



Sample Program

Night and Day

Sentimental Journey

Frenesi

Mini Skirt

Let's Dance

Harlem Nocturne

Mucha Muchacha

All Esquivel arrangements
transcribed by ear by
Artistic Director and
multi-percussionist
Brian O'Neill (Mr. Ho)
exclusively for this group.

Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica presents...

Sonorama:

Stereo Sounds from a Space-Age Lounge

Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica-in its **Esquivel Megaband** formation-is a dynamic, 22-piece ensemble performing transcriptions of the lost arrangements of Juan Garcia Esquivel (Mexico's equivalent of Duke Ellington). Augmenting the group with slide guitar, singers, organ, and percussion, the ensemble recreates the big band, easy latin, crime jazz, and space-age bachelor pad music of the 50s and 60s. Venture out beyond the moon with the space-age bachelor pad sounds of Esquivel!



"...deliciously demented and
entertaining in equal parts..."
-Wall Street Journal

★★★★★
"...exquisite attention to details..."
-The Sunday Times (London)



Photo by Kelly Davidson

"The perfect soundtrack for your
space-age bachelor pad."
-WNYC

"...incredible arrangements,
musicianship and artistic
direction..."-DOWNBEAT

"Top Albums for 2010"
-AllAboutJazz



Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica

Why Present the Esquivel Megaband Formation?

Are you wondering "why this group, why now"?

Do bi-lingual artists (Spanish/English) enable you to connect with multiple communities within your audience?

Does your audience dig over-the-top one-of-a-kind concerts that most listeners cannot believe?

Do your audiences prefer "familiar repertoire," but also want to hear innovative new artists?

If so, here are (4) reasons the Megaband might be great!

The Only Ensemble in The World Presenting Esquivel's Music

Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica was the first ensemble to transcribe the lost space-age pop music of J.G. Esquivel—Mexico's Duke Ellington—and is also the only touring ensemble presenting his zany arrangements live. From Europe and Mexico, to the Montreal Jazz Festival, the Megaband has delighted audiences on multiple continents.

Audience Connection

Every concert includes "narration" throughout, in which Mr. Ho takes the audience behind Esquivel's arrangements and the transcription process so they can more deeply appreciate what they're listening to. This is the #1 thing audiences repeatedly say they like about performances; there is no wall between the audience and ensemble at Orchestrotica shows!

Visually Distinct

While most people have seen a "big band" before, they likely have never seen a Megaband! The Megaband's incredible collection of instruments and sounds is also set up in a way to allow kids and audience members to see the wild percussion section up front, the inside of a Hammond B-3 organ, and more.

Available in Spanish and Great for Mixed/Hispanic Audiences

As the group has toured several times in Mexico, Mr. Ho can present the concert in English, Spanish, or both simultaneously. This is a great way to connect with Hispanic audience members in the community and showcase a unique Mexican/American artist who had a notable career in two countries.

Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica Video Playlists (YouTube)

Quintet: Story-Driven Global Jazz & Chamber Music

Contains a 2-min Demo, (3) full-selection studio videos, a live concert full-selection, and a 5-min Demo

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4rCXzbqyld1rbYRQ_4PUbooSAVjE1j79



Esquivel Megaband: The Lost Space-Age Pop Music of Juan Garcia Esquivel

Contains a mix of live-concert selections including "Andalucia", "Harlem Nocturne," and others:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4rCXzbqyld0Asa5TLxaLJBUSoiy6F1vh>



Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica

The Esquivel Megaband

Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica-in its "Esquivel Megaband" formation-is the world's only way to experience the lost space-age pop music of Esquivel, live. Via meticulous transcriptions from the original mid-century hi-fi recordings, the band has recreated this masterful musician's lost arrangements of the Hollywood, easy-latin, crime-jazz, and space-age bachelor pad sounds of the 1950s and 1960s. Featuring the music of Strayhorn, Porter, Lecuona, and others, the show exposes listeners to the wild, zany mind of Mexico's king of space-age bachelor pad music. In stereo, of course!

Led by Mr. Ho (Brian O'Neill), a "percussion master and musical polymath" according to the *Boston Phoenix*, The Megaband stirs up a sonic cocktail using six brass players, four woodwinds (covering 12 instruments), slide guitar, guitar, four singers, Hammond B3 organ, accordion, bass, drums, two percussionists, and Mr. Ho on piano and percussion as well. A 2011 *Downbeat* Rising Star Big Band with "incredible arrangements, musicianship, and artistic direction," the group has toured in the USA, Canada, Europe, and Mexico and received international acclaim for its *Exotica for Modern Living* series of recordings, one of which plays in over 7,000 Starbucks stores worldwide.

