

## A JBL INSTALLATION

# THE CINEPLEX ODEON THEATERS UNIVERSAL CITY, CALIFORNIA

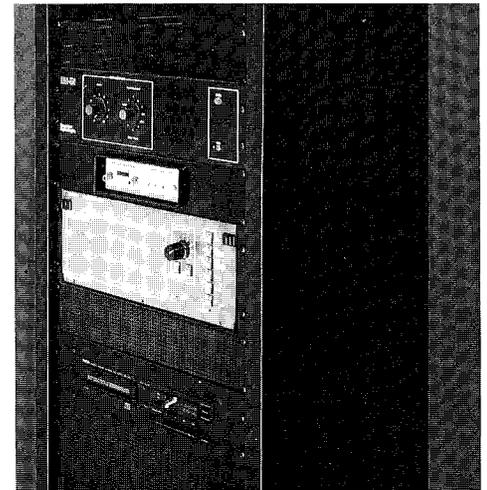
The Universal City entertainment complex was enlarged considerably in 1987 with the completion of the eighteen-theater Cineplex Odeon. Located in Universal City adjacent to Universal Studios, the Cineplex Odeon complements the Universal Studio Tour and the Universal Amphitheater, broadening its overall public appeal. With 6000 seats, the Cineplex Odeon is easily the largest motion picture exhibition complex in the world. Cineplex Odeon is a Canadian firm and is the largest theater chain in North America.

Of the eighteen theaters, the two largest have a seating capacity of 800 each and have five-channel THX systems behind the screen. In those spaces, JBL model 8325A loudspeakers are mounted on the side walls, upper back wall, and balcony front for surround coverage. Because of the overhang, the seating area under the balcony is covered by a combination of bracket mounted SLT-1 and ceiling mounted 8140H loudspeakers. Levels are precisely adjusted so that the effective surround coverage is uniform in level and consistent in frequency spectrum throughout the house.

The 500 seat theaters also have five-channel THX systems, while the smaller 300 seat theaters have three-channel THX systems behind the screen. The THX rooms also use a sub-woofer array for bass extension. Altogether, ten of the theaters have THX systems. The eight smaller theaters use JBL 4670B and 4673A systems behind the screen.

In total, the JBL loudspeakers and transducers used in the installation come to:

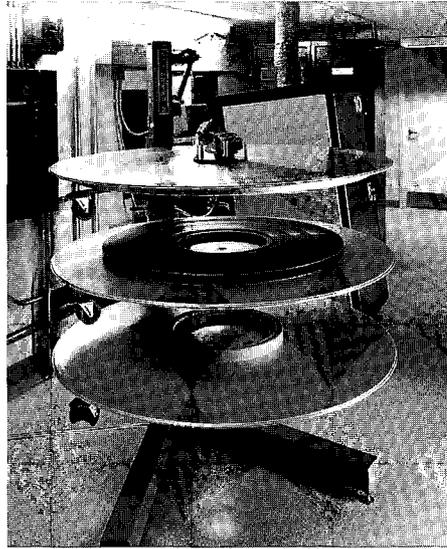
Quantity	Model
176	8140H
36	SLT-1
168	8325A
12	4673A
12	4670B
38	4675A (THX configuration)



Detail of typical rack showing Dolby cinema processor.



**JBL**



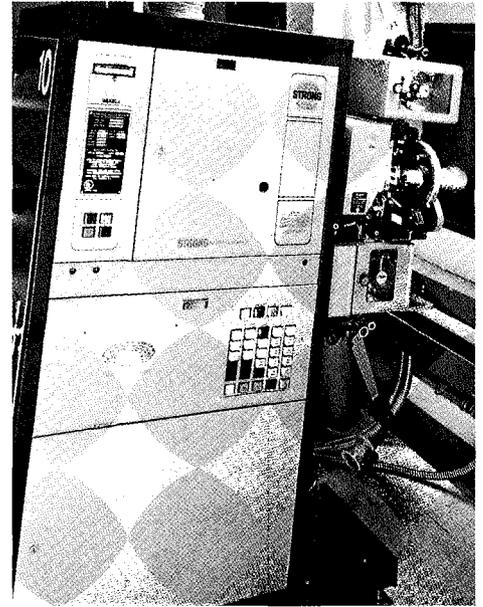
View of film platters used in all theaters.

#### Acoustical Considerations:

Except for the two largest houses, the theaters are on two levels. The massive wall construction ensures that there will be no objectionable crosstalk from one theater to an adjacent one. In addition, within each theater, discrete reflections are kept at a minimum so as not to interfere with speech articulation or dull the impact of sound effects.

#### Physical Layout:

There is a large two-story lobby and refreshment area in the middle of the basic structure. The theaters are arrayed in such a manner that the projection areas, on each level and on each side, are all interconnected, making it easy for projectionists to monitor and maintain continuity of operation. In fact, only three projectionists are normally on duty at a given time.



View of projector and lamp housing.



Interior of one of the large 800-seat theaters.

#### CREDITS:

Theater Dealer:  
Harrah's Theatre Service and Supply, Inc.,  
Burbank, CA  
Theater Architectural Design:  
Cineplex Odeon



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