

The Chromatics -Tech Notes (updated Feb 2020)

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 subject to change as the equipment and personnel are replaced.

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 or four 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
Scott Rohrbach	Blue	#3	tenor	lead, backup, moderate percussion
John Meyer	Dark green	#4	bass, tenor, perc	lead, backup, heavy percussion
Alan Smale	Red	#5	bass	lead, backup, moderate percussion
Michelle Orhan	purple	#6	soprano, alto	lead, backup, light percussion

The number does not denote the singer's position on stage, but it is the microphone number and receiver number used by that singer throughout each performance. Our positions on stage change for just about every song.

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 our 3 daisy chained monitors. The Main amp sends its main left and right outputs to the main left and right speakers.

Speakers

Mains

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

Monitors

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

Microphones

6 wireless Shure QLXD24 beta58 microphones and their 6 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 6 CDs:

- *Fragments*, mix of originals and covers (2017)
- *Wassailicious*, Christmas (2010)
- *Shoulders of Giants*, astronomy/science songs (2009)
- *Committed*, originals (2007)
- *AstroCappella 2.0*, astronomy/science songs (2001)
- *Unwrapped*, Christmas (2000)