

La Géode, Paris

Europe's largest digital stereoscopic dome



“This solution allows La Géode to introduce the biggest, brightest and finest high-definition 3D and 2D images”

Laurent Dondey
General Manager of La Géode.

La Géode, located in Paris, France, is Europe's largest cinematic dome, with a 1000m² giant screen. Comfortably seated on a green slope, since 1985 its impressive spherical shape overlooks the banks of the river Ourcq. In order to maintain its unique position as a theater of the future even in the 21st century, La Géode was looking to upgrade its projection systems to the next standard: high-definition, stereoscopic cinema for both digital and large format film presentations.

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Dreams fueled by Barco's Galaxy

La Géode was inspired by Barco's visualization achievements to opt for a multi-channel, three-chip DLP™ Galaxy HB12+ projection system with passive stereo capabilities. This 12,000 ANSI lumens projector has become the mainstay of advanced display systems all over the world because of its following features:

- Its native stereoscopic capabilities render it a natural choice for any application that requires such visualization, with either passive or active Infitec filters
- Its three-chip DLP™ technology makes it ideal to project images in deep, vivid colors
- Its edge blending capabilities eliminate seams where projections converge
- Its constant light output and color matching technology ensure one image in stable colors across the entire screen
- Its warping technology allows it to maintain the same image quality and geometry accuracy across the length and width of the spherical display

User-friendly display management

In addition to smart Folsom Image Processing tools, la Géode chose Barco's XDS-1000 display management system to drive this impressive configuration. This desktop-integrated solution comes with the following features:

- Its Windows XP interface acts as a focal point where external sources can be easily detected, pulled up and displayed in their native resolution
- It allows easy mouse and keyboard control, with access to user-created lay-outs and external devices through the Start Menu
- Sources can be displayed in multiple windows simultaneously, and these windows can be resized, moved and made to overlap at will

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The biggest, brightest and finest

"This solution allows la Géode to introduce the biggest, brightest and finest high-definition 3D and 2D images," says Laurent Dondey, general manager of La Géode, "We discovered the right way to strategically enrich our programming, diversify it and render it less dependant at the same time." The entire system further benefits the company through other distinct advantages:

- Its Galaxy projectors are built specifically for both movie and stereoscopic applications, which saves La Géode large amounts of money they would otherwise have spent on updating middle-of-the-road systems or retrofitting obsolete projectors
- Servicing and maintenance is made easy through the system's remote control and diagnostics capabilities that automatically warns staff members in case of problems with sources or projector lamps

For La Géode, the result is a stunning, immersive multi-channel cinematic dome. In the words of Laurent Dondey: "In a few weeks, we believe we'll attract many new visitors in addition to the current stream of 550,000 IMAX spectators."

Similar references

- Dome-projection at the Tycho Brahe planetarium, Denmark

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