



Mike Childs and Steve Mendez: Sam Ash Manhattan Sound Designers

It would be hard to find two guys who love what they do more than Mike Childs and Steve Mendez. Both are sound designers for Sam Ash Manhattan's PA department and both have made a career out of their understanding of the aesthetic and technical sides of music.

Mike has been playing music since he was three - starting on drums, moving to sax, then, as a teen, got into deejaying and producing. He attended the Institute of Audio Research for an engineering degree, which came as naturally to him as music. "To go from *playing* music to the technical side was not hard," Mike says. "The technical side is very math-oriented, but I was always good at math. It all made sense to me." Mike always paid attention to the different product lines of equipment when he was a mobile deejay, then school and working for Sam Ash "put me right in the mix. Working here, we can listen to lots of different speakers and combinations. For example, with EV's SX line --- they're lightweight, perform great, easily mountable and very cost effective. They sound great, sometimes more than speakers that are twice as much. It's all about meeting the customer's needs in the best way possible."

Besides being a bass player, Steve has a classical music background. He played percussion for the Venezuelan symphony for six years then switched to mixing boards, "a different kind of instrument," as he puts it. He studied acoustics at NYU, recording at New School University and even after being in live sound for nine years, he continues to take classes. Working with large companies and venues, he learned enough to design systems for clubs and various sound companies. He designed a huge X-Array system for LT Sound in the NY area and has large systems in around 25 clubs and residences around the city. He also owns his own small PA company. He thrives on the variety and opportunity designing sound systems for Sam Ash brings. "I love to go in and check out the place, recommend what I think will work best, then design the whole system."

Both Mike and Steve love working for Sam Ash, designing sound systems and being on the cutting edge of the sound equipment industry. As might be expected, they are planning their future around sound design: Mike is building a recording studio in addition to a live sound company for mid-sized concerts. Steve is busy building his own speaker prototypes with technical help from EV engineers; long term, he hopes to offer his own line of custom-built equipment. Hats off to Mike and Steve for their hard work and commitment to dreams!

Electro-Voice Powers New York Club Scene

A concentration of Electro-Voice sound systems is providing the backbeat for some of the hottest clubs in New York City. Six clubs along three blocks of one of the hippest neighborhoods in Soho are all using EV systems to power their live talent, attracting eclectic crowds nightly to hear wildly diverse music in a variety of venues.

Baby Jupiter, Arlene's Grocery, The Saint, Scandals, Tuna Fish and The Bitter End all boast live music six to seven nights per week. The type of music runs the gamut from club to club, featuring everything from jazz, flamenco, and salsa to blues, hip hop and rock. The size and environment of the clubs also varies, with some offering intimate settings of fifty people per room while others rock out every night with a capacity of five hundred people. Sound designers at Sam Ash Manhattan's PA department used the flexibility and cost effectiveness of EV equipment to design a custom system for each club, knowing they could count on the reliability and clarity of the gear in all situations. Baby Jupiter utilizes four SX300 speakers, an MTL1x sub, and EV flying hardware; Arlene's Grocery has four SX300 speakers and two T-18 subs; The Saint with four SX300 speakers and two SB180 subs; Scandals with four SX300 speakers and two SB180 subs; Tuna Fish has four SX500 speakers, two MTL1x subs, a DX38 processor, EV EQ, and ND767A microphones; and The Bitter End has four FM1503 speakers plus two T-18 subs.

EV's standout performance in Soho's club scene began with a single club in April, 2000; by July, Electro-Voice equipment had taken the spotlight in six clubs on the cutting edge of the New York City club scene.



Arlene's Grocery has a reputation for great music --- and great sound through EV equipment.

The Saint, one of New York's hottest clubs, features two floors of live music powered by EV equipment.



X-Array Delivers at Jazz Aspen 2000

Jazz Aspen 2000 was held June 15 -18 in beautiful Aspen, Colorado, presenting stellar music to a capacity crowd. The outdoor festival was attended daily by 5,000 people. A tent covered the stage while the crowd spilled out onto a lawn array.