The 22 musicians are comprised of some of Boston and NYC's best jazz, Broadway, and classical performers, and the performers also offer workshops and educational programs.

"Deliciously entertaining"

Wall Street Journal

"The perfect soundtrack for your space-age bachelor pad"

WNYC

"4 Stars"

The Sunday Times London

"Incredible musicianship"

Downbeat



ABOUT JUAN GARCIA ESQUIVEL

Juan Garcia Esquivel (1918–2002) often known simply as Esquivel!, was a Mexican-born studio orchestra arranger in the 1950s and 1960s known for his use of blistering brass, boisterous latin percussion, wordless vocals, and a mid-century Hollywood sound like no other. An RCA recording artist who was undoubtedly influenced by his early career as an electronics engineer, Esquivel was also one of the foremost early exploiters of the new, two-channel sound format known as “stereo.” His big band recordings in particular were comprised of artful, experimental, humorous, and intelligent arrangements with precision audio production that on one album, went to the extreme of having two separate orchestras in two different studio locations to achieve Esquivel’s production goals. Esquivel released many studio albums that were intended only for hi-fi listening at home, and many of these arrangements were never performed live...until now.

(Pictured at left: Juan Garcia Esquivel, aka Esquivel!)



Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica

Tour History Highlights

2017-2018 Highlights

- South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (Cutler Bay, FL)
- Venice PAC / Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota (Venice, FL)
- Center For Performing Arts Bonita Springs (Bonita Springs, FL)
- Detroit Institute of Arts (Detroit, MI)
- New Music Edmonton (Edmonton, AB)
- Huntington Summer Arts Festival (Huntington, NY)
- Lied Center (Lawrence, KS)
- Musical Instrument Museum Theatre (Phoenix, AZ)
- Huntington Summer Arts Fest (Huntington, NY)

Earlier Non-Festival Concert Highlights (2011-2017)

- Pace Presents (New York, NY)
- Levitt Pavillion Steelstacks (Bethlehem, PA)
- Horizon Concert Series (Flagstaff, AZ)
- Taliesin West, The Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture (Phoenix, AZ)
- Le Poisson Rouge (New York, NY)
- The Regatta Bar (Cambridge, MA)
- Doc's Lab (San Francisco, CA)

Festival Highlights

- Montreal Jazz Festival @ Main Stage (Montreal, Canada)
- Wassermusik Festival @ Haus der Kulturen der Welt (Berlin, Germany)
- Festival de Mexico @ Teatro de la Ciudad (Mexico City, Mexico)
- Celebrate Mexico Now @ Pace University (New York, NY)
- Festival Internacional de Nuevos Vientos Ecatepec (Ecatepec, Mexico)
- San Carlos Eclectic Music Festival (San Carlos, CA)

I recommend this ensemble on behalf of the Montreal Jazz Festival. We and our massive crowds loved both of their shows, and the big band was very easy to work with despite their large size. Jazzlz loved their performance's "incredible precision and passion," and Michael Bourne personally told me he loved it as well.

—Marc-André Sarault,
Montreal Jazz Festival

Brian's work to transcribe the lost arrangements of Esquivel by hand is nothing short of incredible. Their concert at our festival was fantastic, and I will keep recommending this wonderful project to my peers!

—Claudia Norman,
Mexico Now Festival NYC

The Orchestrotica's quintet was fantastic. It was great to see such a good turn out, and hope they'll be back some time.

—Art Valdez,
Alvas Showroom Los Angeles, CA

We heard great things from the crowd and would be happy to have Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica back!

—Lee Frank,
Doc's Lab San Francisco



1.347.482.1775
info@orchestrotica.com
orchestrotica.com/quintet
Updated March 2018

Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica

Outreach and Educational Programs

For complete details and pricing, visit: <http://orchestrotica.com/edu-programs>

Ensemble Instrument Demonstration (FREE for Quintet Performances)

Grades 4-8 / Jr. High / HS / 18+

Ensemble members will demonstrate the instruments used in the Quintet or Megaband, with a special focus on the more unusual sounds (non-Western instruments, percussion, Hammond B3, etc.). 1hr. See link above for details.

