



2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48201  
313-471-3200 FAX 313-471-3220  
[www.olympiaentertainment.com](http://www.olympiaentertainment.com)

# FOX THEATRE

## DETROIT, MI

### Technical Overview

**ADDRESS:** Fox Theatre / Olympia Entertainment  
2211 Woodward Ave  
Detroit, MI 48201

**PHONES:** Administrative Offices: (313) 471-3200  
Fax: (313) 471-3220  
General Manager  
Greg Bellamy (313) 471-3212 [greg.bellamy@olyent.com](mailto:greg.bellamy@olyent.com)  
Director, Corporate Sales  
Molly Briggs (313) 471-3206 [molly.briggs@olyent.com](mailto:molly.briggs@olyent.com)  
Other Phone Extensions:  
Production Office (313) 471-3230  
Production Office (313) 471-3231  
Tech Director (Backstage) (313) 471-3232  
Head Carpenter (313) 471-3233  
Stage Right (313) 471-3234  
Projection Booth (313) 471-3236  
Audio Engineer (313) 471-3237  
Lighting Technician (313) 471-3238  
Wardrobe (313) 471-3239  
Stage Door (313) 471-3240

**LABOR:** Stagehands: Local #38 IATSE (313) 368-0825  
Wardrobe: Local #786 (586) 771-3870  
(Stagehand and Wardrobe Calls must be arranged through the Fox Technical Director.)

<b>SEATING CAPACITY:</b>	Orchestra	2871
	Mezzanine	370
	Balcony	1438
	Pit Seating	152
		<hr/>
	Total Seating	4831

#### GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Fox Theatre is a restored movie palace, built in 1928 as one of the flagship theatres in the Fox chain. Two of its sister theatres still stand: the Fox in Atlanta and the nearly-identical Fox in St. Louis. Detroit's Fox Theatre is still one of the largest and most ornate theatres in the country. From the Grand Lobby, with its marble stairway, to the auditorium, whose tent-like ceiling is supported by faux marble columns, and the giant elephant head over the proscenium, every surface of the Fox interior is covered with plaster decoration. We ask that all users of the Fox be respectful of this heritage and do nothing that would damage these beautiful yet fragile surfaces.

Today the Fox is owned by Michael and Marian Ilitch, and the headquarters of their company, Little Caesar's Pizza, is located in the office building over the theatre. The Fox underwent a restoration in 1988. The Fox has since been among the top-grossing theatres in the United States. In 2002, Pollstar named the Fox Theatre the #1 theatre in North America.

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# ACCESS AND STAGE

## DIRECTIONS:

*From the South on I-75*

Take I-75 northbound about 1 mile past the Ambassador Bridge to the Grand River exit (51). Follow the Service Drive about ½ mile to Woodward Avenue. Turn right. The theatre is one block ahead on your right..

*From the North on I-75*

Take I-75 southbound, being careful to take the right turn on I-75 (not I-375). Exit at Grand River, taking an immediate left at the top of the ramp, then left again on the service drive that parallels the freeway. Take this to Woodward Avenue, turn right and the theatre is on your right.

## TRUCK ACCESS:

There is a fenced in lot immediately behind the theatre with primary access off of Montcalm Street. In good weather conditions as many as four trucks at a time may be unloaded. Trucks may be left in the lot as long as they are moved to allow access to the several dumpsters sharing the lot. Buses may also park in the lot, and a 200 amp service is available inside the loading door for bus power (bare wire connection). Buses may *not* park on Montcalm Street because it is a fire lane.

## LOAD IN:

Equipment must be ramped off of the truck onto the asphalt pad outside the loading door. The loading door is at grade. The door is about 8' wide and 10' high. A concrete ramp is just inside the loading door.

We have a forklift on premises for rent. May be ordered with sufficient notice and a scheduled operator from the stagehand's union.

## STAGE FLOOR:

Masonite over either tongue and groove or upstage and offstage on sleepers over concrete. Not considered a "sprung" floor. Wings are concrete starting 49' off center. Now covered in MDF.

## DANCE FLOOR:

A "Marley"-type dance floor is available at extra cost. The floor is Harlequin Reversible with black and gray sides. Rolls are 6' 6" wide and 65' long. Five (5) rolls are available.

**OBSTRUCTIONS:** *Up Left:* Ropes for Grand Teaser and Lambraquin. Ramp and/or stairs in front of stage loading door if in place.

*Down Left:* Rope lock for movie sheet and mop sink.

*Left Proscenium Wall:* Dashpot for fire curtain.

*Up Right:* Wire guide sets for lines 49, 50 and 51. Stairs to grid.

*Right Wall:* Pin Rail.