Eight bands played over the four days of the festival, including luminaries Natalie Cole and Bonnie Raitt. Innovative Concert Systems of Kansas City, Missouri, designed the sound system for the outdoor event using X-Array equipment to great effect. The main system consisted of two Xn speakers per side with an Xb in the middle of each pair, plus two Xds subs on the ground. The delay system was two Xn speakers per side, while the lawn seating was three Xf and two Xb speakers in a mono-cluster. All arrays were flown. Innovative Concert Systems used the new DN 9849 processor to power the gear, a piece they loved and declared they couldn't have done the show without. "Coverage of the lawn was so much better," said Kevin Makalous of Innovative Concert Systems. "There was no comb filtering, no lobing --- the sound was completely transparent."

Concertgoers and performers alike applauded the quality sound at Jazz Aspen 2000.

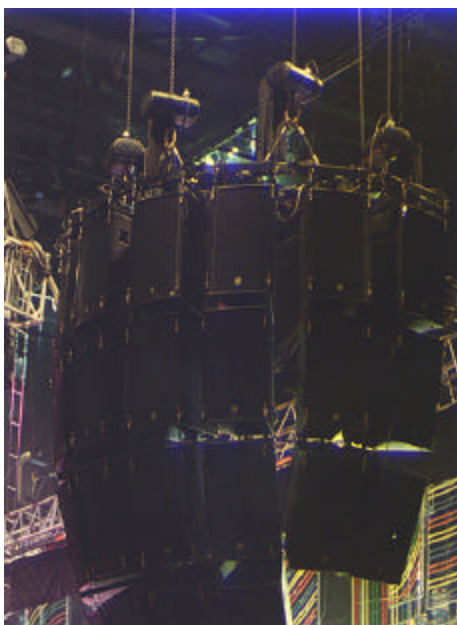
The hit Broadway musical "Five Guys Named Moe" recently ended a very successful tour of Cyprus. All 20 shows on the tour were in open air theaters, with an average attendance of 2,000+ people per show.

While touring Cyprus, the popular Broadway show was backed by an Electro-Voice sound system. The system included six Xi1152/64 loud-speaker systems, two Xi2181 sub-woofers, two DX38 processors, two XW12 monitors and two T252 loud-speakers. Stelios Petrides of Cyprus's Empire Music Center designed the sound system with the summer's amphitheater audiences in mind - the result was electrifying! The Cyprus tour of "Five Guys Named Moe" was a huge success, bringing audiences to their feet all over the island.

Early Gold Medal in Sydney

The TV pop sensations Bardot made their Sydney performance debut at the State Theatre on Friday, April 28th, with a full EV X-Array speaker system at "Front of House". The system consisted of Eight XF 40x20 long throw cabinets, Eight XB bass cabinets and four XN 60x40 short throw cabinets. The system was then supplemented with an XDS sub cabinet per side. The system was configured with seven cabinets each side on the deck with four cabinets per side flying to cover the balcony area. The X-Array cabinets feature EV's proprietary Ring Mode De-coupling technology which provides consistent performance regardless of volume. Control for the system was via EV's new DX 38 digital system controllers, while Klark Teknik DN 360's served for system and foldback equalization. Front of House mixing duties were handled by a Midas XL 200.

The production for the concert was provided by the Sydney office of Melbourne based production company Johnston Audio Services. All of the Bardot showcases to date have utilized the X-Array system. Grant Pudig, FOH engineer for the act, said " this system was perfect for the State due to its hi-fi quality sound and highly accurate Q of each cabinet."



The **Savage Garden Affirmation World Tour 2000** kicked off Friday, July 14 in Augusta, Georgia at Barton Field. The group will play a variety of venues, from theaters to stadiums to state fairs, as well as House of Blues and Hard Rock Live.

To consistently provide outstanding sound in such a variety of situations, db Sound of Chicago designed a system using X-Array. A partial list of X-Array components supporting Savage Garden includes 12 Xb, 4 Xcb, 6 Xcn, 12 Xds, 12 Xf and 6 Xn speakers. P3000 amplifiers power the boxes, while the FOH console is a Midas Heritage 2000.



Bardot in concert with assistance from X-Array