Turkish Makam and Music of the Middle East

Ages 12+

An introduction for Western musicians to the modal music traditions of the Middle East through demonstration, discussion and participation. 1hr. and 3hr formats.

Polyrhythmic Discoveries: Unlocking Your Inner Pulse

HS / College / Amateur/Pro Musicians

Through rhythmic body movement, clapping, breathing, and vocalizing, musicians will be given tools to help improve their musical time-keeping via group exercises. 1hr.

Partner-Play Workshop for School Bands

Jr. High / HS / College

Wind, brass, and percussion players will sit in section with school players and provide performance assistance. Band director may also opt for breaking the band up into "sectionals." Typically available for Esquivel Megaband performances (not Quintet). 1hr.

Private Lessons w/ Quintet Members

Ages 8+

bass flute / flute (jazz), *shakuhachi*, acoustic bass, Turkish *ney*, North Indian Raga, guitar, Turkish *oud*, banjo, ukelele, clawhammer, hand percussion

A Tambourine Tour of the World

Grades 4-8 / Jr. High / HS / College / Adult

Artistic Director, Brian O'Neill, will give a lecture/demonstration of the rhythms and playing styles of global tambourines including the *pandeiro*, *riq*, and *tamburello* and styles from 6 global traditions. 1hr.

Live Book Reading w/ the Megaband:

Esquivel: Space-Age Sound Artist (Susan Wood)

Ages 5-10 (K-4)

A live reading provided by Yolanda (soprano and editor at Charlesbridge Publishing) of this new children's book about Esquivel, with music and sound provided by the Esquivel Megaband.

North Indian Raga

Ages 12+ / 25 max

A hands-on journey into the world of Raga via the Baba Allaadin Khan tradition. Students will learn via traditional methodologies in which playing and repeating is heavily favored over explanation or theory.

Developing a Personal Artistic Identity and Career

College/University Music Majors

Members will speak with ambitious students seeking to pursue a career in music, sharing their own experiences, artist revenue streams, business skills (marketing, sales), and "start-up" approaches to new bands/ensembles will be shared.

Music Fundamentals through Modal Singing

Ages 5-Adult (multiple class options)

An experience-based investigation into the fundamentals of music through the most ancient instrument, the human voice. 1hr. and 3hr formats.

Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica – Esquivel Megaband

Marketing Ideas, Community Fun, and Learning



A Unique Mexican/American Artist:

Esquivel was born in Mexico, but had a recording career in the USA. Many Mexicans and Americans are unaware of his unique oeuvre, and his music provides unique programming for both audiences.



Luaus:

At the same time Esquivel's music was fueling the Hi-Fi craze of the 1950s and 1960s, backyard luaus, listening parties, and cocktails were also popular with suburban dwellers looking for an exotic escape. A great pairing with the big band, and fun for all ages.



Modernism Tours and Design:

The same explosion in technology that was enabling new audio formats for Esquivel's music and the space race also drove mid-century modernism and the architecture of the 1950s and 1960s. Start a day with a modernism tour in your area, and finish it off with the Orchestrotica performing the music of Esquivel!



Cocktail Parties and Symposiums:

Fans of the intelligent pop music of Esquivel and the exotica craze of the 1950s and 1960s also tend to be avid fans of craft cocktail culture. From Zombies to Sidecars, the Orchestrotica has held cocktail symposiums with such luminaries as Jeff "Beachbum" Berry. One of Imbibe magazine's "25 Most Influential Cocktail Personalities of the Past Century" and one of The Daily Meal's "60 Coolest People in Food & Drink," Berry is the author of six books on vintage Tiki drinks and cuisine.

Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica

Discography



Where Here Meets There (Nov. 2013) - 12" LP, CD

Global jazz quintet / exotica (vibes,perc,bass flute, bass, oud/tanbur/resonator gtr.)

"Best Albums of 2013"

—Panamerika

"Wonderful!"

—Jazz Weekly

"A timeless magnum opus"

—World Music Report



Third River Rangoon (May 2011) - CD

Global jazz quartet / exotica (vibes,perc,bass flute, bass, oud)

"Top 10 CDs for 2011"

—Huffington Post

"...serious jazz and chamber music..."

—Boston Herald

"...serenely intoxicating..."

—AllAboutJazz



The Unforgettable Sounds of Esquivel (Nov. 2010) - CD

22-pc live big band plays the lost space-age pop of Esquivel

"Top 10 CDs for 2011"

—Huffington Post

"4 stars...exquisite attention to details..."

