of the stage and conductor
- Clear COM™ Talkback 2 channel Master Station
- Clock & Timer

CCTV monitoring:

Standard monitoring of the stage is available. Other areas are available on request.

Stage and Conductor view

Television monitors showing the stage or Conductor are available upon request.

NOTE

- Additional monitors are available for hire by prior arrangement.

Cameras

The main Front of House camera is a Panasonic AW-E860L, full remote operated camera. It is located in the centre of the Circle Front. A low light camera is also available.

Typical Headset Allocation

#of	Type	Headset Type	Position	Typical User
1	Master Station	Telex PH88	Stage Manager's Console	Stage Manager
1	Dual Loop Wired Beltpack	Telex PH88	Lighting control Room	Lighting Board Operator
2	Single Loop wired beltpack	Beyer DT108	Fly Rail PS	Flymen
1	Single Loop wired beltpack	Beyer DT108	DSOP	Staging Technician
2	BTR 800 Radio Beltpack	Beyer DT108	Stage-MX	Staging Technicians
1	BTR 800 Radio Beltpack	Beyer DT108	Stage-ASM	Assistant Stage Manager
1	BTR 800 Radio Beltpack	Beyer DT108	Stage-LX	Lighting Technicians

Other Equipment available

4	BTR 800 Radio Beltpack
8	Beyer DT108
4	Single Loop Wired Beltpacks

Sound Facilities

Default Control Position
Alternate Control Positions

Sound Control Room at Rear of Circle
Rear of Stalls
Prompt Corner

FOH Console & Processors

Quantity	Make & Model	Comments	Location
1	Digico SDTEN	8 Mic Inputs, 40 Analogue outputs 4 AES	
1	Digico SD rack	48 Mic Inputs, 8 Analogues Outputs, 4 AES	
2	Yamaha YDP processors		
3	BSS Sound Web 9008iis		
4	Meyer M1		
2	BSS Soundweb 3088		
2	Bricasti M7M REVERB with M10 Remote Control		

Playback

Quantity	Equipment	Comments	Location
2	Denon CD Player		
1	QLAB show control on MAC Pro with RME HDSPe MAD1 Soundcard		

Speaker System

The sound system is configured as a Left, Centre & Right system with 40 channels of surround sound.

Position	Speakers	Comments
Upper Left & Right	2 x Meyer CQ1-P	
Lower Left & Right	2 x Meyer UPA-1C	
Under Balcony	2 x Meyer UPM-1	
Sub System	2 x Meyer PSW-2	
5 x Crest 7001 Amplifiers		
Surround Speakers	70 x Altec Dual concentric 12" drivers	Drivers placed throughout auditorium
5 x QSC Cx168 8 Channel amplifiers		
Effects Speakers	2 x Yamaha MSP5a	
Foldback Speakers	4 x Meyer UPJ1P	

Microphones

Quantity	Equipment
6	Shure SM58
6	Shure Beta57A
4	BSS DI
50	Microphone leads various lengths
1	Beyer M88
8	Neumann KM140
3	Shure Mx393 Boundary Mics
16	Tall Boom Mic Stands
8	Short Boom Mic Stands

Pianos

Pianos available are:

- 1 Steinway Model 'D' Concert Grand (9'0")
- 1 Yamaha Model C5 Baby Grand (6')
- 1 Yamaha Model C3 Baby Grand (5'6")
- 1 Yamaha Upright

All pianos are shared with the other venues. By Prior arrangement

NOTE

- Charges apply for piano moves and tunes.

Assistive Listening System

Arts Centre Melbourne provides a phonic ear radio transmitter system for its patrons. It includes headsets and neck loops to assist with hearing of performances and all seating positions are covered. For more information, contact your Event Coordinator.

Wardrobe Facilities

A maintenance area with ironing facilities, sewing machines, industrial work tables are available.

