



CHRISTMAS IN LEICESTER SQUARE 2023 NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The purpose of this Noise Management Plan is to support Christmas in Leicester Square 2023 ('the Event'), taking place between 8th November 2023 and 7th January 2024.

Underbelly takes the possibility of noise pollution from the Event very seriously and wishes to ensure that noise from the site is well managed and does not disturb residents and businesses (closest noise sensitive receptors). Careful consideration has been given in implementing and exercising this noise management plan during any sound checks or events as to control entertainment noise from the venue and surrounding site.

Underbelly has an extensive track record of producing high quality, low impact, large scale inner-city events. From this experience we have identified the following factors as requiring careful, considerate design and management: live and amplified music and voice; people noise including audience members; plant and machinery; contractors and in-house staff on Site.

There are seven key factors to the Christmas in Leicester Square Noise Management Plan:

1. Build and Strike Periods
2. Programming
3. Sound Design
4. Sound Levels & Sound Checks
5. Plant Equipment & Machinery
6. Site Control & People Management
7. Communications with Residents

1. Build and Strike Periods

- The general times for the build (set-up) and strike (de-installation) periods will run daily from 08:00 to 20:00. Required works outside of these times will be directly managed by Underbelly Production Management.
- The plant to be used will be specifically chosen as to create minimal noise and will only be used when necessary, during the build (set-up) and strike (de-installation) periods.

2. Programming

- The Event will use amplified sound within the Spiegeltent venue and for background music throughout the public areas of the site during the operational period. Background music on site will be inaudible against the off-site environmental noise beyond the site boundary and will be directly managed by the Site Manager and Bar Manager.
- With the programme of events within the Spiegeltent venue being the main source of amplified sound within the Site, the primary method of providing minimal noise disturbance is to manage the programme of events. The programme within the performance venue has been structured to ensure

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that there is no noise disturbance at anti-social times.

- The latest times that the programme will end each day are as follows:

Monday	21:30
Tuesday	21:30
Wednesday	21:30
Thursday	21:30
Friday	00:00
Saturday	00:00
Sunday	21:30

- There is only one occasion of non-standard timings – from the end of permitted hours on New Year's Eve to 02:00 on New Year's Day.
- Where possible, if an event requires a sound check within the performance venue, then the sound check will always be carried out before 19:00.
- Underbelly has extensive experience of providing and operating a quality, well managed programme within multiple venues across many inner-city sites around the country, including producing Christmas in Leicester Square since 2016.

3. Sound Design

- Careful consideration has been given to the design of the site to take into account the requirements of amplified music, its proximity to the closest noise sensitive receptors and to minimise the noise impact at the off-site locations.
- Spiegeltent Venue - Careful and detailed alignment of the sound system within the Spiegeltent venue will be ensured to optimise the coverage throughout the audience areas and balance this against the off-site environmental noise impact. The sound system within the venue has been designed so that it is rigged high, pointing down and focused onto the audience, therefore providing a clear 'line of sight'. This provides a high quality, clear sound without requiring heavy or over amplification.
- Spiegeltent Venue - The sound system is a distributed system that ensures even, focussed coverage. Where appropriate, the sound system in the venue is focussed away from noise sensitive receptors such as the closest residential properties to the site. The system will include rear rejection cardioid sub arrays to minimise unnecessary escape of sound.
- Spiegeltent Venue - The tent structure has a wooden surround with a heavy internal fabric to attenuate sound levels. This attenuation is then regulated by the setting of sound levels as specified in paragraph 4 below. It is also accepted that the audience within each of the performance venues will provide a level of sound absorption which assists in attenuation of sound levels.
- Spiegeltent Venue - A noise monitoring system will be installed at the mixing/sound control positions to provide the sound engineer with continuous information on noise levels. This system will comply with the relevant standards and undergo a regular scheduled calibration process.
- Site -The external sound system has been designed to provide confined, low amplification background music for the purposes of atmospheric enhancement. This system will not be audible against the off-site environmental noise at the closest noise sensitive receptor and will be directly managed by the Site Manager and Bar Manager.
- All sound systems (performance venue and site) are managed in-house. For all performances, all visiting engineers and technicians will be briefed on the noise management plan and possible

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enforcement actions. In-house technicians and the duty stage managers will supervise visiting engineers and technicians.