—SUNDAY TIMES LONDON

"...incredible musicianship..."

—DOWNBEAT



The Boston Globe



playing in...



orchestrotica.com • info@orchestrotica.com • Twitter: @orchestrotica



Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica

Backline for The Esquivel Megaband

Contact:

Brian O'Neill (Artistic Director)

1.347.482.1775 (w)

1.617.905.9660 (m,txt)

info@orchestrotica.com

Piano

- 1 x concert grand piano (Steinway D or C ideal. 7' or larger. Yamaha OK too)
- 1 x adjustable-height padded bench

Percussion

- 4 x congas (2 quintos & 2 congas) - LP Classic or Galaxy Giovanni series
- 1 x conga stand (tall, standing-height for two drums)
- 2 x (two pairs) of bongos - LP Classic or Galaxy Giovanni series
- 1 x standing-height stand for bongos (tall stand)
- 1 x set of timbales - LP Tito Puente with stand and cowbell mount
- 1 x glockenspiel/bell set w/ tall, x-style stand (preferably not Ludwig/Musser and no waiter/restaurant stands - too low)
- 1 x 5-octave marimba (Marimba One preferred. Rosewood bars. Preferably not Ludwig/Musser or any student models)
- 1 x 3+1/2-octave xylophone (Rosewood bars. Preferably not Ludwig/Musser or student models)
- 1 x 3-octave vibraphone w/motor (Yamaha gold tour vibe preferred)
- 1 x extension cord for vibraphone motor
- 4 x timpani w/tuning gauges (32", 29", 26", 23")
- 1 x chau-style gong (tam tam) with stand (32" or larger pref.)
- 1 x mallet for gong
- 2 x tall stool (suitable for timpani player and bass player)
- 1x Cajon (preferably Schlagwerk)
- 1 x cymbal stand (straight or boom)
- 1 x ride cymbal (19" or 20" K Zildjian preferred but any pro cymbal ok) - artist provides when driving (not flying)
- 1 x quijada (Donkey Jawbone) - artist provides when driving (not flying)
- 2 x guiros (preferably wood) - artist provides when driving (not flying)
- 1 x vibraslap - artist provides when driving (not flying)
- 1 x woodblock - artist provides when driving (not flying)

Hammond Organ

- 1 x Hammond b3 electric organ
- 1 x Leslie 122 speaker

Drumset (Yamaha Maple Custom) ¹

- 1 x 12" tom
- 1 x 14" tom
- 1 x 20" kick
- 4 x boom cymbal stands.
- 1 x snare stand
- 1 x hi hat stand
- 1 x Yamaha or DW' single bass drum pedal
- 2 x drum throne (1 of these goes in the trumpet section)
- 1 x carpet

Upright Bass¹

- 1 x Upright bass, fully carved 3/4 size, adjustable bridge. Pickup preference: Full Circle or Realist (check with artist before renting)
- 1 x SWR, Mark Bass, or comparable amp with two 12"-speakers or one 15" speaker. Min. 300 watt amp with XLR out for DI box
- 1 x upright bass instrument stand

Guitars

- 1 x AER compact 60 acoustic amplifier or SWR California Blonde classical guitar combo amplifier. No Roland products.
- 2 x Fender twin reverb '65 reissue guitar amplifier
- 2 x guitar stands

Music stands and accessories¹

- 32 x Manhasset-style music stands with lights and tight backs (no wire stands)
- 25 x Music stand lights (battery-powered, clip-on type preferred) ¹ (no electrical cables)
- 50 x Music stand clips² e.g <http://www.sharmusic.com/itemdy00.asp?T1=AC53>
- 2 x Transparent plastic panels 12"x24"² – for organ and piano music stands to cover music and heavy enough to prevent wind from blowing music

¹ Check with artist on this item – may not be required for certain shows

² For outdoor shows. Never needed for indoor venues. Check with artist.

Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica

Production Rider for The Esquivel Megaband

Technical Contact (After Show is Booked):

Matt Jugenheimer (engineer, tour mgr.)
1.413.834.3703 (m)
jugenheimer@gmail.com

Initial/Primary Contact:

Brian O'Neill (Artistic Director)
1.347.482.1775 (w)
1.617.905.9660 (m)
brian@orchestrotica.com

Technical Requirements

All technical requirements will be advanced four to six (4-6) weeks before the performance date. Because this document will be incorporated into the contract, if any of our requests cannot be accommodated, please notify before contracting so we can adjust to your situation.

