

Lincoln Center Festival Series

Equipment

RSS S-4000 configured at 64 x 16 with one 64-channel split

Introduction

Since its inception in 1971, the Lincoln Center Out of Doors has grown into one of the largest free summer festivals in the U.S., with audiences averaging 200,000 each summer. Over the past 36 summers, Out of Doors presented hundreds of major dance companies, renowned jazz musicians, and traditional music and dance performances. For the first time, the audio will be delivered via digitally using the RSS Digital Snake System.

Twenty-six year freelance audio engineering veteran, Jon Laterza spearheaded the transition from analog to digital after using the RSS snake in a Sony demo in Las Vegas last year. Laterza's credits include audio engineering and front of house management for major New York events including the Rockefeller Center Tree Lighting, the Today's Show Summer Concert Series and stage shows for Robin Williams and Billy Crystal.

System

More than 100 performances take place during the Out of Doors festival. To provide flexibility for the changing audio requirements, Laterza selected the RSS Digital Snake system. Positioned at the front of house, configured with 64 inputs and 16 outputs, the digital snake gives the front of house team the versatility to switch back and forth as performers take the stage. The digital snake ran into a Yamaha PM5d at front of house and an M7CL at the monitor mix. Since the source audio from the RSS snake can be split using standard gigabit Ethernet switches, providing for the monitor audio was very easy and eliminated the need for bulky analog splitters. Since the split is a 24-bit, 96kHz digital copy of the original there were no induced hums, buzzes or any of the losses associated with analog splitters.



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- Jon Laterza

During set-up, Laterza praised the 24bit 96kHz CAT5e system as a lightweight dream, especially in contrast to a "56 pair". With the low cost of CAT5e, the crew plans to leave the cabling behind, which will save the venue on post-event labor.

Among the product's top attributes, Laterza lists the audio quality as a favorite. He raves about the mic pre-amps clarity and sound. "The fact that there is no noise when I turn the snake on is a vast improvement over previous years. No hums, buzzes or clicks, which means one less place to look when I am trouble shooting," says Laterza. Since the preamps are on stage, the Cat5e cabling provides very high quality audio without the high frequency losses that come with analog snakes. The preamps are controlled from the FOH position using the system's S-4000R remote controller. After the gains have been set up during sound check, you can store the settings as presets in case there is more than one act.

When it came to troubleshoot, Laterza rates the RSG staff as exceptional. Every phone call was returned quickly and provided helpful answers.

More Information

See the full story at: www.rssamerica.com/stories

Product Information: www.rssamerica.com/s4000

Consultant Resources: www.rolandsystemsgroup.com