*Down Right:* Amp Rack and other electronics.

*Right Proscenium Wall:* Rope lock for guillotine curtain (not operational).

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# LIFTS AND OTHER STAGE ITEMS

## ORCHESTRA PIT:

- 19' deep at center, and 66' wide at upstage edge. Front of pit is curved.
- Pit is carpeted. Carpet may be removed.
- Motorized screw jacks move the pit from stage level to a depth of 12 feet.
- *Organ hatch must be removed before traveling down more than 4' 6".*
- To use as Orchestra Pit after removing Organ hatch, travel to full depth, load musicians, travel up to playing height.
- Pit is most often used as concert seating. Three removable doors in pit railing allow audience access. Pit chairs come right up to stage edge.

## ORGAN LIFT:

- Opening is 9' wide by 5' deep in upstage half of Orchestra Pit.
- Independent screw jack raises Wurlitzer Organ console.
- Hatch in Orchestra Pit must be removed to allow organ to travel.
- Deck of organ lift will not come up level with Pit when it is at stage level.
- *Organ Console cannot and will not be removed under any circumstances.*

## STAGE LIFT:

- Large midstage lift descends to storage areas, or rises above the stage for no useful reason we can devise. Could be used as a giant riser, but nobody ever seems to do this.
- Lift is 40' wide by 12' deep. Maximum depth of 9' 6" below stage level.
- Lift will not automatically stop at stage level; it must be manually stopped.
- At bottom, lift accesses a narrow hallway.
- Located 13' upstage of curtain line, about 18' from the edge of the stage.

## CYC TROUGH:

- The old cyc light trough is still in place, though it is no longer used for that purpose. We currently use it for storage of long pipe goods. The trough starts 3' 3" from the back wall and is made up of hinged panels 3' 5" in depth. It runs to a width of 80'. Some panels have floor pockets in them for cyc light and audio circuits. It is advised that heavy pinpoint loads be avoided in this area.

## SCENE DOCKS:

- Two scenery docks; one above the other, are located upstage right, well above stage level. They are used for storage of house soft goods and lighting inventory. A one ton chain hoist is used to access the two levels. There is seldom room for show storage on these levels.

## CROSSOVER:

- Because the stage is shallow, onstage crossovers are not always possible. An understage crossover is possible by going down stairs in the Green Room (off left), through a corridor, and back up a stairway stage right.

# STAGE DIMENSIONS AND F.O.H. RIGGING

## STAGE WIDTHS:

Proscenium Opening	77' 9"
Stage Width, Wall to Wall (to Pin Rail)	126'
Stage Right Wing (to Pin Rail)	29'
Center to Stage Right Wall (to Pin Rail)	68'
Stage Left Wing	19'
Center to Stage Left Wall	58'

## STAGE DEPTHS:

Total Stage Depth (Excluding Pit)	36' 4"
Usable Apron (Down of Traveler)	4' 10"
Depth behind Grand Traveler (Line 1)	31' 6"
See line plot for other dimensions	

## STAGE HEIGHTS:

Floor to Grid	80'
Maximum High Pine Travel	77'
House Teaser Maximum Trim	29' 6"
House Teaser Minimum Trim	23'
Bottom of Movie Sheet at High Trim	40'

## HOUSE RELATED DIMENSIONS:

Front of Balcony to Curtain Line	75'
Suite Level To Curtain Line (at Center)	115'
Back of Main Floor to Curtain Line	139'
Back of Balcony to Curtain Line	164'
Height of Ceiling Dome from House Floor	103'

## FRONT OF HOUSE RIGGING POINTS

Three pairs of points are available in front of the proscenium line. Each goes through the plaster line to a pear ring. Load capacities are limited.

<i>Pair 1</i>	8' 8" downstage of curtain line	16' 9" off center	65' height
<i>Pair 2</i>	10' 5" downstage of curtain line	11' 9" off center	67' height
<i>Pair 3</i>	19' 8" downstage of curtain line	17' 5" off center	84' height

# FLY SYSTEM, DRAPERIES, EQUIPMENT

## HOUSE FLY SYSTEM

- 51 total linesets (Single Purchase System).
- Grand Drape is on Line Set #1 (*not removable*).
- Line Sets 1-48 controlled at lockrail on stage right, floor level.
- Line Sets 49-51 controlled at small wire guide lockrail located upstage right, floor level.
- Battens are 1 1/2" schedule 40 pipe, each 86' long.
- Seven lift lines per pipe (center 5 lines are bridled).
- Arbors are 9' with approximate 1500 pound capacity.  
See Line Plot for line locations. We discourage kicking sheaves, but because it has taken place, some sets might be off from line plot.