4. Sound Levels & Sound Checks

- Underbelly will agree sound levels, the procedure for setting such sound levels and the method for ensuring that they are adhered to in accordance with the Licensing Authority.
- Amplified noise levels within the performance venues up to 10pm shall be restricted so as not to exceed 85dB(A) Leq over any 15-minute period when measured at the mixing/control desk.
- No entertainment noise from the event shall be audible against local environmental noise at the closest noise sensitive receptor on any day after 22:00.
- Any rehearsals, sound-checks or sound testing will be undertaken at a level below the typical show level wherever possible and if this is not possible these tests or rehearsals will be kept as short as possible.
- A noise monitoring system will be installed at the mixing/sound control position. The sound levels at this position will be continually monitored by the sound engineer in terms of 15-minute LAeq values during instances of programmed entertainment. A log of the measurements from this system will be kept and available for inspection by the local authority upon request.
- Regular audibility checks will be undertaken by the Site Management throughout each event that contains programmed entertainment. They will also continually monitor and control background music audibility against off-site environmental noise so as there is no disturbance at the closest noise sensitive receptor.

5. Plant Equipment & Machinery

Build and Strike Periods

- The general times for the build (set-up) and strike (de-installation) periods will run daily from 08:00 to 20:00 with required works outside of these times directly managed by Underbelly Production Management. Plant equipment and machinery usage during the general build/strike times is expected to be minimal, with localised noise to the activity only. Only modern, inspected and maintained plant and machinery will be used throughout this period.

Operational Period

- The plant equipment used during the operational period will be electrical generators. These units are specifically designed and operated to ensure that they are not audible outside of their compound.
- Air handling and heating plant equipment will be used to regulate the temperature within the Spiegeltent venue. This will be inaudible at the closest noise sensitive receptor. In addition, all chiller units and refrigeration units used onsite will run silently.

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6. Site Control & People Management

- A control communication protocol (involving Production, Site, Venue and Bar Management teams) will be continually reviewed to ensure effective and responsive communication channels are established and maintained between all relevant parties throughout the duration of the Event. This will allow immediate and concise response from these teams to any noise issues or communications received by visitors, stakeholders and local residents.
- A noise monitoring system will be installed at the mixing/sound control position. During instances of programmed entertainment, the sound levels at this position will be continually monitored by the sound engineer.
- Signs will be placed at all exits requesting visiting patrons and audience members leave the Site quietly and without causing a disturbance. Signs will also be placed around the site to encourage patrons and audience members to always be aware of and considerate to the local residents.
- As all drinks are served into compostable glasses or paper cups, the amount of glass on site is limited. However, the Bar Manager will ensure that glassware and bottles are not to be disposed of into the waste facilities after 21:00 during the Operational Period.
- As per condition of planning consent, during the Operational Period, stock deliveries, collections and refuse will be made between 07:00 and 23:00.

7. Communications with Residents

- Prior to the Event, Underbelly will write to nearby residents and businesses and inform them of the Event, including the programme of events.
- Residents will also be informed of contact details by which they can communicate with the Site Manager, in respect of noise and any other concerns with the operation of the Site. Should any noise complaints be received, the complaint will be investigated by the Site Management (with Production Management oversight). If noise levels are found to be above agreed limits, immediate action will be taken to reduce levels at the noise source.
- Underbelly's dedicated Customer Service Team will follow up with any ongoing communication with local residents and provide feedback as quickly and considerately as possible. A communication log will be maintained throughout the Event detailing addresses of local residents, times and actions.

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