Washing Machine	1 x Maytag industrial 1 x Speed Queen
Industrial Dryer	1 x Maytag industrial tumble dryer 1 x Drying Room
Laundry Facilities	1 x Brother Industrial Sewing Machine 1 x Domestic iron 1 x Ironing board

Broadcast, Telecast & Recording

The video and/or sound recording of a performance at Arts Centre Melbourne for any purpose requires the written approval of an appropriate representative of the Trust.

Presenters proposing to videotape or telecast performances should arrange a briefing with your Event Coordinator from Presenter Services.

Recordings require the presenter to have obtained the necessary clearances from the performers taking part and to give certain undertakings in relation to copyright, and payment to technicians. The Recording Form (Appendix D), forms part of the Presenter Licence Agreement. Broadcast allowance and associated on-costs apply for the recording for live or delayed broadcast. Details are in Appendix D of the Presenter Licence Agreement.

Video Recording

Where approval has been granted to a presenter for a public performance to be given under television conditions, all publicity and advertising for the attraction must clearly state that the performance will be televised and that such conditions will apply. It follows that arrangements to televise a performance cannot be entered into after tickets have been sold to the public.

Sound Recording

Sound recording of a performance for commercial or non-commercial performances requires the approval of an appropriate representative of the Trust. Details are in Appendix D of the Presenter Licence Agreement. Broadcast Allowance and associated on costs apply to the recording of live or delayed broadcast.

Archival Recording

Archival recordings are a simple record of the event. It is assumed that any flaws in the final recording will be inconsequential. If your recording is of importance, please contact the Sound Department. Details are in Appendix D of the Presenter Licence Agreement

Recordings, other than archival, are subject to separate arrangement with the Operations Manager, Sound. Please note extra sound technicians may be required to operate the equipment.

Photography

Photography is prohibited anywhere in the venue without the prior authority of an appropriate representative of the Trust. Permission to photograph performances is not unreasonably withheld provided the taking of photographs is arranged in such a way so as not to cause nuisance either to patrons or to performers.

Under no circumstances will patrons be permitted to take photographs in the auditorium.

The removal and reinstatement of seating for filming or photographic purposes will be charged to the Presenter.

Back Stage Accommodation & Telephone Numbers

Dressing Rooms and Offices

Room No	Phone Ext	Standard Access	Number of People	Facilities/Comments
50			4	
51	8431	Local	2	En Suite
52			2	Ensuite
53	8102	Local	2	Ensuite
54			2	Ensuite
55			2	Ensuite
56			4	
57			4	
58				Green Room area
59	8428	Local	2	Ensuite
60			3	
61	8476	Local	3	
44			9	Only if available
45			12	Only if available

NOTE:

- Handsets are available upon request and all call charges apply.
- Fees apply to any changes to the standard access.
- Most Dressing Rooms have refrigerators, hand basins and portable wardrobe racks.
- Dressing Rooms without en-suite have access to nearby toilet blocks and showers.

Technical & Production Offices

Room No	Phone Ext	Standard Access	Number of People	Facilities
Stage Manager	8107 8108 8102	STD STD STD	2	
Production Office	8106	STD	2	

Telephone numbers

Area	Position	Ext. No	Standard Configuration
Stage Door	Level 5 Sturt St	8320	
Security	Level 5 Sturt St	8316	
VAC Production Staff	Stage Supervisor	8406	
	Lighting Supervisor	8466	
	Duty Sound	8139	
Control Rooms	Lighting	8434	
	Sound	8435	
Prompt Corner	Stage Wing	8405	
Rehearsal Room	Level 2	8402	
Wardrobe	Level 2 dressing rooms	8403	
Viewing Room		8492	
FOH Supervisor	Stalls Foyer, Level 2	8120	
Production Desk		8465	Installed as requested

Rehearsal Room

For orchestral rehearsals, overhead incandescent floodlighting is available by prior arrangement. A stock of chairs and props tables are available. Charges may apply.

Size	16.000 x 10.500m
Height to underside of lighting grid	4.865m
Facilities	Fixed Ballet Barres & Mirrors
Piano	As available

NOTE

- If the Rehearsal room is not required by The Playhouse Presenter, Presenter Services may release the room to another Presenter.