News Release

Pro Audio Group
EV • Telex • Midas • Klark Teknik
Dynacord • RTS • University Sound

Telex Pro Audio Offers Complete Solution at Lavish Minneapolis Jazz Club: Rossi's Blue Star Steakhouse, Tavern and Jazz Room
Rossi's Called "Posh and Ambitious" by the Minneapolis Star Tribune

Minneapolis, MN (September 11, 2003): Located at the corner of 9th and Marquette in the basement of the Metro Building, the Blue Star jazz room in downtown Minneapolis is the newest and hottest venue for live jazz in the Twin Cities. And while the sound systems in some jazz clubs sound like low-budget afterthoughts, the Blue Star's owners insisted on installing the best system in town: an Electro-Voice® / Midas / Klark Teknik / Dynacord system from the Telex Communications Pro Audio Group.

Long-time Twin Cities recording engineer Lynn Peterson designed the Blue Star sound system to support both local jazz artists and national headline acts. "There's no sound engineer on staff here, so I've had to make the system really bullet-proof," Peterson says. Microphones are plugged into pre-assigned, pre-equalized channels so when a group arrives for setup, the system is ready for them. "The mics stay on the stands and you don't use them for anything except what it says. These EV® RE510s are vocal mics, the EV N/D478 is used for the sax mic, the EV N/D468 is snare drum mic. The piano is already mic'ed with EV RE200s, and if you've got a keyboard, it plugs in right here."

The FOH Position: Midas Venice 320 Console & Klark Teknik Helix EQ

Telex Communications, Inc.
12000 Portland Avenue, Burnsville, MN 55337 • Phone: 952.884.4051 • Fax: 952.346.4985

View From the FOH Position in the Performance Area of Rossi's Blue Star RoomThe most eye-catching part of the Blue Star system is hidden behind the curtains in back of the stage: a wide, custom-built vertical rack that holds a 32-channel Midas Venice 320 mix console, two Klark Teknik DN9340 Helix digital equalizers, and two Electro-Voice CPS3 2x1200-watt amplifiers —installed sound versions of EV's popular Precision Series™ touring amps.

"The Venice console up on the stage was factory-modified to turn it into a monitor board," Peterson says. "All of the auxiliary sends are now post-EQ, pre-fader so we can do six monitor mixes right here." All of the EV self-powered SxA100 monitor speakers along the front of the stage are numbered one through six to match the monitor mix buses on the Venice console.

It might appear that Peterson has dumbed-down a lot of top-notch Telex products to make life easier for jazz musicians flying without technical help. But all the tools a front-of-house engineer would want are still there. Neatly tucked into the FOH mix position in the middle of the room are another Venice 320 console, a lighting control console, plus a rack that includes an EV Dx-38 processor, the remote controller for the Helix equalizers, and an effects processor. There's also room in the rack for a 24-track hard disk recorder that would take direct channel outs from the Midas Venice for live recordings.

"The Helix EQ is brilliant, and just sounds really good," Peterson says. "Sonically, it's so transparent and user-friendly, it's easy to teach someone how to use it." He adds that the Helix settings are locked out for the nights when there's no FOH engineer. "But I gave the bar manager the code so when there's a real guy at the console, he can unlock the Helix and get into it. Afterwards, they just hit recall and lock it up again."

For the delivery end of the system, Peterson suspended two pairs—stage left and right—of Electro-Voice QRx-153 three-way full-range speakers. And about halfway back into the house, squeezed in among black-painted ceiling beams, pipes, and ducts, hangs an Xsub/f subwoofer from EV's X-Line™ concert line array series.

"The sub is where it is because there wasn't any other place to put it," Peterson says. "We didn't want it on the floor or under the stage because the front row tables would just hear the sub." Peterson uses the Dx-38 speaker processor in the FOH rack to delay the subwoofer signal so it aligns with what's happening on stage. "The delay is set so it really couples up with the bass player's amplifier. We're not going for volume; just that a lot of frequencies are gone by the time the bass line gets out into the seating area. With the sub and the delay, it's like the bass player is right there."

Peterson also uses the delays in the Dx-38 to straighten out the stereo imaging in the asymmetrical jazz room. "With the delays, we can twist everything back into shape. I pushed one box back in time about seven feet, so it's like the stage is turned. The sub is pushed way back to about two feet from the back wall of the stage because that's where the bass amp sits."

The Blue Star is also outfitted with EVID surface mount and ceiling loudspeakers as well as EVID subwoofers throughout the various dining rooms, private wine rooms, two separate bars, and jazz room. These areas are split into various zones controlled by the Dynacord ProAnnounce™ system, which not only routes various splits of live jazz and recorded audio, but also provides the utmost in paging and life safety features.

Rossi's Private Wine Rooms Feature EV EVID Loudspeakers and Plasma Screens for Business Meetings, Receptions, and Special Events

Telex Communications, Inc.
12000 Portland Avenue, Burnsville, MN 55337 • Phone: 952.884.4051 • Fax: 952.346.4985

As part of the new Rossi's Steakhouse and Tavern in the Metro Apartments building, the Blue Star jazz room benefits from the lavish attention paid to every aspect of the development. Peterson says, however, that the priorities are different between the restaurants and the jazz room.

"The restaurant people are naturally more concerned with food than music. But when you come downstairs here, it's a jazz club. People come here for the music, not just the food. Most folks who come down here early want a good dinner, and they want a good seat."

Of course, with its high-end Telex Pro Audio sound system, *every* seat in the Blue Star jazz room is a good seat.

Recent performers have included Alicia Wiley, The Rippingtons, Sue Tucker, Richard Paske's *elettra blu*, and Harry Connick Jr. While performing at the club, Harry Connick Jr. lauded the sound system, and even queried management in attempt to buy the club's grand piano. Upcoming performers include T.S. Monk, Chuck Mangione, and Sandra Bernhard.

Telex Communications® is a leader in the design, manufacture and marketing of sophisticated audio, wireless, multimedia, aircraft, broadcast and communications equipment for commercial, professional and industrial customers. Telex Communications markets its products in more than 80 countries under the brands EV®, Telex®, RTS™, Dynacord®, Midas®, Klark Teknik®, University® and others.

James Edlund
Public Relations Manager
Telex Communications, Inc.
12000 Portland Ave. South
Burnsville, MN 55337
Phone: 952-736-3901
Fax: 952-736-4582
E-mail: James.Edlund@telex.com

###