

Putting on a show

Indonesia's World Transformation Centre has taken full-scale concert productions as the inspiration for its services. **Richard Lawn** is impressed

WHILST COVERING THE JAVA ROCKIN'

Land Festival in Jakarta recently, someone suggested that I go via the Puri Indah district and visit a small 300-seat church en-route, by the name of the World Transformation Centre. It was a good recommendation as it turned my theory that the bigger the church, the more encompassing the worship experience is, upside down. All churches in Indonesia must be registered with the government and fall with a denomination classification and there are no exceptions to the rule. However, this particular one almost falls into the category of arts entertainment theatre, such is the amount and sophistication of A/V equipment that has been installed into it.

Of course, you know it's going to be a little special as you approach its unassuming address in a modern suburban shopping street of Jakarta, for there is a large yellow truck parked outside, loaded with an electrical generator. I'm later to learn that this new Mitsubishi truck with very low mileage needs to kick start the A/V into operation every Sunday with a 200KVA super charge generator. Indonesian electricity supply may be weak in patches, but it also highlights the amount of sound, lighting and video being consumed in a relatively tiny performance area.

The church operates



Performers on stage at WTC Indonesia

at the very edge of its denomination and welcomes younger worshippers who are clearly well educated and professionally employed. They prefer to be given their religious instruction via an 8m x 3m LED screen, a Meyer Sound speaker system and DJ decks whilst moving heads, spots, par cans and washes



The World Transformation Centre at the Jakarta Arts & Entertainment Centre



DJ's also provide spiritual entertainment

change colour and direction more than a conventional sermon. It clearly works as the show – or should that be service – starts at 10am promptly each Sunday, having advertised the service via billboard posters that are redesigned each week.

The church only came into existence in 2001, when services were conducted at a nearby shopping mall. Construction of the present church began in 2002 and completed on January 4th 2004. A major refurbishment with construction work took place in late 2010 and the new look church was opened to its worshippers in December 2010. The stage has a shallow depth and can only be accessed by twin walkways leading down from a small balcony area above, which now serves as a backstage area. Again – it's purely theatre.

Pastor Edward Supit's (the founder of WCTI) vision was to create a very different church that would appeal to those worshippers who can relate to theatre, concerts and music, and his team has duly delivered. In his own words, he says: 'I take my inspiration from concerts and theatre and I was called upon to build a church that takes its form of worship from arts

and entertainment.'

Assistant Pastor Januar Reuben is given the Pastor's guidance and he has found an ally in Leo Tanzil from PT Kairos Multi Jaya, who has given him plenty of expert advice in what equipment to source and how to put it together. However, this is to take nothing away from Mr Reuben and his team of paid and unpaid volunteers who have had little or no formal training in assembling professional A/V equipment.

'Pastor Edward returned from a Michael Buble concert in Singapore recently and was truly inspired by this experience,' Mr Reuben explains. 'He asked me to take some of the video and lighting effects and incorporate them into our productions.' Not an easy task one would imagine when trying to convert HDMI to SDI signals whilst blending iMac images with three HD digital cameras onto the giant LED screen above the stage. Somehow, Mr Reuben and his team, who call themselves entertainment officers, always seem to rise to the occasion and make these visions a worshipping reality. The performances are executed to the second in the week running up to the service, to the extent that the whole service is more polished than a military rehearsal.

The singers and performers on stage are served by nine channels of Shure PGX and SLX wireless microphones, whilst Pastor Edward delivers his speeches and sermons via an unobtrusive beige DPA 4088 head worn lavalier microphone, allowing him freedom of movement. The musicians mainly rely on Shure Beta SM57 and



Assistant Pastor Januar Reuben with his entertainment officers

EQUIPMENT LIST

Clear Com RS-601 wired headsets, TW-47 two way radio interface and MS-702 two-channel main station

