



MALVERN COLLEGE

UK / Great Malvern

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Country / City: UK / Great Malvern

Completion: 2018

Capacity: 670 Students

Usage: Education

Technology



Over Stage
Engineering



Acoustics



Track
Systems

Overview

As part of the theatre refurbishment at Malvern College, J&C Joel supplied a range of stage engineering and drapery services to the main auditorium and studio.

Malvern College is an independent coeducational day and boarding school in Worcestershire, England. Originally opened in 1903 as a gymnasium, the theatre underwent a huge refurbishment in 2018. Transforming it into an impressive theatrical venue.

Today, the theatre hosts a variety of events, including theatrical productions, dance performances, music concerts, fashion shows and lectures. Therefore, it was important that the services J&C Joel provided were flexible.

J&C Joel began the project by installing a 36m curved mild steel catwalk above the auditorium and the curved seating area. This allowed a safe and convenient walkway for the theatre crew to access lights suspended above the auditorium.

The team installed four steel ladder bars, manufactured from 48mm tube for the suspending lighting and scenery. In addition, a split tension wire grid was supplied by J&C Joel. The grid comprised of 12 SkyDeck modular systems, each measuring 2.2m by 1.8m. Together these systems provide safe access above the auditorium.

Above the stage area, J&C Joel supplied and installed two ETC Prodigy hoists with ladder bars. These were primarily used for the raising and lowering of stage lighting and drapes.

One ladder bar supported a 10m walkalong Triple E UniTrack system, from which J&C Joel's Wool Serge 565 (WS090) were hung. Each drape measured a width of 5m by a drop of 4.9m and was manufactured with 50% fullness. Finally, J&C Joel finished the drapes with Golf Bag Hooks and a Jack Chain base.




The walkalong Triple E UniTrack played a significant role in meeting the theatre's multipurpose requirements. The system allows the drapes to move smoothly along the track, enabling staff to transform the space quickly and effortlessly. Depending on the needs of each performance, the blackout drapes can either create a stage backdrop or disappear entirely from view.




The three-stage configurations enabled the venue to support a wide range of performance and seating arrangements, while the studio space was transformed into a flexible multi-purpose area suitable for teaching, drama, and foyer use. The installation of five Wool Serge 565 (WS090) drapes on Triple E UniTrack ensured the space could be quickly opened or enclosed as required, providing ease of operation for staff. In addition, the acoustic, masking, and blackout qualities of the fabric enhanced the studio's usability by reducing external noise and controlling natural light, ultimately creating a practical and professional environment capable of meeting diverse operational needs.



Black Wool Serge 565 Drapes



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