



Bennett, Sinatra (and Meyer) Celebrate Cerritos' Tenth

PHOTOGRAPHS



In 1993, Southern California's Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts – famed for its striking architecture and flexible six-configuration staging/seating design – opened with a gala concert starring Old Blue Eyes himself, Frank Sinatra. Sound for that opening show was mixed by Sinatra's long-time FOH engineer Tom Young, who next returned to the venue early in 2003 to mix Frank Sinatra, Jr., and headliner Tony Bennett for the 10th Anniversary Celebration Concerts. For the occasion, both Young and the audiences were treated to the venue's first deployment of a Meyer Sound M2D Compact Curvilinear Array loudspeaker system.



Though the M2D was new to the Cerritos Center, it was the second time around for Young and Bennett. They had been introduced to Meyer's mid-sized M-Series system months before at a concert in Glasgow, Scotland. "I was very impressed with the M2D at the time," says Young, "and I confess I was anxious to sink my teeth into it again."



The M2D system for the back-to-back shows was designed by Dave Lawler of Docktrdave Audio (Laguna Beach, California) and Greg Linhares of Meyer Sound's Design Services. The main left and right arrays each comprised ten M2Ds per side flown underneath two M2D-Sub Compact Subwoofers. Front corner fill was provided by two veteran MSL-2 cabinets owned by the venue. Alignment with the SIM System II FFT Analyzer was accomplished jointly by Lawler and Linhares.

For these 10th anniversary celebrations, the Cerritos Center was set up in the Arena configuration, which affords seating for about 1700. Before designing arrays tailored to this seating arrangement, Linhares had downloaded venue CAD drawings and used them to generate precise coverage models for the room using Meyer Sound's MAPP Online. According to Tom Young, the easy-to-read MAPP Online results reassured him from the outset that coverage would be even in terms of both SPL and frequency response. "The end result lined up very well with the MAPP Online predictions," he notes. "When I walked the room during playbacks and sound check, I was very pleased with the imaging and the smoothness of coverage."



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Tom Young,
FOH Engineer
Cerritos' 10th Anniversary Celebration

FEATURED PRODUCTS

[M2D](#)

[M2D-Sub](#)

[MSL-2](#)

[SIM System II](#)

[MAPP Online](#)

Although the Cerritos Center boasts excellent acoustics, the multi-level seating arrangements can present difficulties in providing even coverage throughout the house using only left and right arrays. According to Young, the M2D system offered unique facilities for addressing such problems.

“Needless to say I’ve worked with just about every line array out there,” he says, “but this was the first time where the array was configured in different zones, top to bottom, rather than just the left and right array. The first two M2Ds up under the subs were one zone, the next four in another, and the last four in a third zone. We had different EQ and level for each zone. When they brought the SIM machine in and set up the system, it was remarkable how they could create uniform tonal qualities for practically the whole room, top to bottom and front to back. I was particularly amazed by how well the array covered underneath almost all of the balconies.”

After giving the system a workout for two consecutive evenings, Young pronounced that he was “extremely pleased” with the overall results. “It performed very, very well. I would certainly have no qualms about using an M2D system again. In fact, I’d look forward to it.”

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