## MISCELLANEOUS SETS:

- *Lambrequin* (decorative swagged drape): hangs downstage of proscenium.
- *House Grand Teaser*: hangs immediately upstage of Lambrequin. Ropes controlling height located upstage left. Adjusts from 23' to 29' 6".
- *Fire Curtain*: sealed asbestos over steel frame. Motorized, with slip-wire control downstage left and "cut the rope" emergency release.
- Set for *Former Guillotine Drop*: located between Fire Curtain and Grand Drape. Drop is struck and lineset has limited travel. Ropelock located immediately downstage right. Considered inoperative.
- *House Grand Drape*: hangs on Lineset #1. Rose-red velour traveler will also guillotine, but we recommend against it since it tends to snag.
- *Movie Sheet*: perforated white sheet mounted on unistrut frame. Located between linesets 5 and 6 with its own rope lock down left. Screen is 29' high by 62' wide. High trim puts bottom of sheet at 45'.

## PINRAIL:

- Located Stage Right, approximately 7' from lockrail at stage level.
- Two sections, each 10' long.
- House has a fair amount of hemp and a large number of sheaves.
- Exact location and number of spot lines will vary.

## HOUSE DRAPES:

Basic blacks, a cyc, and a scrim. Contact for details  
At any one time, all drapes may not be in the air.

## MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT

- Wenger Music Stands
- Stand Lights
- Risers
- Lectern: fairly large and painted to match theatre decor.

# AUDIO

## MAIN SPEAKER STACKS:

The Fox has two full-range speaker clusters flown just inside the proscenium both left and right. This system is capable of filling the entire hall with significant sound pressure levels. Because it is tailored to the room, we recommend using the house system for all events. This system will *not* be removed.

For truly loud or bass heavy shows, additional equipment may be necessary. Supplemental speakers may be stacked on stage as long as the fire curtain line is observed. There are no sound flying points.

All speakers are JBL Concert Series

Main floor Coverage (per side):

- three 4871 enclosures with two 15" woofers, one 2" horn and two 2404 tweeters
- three 4870 enclosures with two 15" woofers and one 2" horn

Balcony Coverage (per side):

- three 4871 enclosures with two 15" woofers and two 2404 tweeters (no horns)
- three 4866 enclosures with two 2" 20"x40" horns

Subwoofers (per side) located on house floor:

- two 4842 enclosures with two 18" woofers

System is driven by Crest amplifiers with JBL crossovers. It is meant to be configured in four zones: Orchestra (left and right) and Balcony (left and right).

## MIX LOCATION:

The Fox mix area is located in rows U, V and W of Section 4 (just off of the center aisle). It is approximately 70 feet from the stage, just under the balcony edge. Three rows of seats have been removed. In its largest configuration, the mix can extend the full width of the section (14 seats – roughly 9'x22'). Hardwired at the mix are:

- mic and utility lines to backstage right patchbay
- 2 Clear Com stations
- 110v outlets, some of which are off of the isolated sound transformer
- connections for Stage lighting console and House light controllers
- 75 ohm coax video lines and 50 ohm antenna lines to backstage

Snakes for temporary installations must be run under the auditorium floor. Approximately 200 feet of cable is needed to reach the mix from the stage. Because the mix is in the middle of the house, it is important to keep the height of all equipment as low as possible.

## HOUSE EQUIPMENT:

All house mix area equipment is configured for removal to allow road equipment to be placed at the mix.

## HEARING ASSIST SYSTEM:

Williams Sound FM transmitter at 72.9 MHz

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# AUDIO (continued)

## HOUSE CONSOLE:

Ramsa WR-SX1A48 (48 channel)  
Supplementary board: Yamaha 1204 (12 channel)

## MONITOR SYSTEM:

The Fox monitor system is rather basic and is not intended for "high level" monitor applications.

Console: Yamaha 2408 (24 Channels / 8 Monitor Mixes)

4 Yamaha Q2031 dual channel graphic equalizers (8 mixes)

Sidefills: 2 Turbosound TMS4 3-way, bi-amped speakers (1 mono mix)

Wedges: 8 JBL 4604B 15" passive 2-way speakers NOT bi-amped (7 mixes)

Crest 4001 amplifiers

Microphone Splits: A wall mounted box stage right splits all mic sends to the house board. Split is hardwired; not transformer isolated.

If using house monitor rig, console *must* be stage right.

## MICROPHONES:

An assortment of Shure SM 58, Shure SM 57, Shure SM 81, EV PL20, Sennheiser MD 421, etc. If your microphone needs are specific, please contact.

