

# The Hospital, London [UK]



## The creative complex with Europe's first high definition studio

Founded by American investor Paul G. Allen and Dave Stewart, formerly of Eurythmics, The Hospital is a state-of-the-art complex situated in London's dynamic Covent Garden. It is a unique mix of facilities for artists and creatives develop new projects across media including television, film, music and more. The facility includes Europe's first high definition television studio as well as cutting edge professional audio recording and mixing studios, a multiuse exhibit and art gallery.

### **Aims**

The Hospital renovated its building structure with only the façade being maintained. The inside is totally new and purpose built. The 250-square meter studio is equipped for standard definition and high definition productions, breaking new ground for Europe and making particular demands at all levels. It also has a high-end music control room as well as a studio audio room, and is well placed for music as well as all types of production genres, including HD feature films and period dramas. The gallery requires not only HD technology, but also a clean look throughout the premises, in addition to meeting the particular requirements of each and every client. In the gallery all eyes are on the monitors and it is essential that these are in keeping and fit for the purpose.

### **The solution**

At The Hospital it was decided that the conventional monitor-wall route was not the best solution. Prime reasons were that this type of HD monitoring is costly to buy and install and has high running costs, which include routine maintenance needed to keep all screens matched, as well as high power and cooling costs. As a result the

**BARCO**

Visibly yours



major part of the video monitoring requirements for the production gallery have been met with a Barco's iStudio solution consisting of five 67-inch Barco SXGA rear projection displays. These are arranged as a group of three and a group of two seamless displays, for the production and engineering requirements. Quality control needs are met with traditional 14 to 24-inch grade 1 CRT monitors.

### Many feeds, many uses

Each of the 67-inch displays is fed from a Barco HYDRA graphics controller input system that is configured, in this instance, to accept ten inputs made up of both SD and HD video, as well as RGB signals. Any or all of these are then displayed together on a single 67-inch screen but with the complete freedom to compose the required size, aspect ratio and positioning of all sources from the web browser-driven control

software. Each image carries its own UMD and tally and other items such as clocks, text, audio monitoring, alarms and time code all of which can be included.

Paul Daniels, Head of Engineering, explains, "In this room we are hosts to different production crews and each has different expectations and experience. At first we were all experimenting setting up the arrangements of sources and displays as they wanted but after a while things settled down. As the settings can all be stored, we can recall anyone's favorite set-up at the touch of a button. It's very dynamic and fits nicely with the tremendous flexibility we have in the whole building."

The studio is wired for six HD cameras. The Hospital has installed three LDK 6000s and any further requirements are hired in. In addition, the whole building is highly wired. Cameras and sound facilities can be easily plugged in to various rooms and open spaces extending around the entire arts complex. These include the roof terrace, restaurant and art gallery – making a wide variety of separate locations easily accessible for production use, and taking full advantage of the flexibility of iStudio monitoring to display all sources from any location in the best possible way.

### iStudio system

Barco's iStudio system is the most advanced display solution for managed monitoring. Comprising high quality displays, (designed for 24/7 environments), HYDRA controller input systems - to combine and size images, UMDs and tally information, and web browser-based control software ensuring ease of use. For HD, up to 30 simultaneous images can be placed on one screen, for SD the number can rise to 60, so high grade monitoring is available for many sources on one screen. The combination of today's display technologies and Barco's

renowned engineering skills mean the screens achieve even brightness all the way to the corners and, despite their large image area, the units are compact. Two or more modules can be combined into a huge wall to monitor as many signals as any facility could ever hope to provide. The system acts as a single point of control allowing limitless layouts and variations of monitors and event responses. Operators can size and locate a virtual monitor anywhere on the screen as they react to developing situations, all layouts can be stored and recalled along with alarm settings at the touch of a button. Besides the modern clean look this is a highly efficient way of presenting multiple images. Power consumption (and cooling) are significantly reduced, as low as 150W for a 67-inch screen, and space requirements compared to monitor stacks are minimized – useful in a studio, a big bonus in OBs. Even power and signal cabling runs are considerably reduced. In conclusion iStudio offers a highly flexible solution, with the added benefit of lower cost of ownership for today's demanding monitoring sites.

Barco Control Rooms - Belgium  
Noordlaan 5, 8520 Kuurne  
Phone (32) (56) 36-8211  
E-mail sales.bcd@barco.com

Germany Phone (49) (721) 6201-0  
UK Phone (44) (118) 9664611  
USA Phone (1) (770) 218-3200  
Brazil Phone (55) (11) 3842-1656  
Japan Phone (81) (3) 5762-8720  
Hong Kong Phone (852) 2397-0752

Ref. no. R599835 May '05

Barco Control Rooms is an ISO 9001 registered company.  
The information and data given are typical for the equipment described. However any individual item is subject to change without any notice.  
© March 2005 by Barco

[www.barcocontrolrooms.com](http://www.barcocontrolrooms.com)

**BARCO**

Visibly yours