Meyer Sound CQ-1 – FOH L/R system

Meyer Sound HP700 subwoofers - 2

Meyer Sound UPM-1P front fills - 4
XTA DP448

RCF TT+ 25 SMA monitors -2

RCF ART 422a monitors - 6

DPA Microphones 4088 lavalier headworn microphone

Allen & Heath iLive T-112 digital console

Allen & Heath iDR-64 Mix Rack

Avolites Pearl 2010 lighting control
Par cans - 48 Moving head profiles
– 20 Wash and spots -20 Fresnel -
10 Mega Light-10 8 x 3 m Tectonic
10mm LCD screen

Panasonic AG-HMC82EN cameras - 3

Panasonic AG HMX 100 Digital AV Mixer

QSC Audio K8 speakers - nursery room - 4

Shure SLX and PGX wireless microphones – 9 channels

Klotz ais MC5000 microphone cable

Denon DN-A7100 surround sound pre amplifier Dataton 4

Black Magic design DecLink Quad HD Fury 3

Gefen VGA audio to HDMI scaler

Blackmagic Design converters

Apple iMac



An Allen & Heath iLive T-112 digital console is connected to an iDR-64 Mix Rack at the stage left position

SM58 microphones and all the inputs are fed into an iDR64 Mix Rack to the right of the stage, before being connected to the Allen & Heath iLive T-112 digital console.

Although World Transformation Centre is a 300-seat church, the emphasis has been placed on both quality and power. Meyer Sound CQ-1 ceiling suspended speakers have been installed for the church's FOH needs, supplemented by two HP700 subwoofers, whilst four UPM-1P speakers are used as front fills. Meyer Sound was chosen



Shure SM57 and SM58 microphones used for percussion

(HD/SD), PC (DVI-I) and HDMI (HD only) inputs) is central to the operation and takes this feed together with content provided by the Apple iMac. The use of Dataton Watchout 4 via Black magic Design DeckLink Quad capture card blends the three SDI camera images and the iMac content to fill the large 8m x 3m LED screen with razor-sharp images. Most importantly, Mr Reuben and his team can build and rehearse the whole performance in advance of the 10am curtain-raiser.

Watchout is a flexible show system for video, motion graphics, live camera, audio and most other sources. The multi-display, presentation system is Windows-XP compatible only however and because of its Mac-based workflow the WTC creative team desperately wants the Swedish manufacturer to make the changes that will assist it in delivering services more effectively.

A Blu Ray player is also fed into the Panasonic AG HMX100 A/V mixer, for which the WTC team ingeniously converted the signal into an HD format that is readable by the mixer. An HD Fury 3 and a Gefen VGA Audio to HDMI Scaler has been added to convert the HDMI signal from the Blu Ray player to analogue VGA 1080p then back to a striped HDMI 1080i signal. A Denon DN-A7100 surround sound pre-amplifier also decodes digital surround sound signals and outputs them to their specific speaker output.

'We don't take our inspiration from other churches as our services are more like concerts,' concludes Pastor Edward. 'We want to share the experience with our members as they will feel the Holy Spirit more in this way.' Indeed, he has a point, as other churches come to WTC to appreciate the innovative, detailed work that goes into its productions. Or should that be services?



A suspended L-R Meyer Sound CQ1 system is supplemented by two HP700 subwoofers below the stage

by Pastor Edward because he was impressed by its sonic quality having listened to the US brand at many theatrical and concert productions. For monitoring, older RCF ART 422A speakers are blended with the latest RCF TT+ 25SMA models. The entire system is self powered, with the lack of amplifiers saving much needed space.

The lighting truss has virtually no spare space on it and is changed almost weekly to incorporate the different styles of production that Pastor Edward demands. Scale 50:1 diagrams plan the changes beforehand and the par cans, moving head

profiles, fresnels, mega-lights, washes and spots dazzle the performers and the congregation accordingly via an Avolites Pearl 2010 lighting controller.

However, it's the WTC's pioneering use of video content that clearly distinguishes this tiny church, for the technology here is ahead of most of the large GBI churches in Java. Three Panasonic AG-HMC82EN cameras film in HD and their signals are then fed via a Black Magic Design converter to SDI. A Panasonic AG HMX100 digital A/V mixer with a built-in HD/SD multi-format video switcher, audio mixer and frame synchroniser (also including SDI