

Transformation for Avalon Church



ATLANTA, GA—A new lighting design and installation was recently completed for the new Avalon Church in Atlanta. The six-day install and setup followed months of construction renovation converting a manufacturing plant into a state-of-the-art worship facility.

"It was a year ago that we were asked to survey the venue for Avalon and see if this would be a feasible and effective space for the church from a technical stand point," says Donnie Brawner, president of Brawner & Associates, who designed and installed the system. "The church was in the early stages of growing their congregation and looking for a very comfortable and contemporary look."

Scenic designer Randall Wright put together a stage that positioned itself in the middle of the room surrounded by seating, creating a feeling of being in the round. Eight screen and set panels lined the outer edges of the room, half of them for video projection and the other half for lighting projection. The whole concept forced a very intimate feeling and allowed the pastor to deliver his message while being surrounded by the congregation.

Dealing with a new and growing church, the design group took care to take one step at a time. "Obviously, in-the-round style systems where video will be involved can be a little more complex," states Brawner. "The majority of the system we put together for the church was a combination of quality used equipment, long-term rental agreements and some new equipment as well. This was all in an effort to obtain the necessary gear for the parameters given. We also used the facility's support structure of I-beams and bar joists for a hanging grid for the fixtures as opposed to the purchase and installation of pipes, trussing and motors."

The system included more than 100 ETC Source Four fixtures, both ellipsoidals and PARs, used as the main front and back lighting of the stage. Several Wybron Forerunner scrollers were used to provide basic stage color. Martin Krypton units and Martin 300 wash lights were used in the design of the system to help provide color, texture, flexibility and add to the contemporary feel of the room. Multiple MR-16 strips were used on various set pieces. The system was designed to be used in conjunction with video projection and eventually I-Mag.

Brawner & Associates designer and programmer Ron Robertson stated, "Our pre-visualization capabilities were used to ensure our design was going to work as we had planned. Being that the stage had to be fully lit from three and a half sides for future cameras we wanted to make the virtual model and study it. We were able to save the client some additional money by doing some pre programming in the studio so that our on-site program-

ming time was lessened," explains Robertson.

"The Brawner team listened to my vision and gave our church several avenues to accomplish what we wanted," explains Pastor Ritchie Miller. "The new environment feels warm and inviting and enables us to minister more effectively. Our worship experience has been enhanced, our congregation participates more and the mood is better because of the level of excellence of the presentation."



Effects Lighting Featured in New Pointer Sisters Video

NEW YORK, NY—Grammy Award-winning dance divas The Pointer Sisters recently completed a new holiday music video, *Christmas in New York*, which features lighting and special effects created by Hollywood producer/FX wizard Jeremy Vargus of RPI Entertainment. Vargus employed Chauvet Snow and Fog effects to achieve the holiday look of the video, which is scheduled to air over the holiday season as well on the LED screen in Times Square through New Year's Day.

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