



HABITECH

CASE STUDY

UBIQUITOUS CHIP RESTAURANT, GLASGOW

12 Ashton Lane, Glasgow G12 8SJ



Famous for fine wine, whisky and excellence in Scottish cuisine, Ubiquitous Chip is one of the longest serving restaurants in Glasgow today. Situated within a fantastic setting on Ashton Lane in Glasgow's West End since 1971, the restaurant uses an extraordinary mix of room design, subtle artificial lighting and cascading natural light amid islands of lush foliage to create the setting for customers to share intimate (or rowdy) dining experiences in a range of individual environments day and night.

The Challenge

The challenge for installer Lairds of Troon was to design a multi-zone sound system that would lend individual atmospheres to the different environments within the restaurant, enhancing the customer experience without imposing on conversations or detracting from the room design. "We wanted to build upon the vitality, freshness and colour of the spaces with excellent full-range audio quality that would blend in and be easy to control zonally by the restaurant staff", said Lairds' Tom Watson.



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The solution

Lairds selected Sonance Mariner 54 speakers for the project, driven and tablet-controlled by Yamaha's super-compact MusicCast WXC-50 pre and WXA-50 power amplifiers. Tom takes up the story: "we placed the Mariners strategically and discreetly throughout the levels of the restaurant. "They blend perfectly with the interior and, via their 'Fastmount' brackets, are easily directable for optimum coverage. "And they can work at high volumes without distortion, helping to create a high-quality musical backdrop even on a jumping Saturday night.

"What's more, the performance of the Mariners is such that intelligibility and audio dynamics are excellent at lower

volumes as well, and this offers more scope to get the sound just right."

The system extends to the beautiful and secluded rooftop terrace where the Mariners' all-weather capabilities count as much as their sonic ones. Says Tom "those bold enough to enjoy their drinks in the hearty weather that Glasgow has to offer can opt to sit outside on the rooftop terrace.

"Ubiquitous Chip loves this space, and it's available all year round, rain or shine. The Mariners perform perfectly in outdoor conditions, preserving the continuity of the restaurant's unique ambience." Lairds will be installing a further amp and two Mariners within UC's alfresco zone in the near future.





Space-to-space

Independent music selection and volume in the different spaces can easily be achieved through the MusicCast system (which is linked to the restaurant's cloud server), so that each has a unique full-range sound, custom curated for the mood in the room. As Tom says, "the hard-grafting staff at Ubiquitous Chip don't have the time or inclination to fiddle with complicated controls, so the MusicCast system is perfect for the job. It's easy to use and set up, allowing them touch-control over zone, volume and virtually any streaming service, so that the music fits perfectly with any occasion in the venue. This ease of control also includes a One Push Play feature, which turns the system on and initiates playback of the previously selected source by pressing any button on a WXC/WXA-50 front panel."

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Equipment

Sonance Mariner speakers

The Mariner line of surface mounted speakers delivers higher musical performance with more installation options than ever before. Seven models across three sizes and three performance levels feature tough IP66-rated paintable sealed Polypropylene enclosures in black or white, and perforated Aluminium grilles. A patented FastMount push-and-lock bracket system eliminates clumsy threaded knobs, and guards against theft.



Yamaha MusicCast WXA-50 power amplifiers

The WXC-50/WXA-50 allow access to and app control over a wide variety of audio content from stored music libraries and streaming services, delivering high quality sound to multiple speakers in multi-room settings.



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