

# The Chromatics -Technical Notes

## Purpose

The purpose of these tech notes is to provide venues and other musical groups with information about The Chromatics' equipment, personnel, mixing requirements and other needs ahead of time, in order to provide a technically smooth performance. These notes are currently accurate and are subject to change as the equipment and personnel break down.

## General notes

There are 6 vocalists in the group, 3 male and 3 female. Vocal parts range from bass to soprano with any one of the vocalists doing vocal percussion for a number of the songs.

The bass (Alan; Mic #5) usually needs to be boosted and EQ adjusted toward the bass side a bit and the percussion may need more bass EQ. John (Mic #4) typically does the most vocal percussion, followed by Alan.

The group usually defers to the sound engineer for the best house mix. We need a significant level of monitor volume, preferably with a separate EQ mix than the mains.

Three monitors seem to work best for us. The monitor mix should not be panned. The monitor mix, as far as the EQ goes, is typically brighter than the house mix and we do not use any reverb in the monitor mix. We can't distinguish pitches and people very well when there is too much bass in the monitors, as it becomes muddy sounding. We rely on listening to the monitors while on stage for tuning and blend with the other members, due to distances and ambient noise, thus getting the proper mix is of the utmost importance.

## Personnel

Each of the 6 performers are identified by a color and number which do not change. The assignment of colors, numbers and parts are as follows:

<u>Singer</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Mic</u>	<u>Voice Part</u>	<u>Prominence</u>
Padi Boyd	Orange	#1	soprano, alto	lead, backup, light percussion
Karen Smale	Yellow	#2	alto, mezzo sop.	lead, backup, rare percussion
Barry Mahaffey	Blue	#3	tenor	lead, backup, light percussion
John Meyer	Green	#4	bass, tenor, percussion	lead, backup, heavy percussion
Alan Smale	Red	#5	bass	lead, backup, moderate percussion
Deb Nixon	Purple	#6	soprano, alto	lead, backup, light percussion

The number does not necessarily denote the singers position on stage, it is the microphone number and receiver number used throughout each performance. Our positions on stage change for just about every song. The numbers do represent the microphone number and receiver number of that singer.

## Equipment

### Customer requirements

- 1 table to set the board/amp and receivers on
- 1 typical 15A 120v power outlet
- 1 chair for the sound person
- 1 table for CD sales

## **Our Equipment**

### **Amplifiers/mixers**

#### **Main amp**

Yamaha emx2000

12 channel mixer/amp 200 watts. XLR microphone inputs for 8 channels. 1/4" line inputs for 12 channels. L and R output for mains. L and R output for monitors. Tape in and out

#### **Monitor amp**

Sunn alpha 6

6 channel mixer/amp 100 watt. 1/4" hi and lo impedance inputs

#### **Monitor/ main set-up**

Mono monitor output from the Main amp is fed into the Monitor amp high impedance channel 1 input. This is then boosted and EQ adjusted to the proper volume and sound and sent by only one of the Monitor amp outputs to the 3 daisy chained monitors. The Main amp sends its main left and right outputs to the main left and right speakers

### **Speakers**

#### **Mains**

2- 250 watt 15" JBL unpowered EON15 speakers. The 2 speakers are usually placed on tripod stands. These are fed from the left and right Main outputs.

#### **Monitors**

2-125 watt 10" JBL unpowered EON10 speakers and 1- 250 watt, JBL 12" sf12m speaker. The three are daisy chained and fed from one of the monitor amp outputs.

### **Microphones**

6 wireless Shure ulx2 beta 58 microphones with their 6 ulxp4 receivers. The receivers and antennae are mounted in a case.

### **Misc.**

1-85' snake for main and monitor power. 4-1/4" jacks. There are 2 xlr plugs available in the snake for wired microphones.

6 microphone stands

The Chromatics have 5 different CDs for sale:

- Committed, ten original songs, one cover
- AstroCappella 2.0, astronomy/science music
- Unwrapped, Christmas music
- First Light, originals and covers
- Mixed Messages, a little bit of everything

At some venues we also have T-shirts and mugs available for purchase