## MIC LINES:

In addition to the split box stage right, there are three 75' sub-snake boxes: Stage right - 17 lines  
Stage left - 17 lines  
Upstage center - 16 lines

Tie lines to projection booth: 6 lines from stage left

Lines to balcony rail: 2 lines from stage right

16 cross-stage tie lines to stage left from stage right patchbay

## CLEAR-COM:

MS 200C 2-channel main station

10 belt pacs and headsets

Hardwired lines to most useful locations

**PAGE SYSTEM:** TOA A912A mixer/amp drives speakers in dressing rooms and other backstage areas with program and page material.



# ELECTRICAL

**ROAD POWER:** *For Lighting:* Two 600 amp services located down stage right in a room under the stage. Slot in floor allows access. Each of these services also feeds a stage dimmer rack; full capacity may not be available if the house lighting rig is also being used.

*For Audio:* One 200 amp service off of an isolated transformer. Tie-in boxes are located both stage right and stage left. 110v outlets off this transformer are located stage right, stage left, at the mix, in the pit and in the projection booth.

*For Motors:* One 60 amp service on the downstage right wall

*For Buses:* One 200 amp service upstage left just inside the stage door

**FOH ROAD PATCH:** 66 male 3-pin connectors are accessed stage right to the following positions:

Balcony Rail:	30 circuits	75 ft. to curtain	17° vertical
Box Booms:	18 circuits/side	95 ft. to curtain (center)	45° vertical

**FOLLOWSPOTS:** 3 Strong 2000W Xenon Supertroopers in projection booth (165' throw at 27°).  
2 Ultra-Arc HTI-400 long throw spots in colonnades house left and right. (These positions are at an extreme side angle; not a straight-on shot, often pair to almost equal a Supertrooper.

## STAGE LIGHTING CONSOLE AND DIMMING:

- Avolights Sapphire 2042
- Strand CD-80 2.4K modules
- Two 96 dimmer racks totaling 192 dimmers
- Protocol: AMX 192. Convertor on premises for DMX.

**CIRCUITRY:** 138 dimmers are hardwired to multicable drops from the grid. Any pipe (within reason) can become an electric. Side ladder circuits show up both left and right and are usually used to make additional electrics or booms. All other drops come from stage right.

## LIGHTING INVENTORY:

A broad assortment of fixtures, chiefly par cans, with some ellipsoidals, cyc lights, and ground row, and a few specials.

Balcony Rail, chiefly ETC Source 4.

Box Booms are old Altman fixtures and a few 10 degree Source 4s.

# PROJECTION

## PROJECTORS:

- 35 and 70 mm capability, not frequently used, and may require set-up, platter.

**SCREEN:** 29' x 62' perforated picture sheet, hung on a unistrut frame (see line plot). (NOTE: Because we only show films sporadically, extra set-up time may be required and some lenses or other equipment may need to be rented.)

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# DRESSING ROOMS

## DRESSING ROOMS:

- All dressing rooms are in the tower stage left. There are none at stage level or off stage right.
- All baths have showers. Most dressing rooms have sinks.
- Elevator goes to all floors.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor "Star Suite": Large sitting room with adjacent changing room and bath.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor 2 Small "Star" rooms: Private bath.
  - 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> floors Identical, with four rooms sharing one bath per floor
- Wardrobe room, basement, stage left
- Catering Room, basement, stage right
- Production Office: Typically small room off left at stage level with phones. Can double as quick change.

# LINE PLOT

Line	Distance	Notes
A	-2'	Lambrequin (decorative swagged drape) – not moveable
B	-1'	House Grand Teaser (trims between 22' and 29')
	0'0" to 0'9"	Fire curtain
1	1'9"	House traveler (red velour) – not moveable
2	2'2"	
3	2'8"	
4	3'4"	
5	4'2"	
E	4'6"	Movie screen (line works from stage left) – not moveable
6	5'0"	
7	5'4"	
8	5'10"	
9	6'4"	
10	6'10"	
11	7'4"	
12	7'10"	
13	8'4"	
14	8'10"	
15	9'4"	
16	9'10"	
17	10'4"	
18	10'10"	
19	11'4"	
20	11'11"	
21	12'5"	
22	12'11"	
23	13'5"	
24	13'11"	
25	14'5"	
26	14'11"	
27	15'6"	
28	16'7"	
29	17'3"	
30	17'11"	
31	18'7"	
32	19'3"	
33	19'11"	
34	20'7"	
35	21'3"	
36	21'11"	
37	22'7"	
38	23'3"	
39	24'0"	
40	24'8"	
41	25'4"	
42	26'0"	
43	26'8"	
44	27'5"	
45	28'2"	
46	29'0"	
47	29'9"	
48	20'7"	
49	31'3"	
50	31'11"	
51	32'7"	