Sound System

- See input list PDF for mic requirements
- House also provides Monitor System (10 wedges)

FOH Requirements

- Professional audio engineer to monitor on-stage monitor mix
- (Band will provide audio engineer for FOH)

FOH Mix Position, Equipment, and Power

- Will be discussed 2 weeks prior to show date with tour manager and FOH engineer

Stage Requirements

- The Stage must be at least 40'wide x 20'deep. See stage plot PDF.

Risers

Risers: preferably black (Wenger Trouper, Versalite, or Vision preferred). Please provide shims for uneven stage floors (no wobblers).

- 1x 8' x 8' x 8" - drumset
- 1x 12' x 4' x 8" - guitarists
- 1x 12' x 4' x 12" - saxes
- 1x 12' x 4' x 18" - trumpets
- 1x 12' x 4' x 18" - trombones, horn

Stage Power

- Three (3) 15 amp, 110 volt quad-box (Edison plug), on-stage, (1) left and (2) right

Lighting Requirements

- Stage lighting must be blacked-out at the beginning & end of each performance set.
- May provide gobos at the show to use during blackout
- Venue must provide a Lighting Technician/Operator.
- During the show, using 1 background wash per song is sufficient. Wash should be either a blue wash or red (at discretion of lighting operator)

Transportation (Air/Ground)

- Typically, artist quotes will include air and ground.
- *If presenter provides travel:*
 - Air: (24) RT tickets, (20) bag fees, max (1) stop. (15) seats w/ priority boarding.
 - Ground: we recommend (2) 15-pass. Vans and (1) small covered uHaul trailer if presenter is providing airport transfer. Drivers should be available during artist stay unless discussed with presenter (dependent on restaurant availability, season, and venue distance to hotel).

Local Crew and Stage Setup

- Two (2) members of local crew (preferably dressed in black shirt, black pants, black shoes) will be on hand during performance: 1 to assist with large instrument setup and another (with professional engineering experience) to assist traveling engineer with sound/PA setup.
- All stage equipment including risers, instruments, and sound equipment will be set up per the provided stage-plot diagram 30 minutes prior to the sound check.

Hotel Accommodations:

- (13) rooms as follows:
 - (10) double rooms (2 beds in each room)
 - (3) rooms ideally have (1) queen or king bed (check with artist)
- Number of Nights:
 - (1) night in the hotel is sufficient for performances < 5 hrs. drive from Boston, MA.
 - Min of (2) nights in hotel required for any shows where artist is flying in
 - Extensive travel provision: shows at venues where combined air and ground travel will exceed 7 hours from Boston may require an additional (3rd) night.
- All rooms should be (non-smoking) in a minimum 3-star or higher hotel
- Hotel ideally is located less than 5 minutes drive to performance venue unless venue providing ground transportation. Hotel fee should include breakfast.

Venue Accommodations (Day of Show)

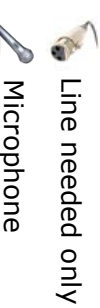
The Orchestrotica usually has 3 women and 19 men performers. Three dressing rooms preferred (with one room dedicated to women) complete with clean towels, full-length mirrors, and clothing racks. Rooms should be in close proximity to two private bathrooms (one male and one female) with hot water.

Artist Hospitality (for 23)

- Provided on day of concert and any rehearsal days (especially when Artist is touring with locals and full rehearsal day(s) prior to concert day are required)
- Hospitality/Lunch to be provided for artist as follows:
 - Option 1: "Mediterranean" – pita breads, grilled meats, hummus, crudité, grape leaves, spanakopita, tabbouleh, falafel, and berry selection e.g. strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, blackberries etc.
 - Option 2: "American" - Deli tray for 23 people in dressing rooms or green rooms (including ham, chicken, turkey, cheese, bread(s), pasta salads, fruits, bags of plain potato chips, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, mayo and spicy mustard), and berry selection e.g. strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, blackberries
 - Plates, napkins, and utensils
 - Drinks: Coke, Ginger Ale, Diet Coke, tea with hot water, bottled water with ice, paper cups, local beers
 - 1 box of artisanal chocolates/truffles from a local restaurant appreciated! ;-)
- Dressing rooms and hospitality should be ready and available for group in green room by 1pm local time or as otherwise advanced'
- Dinner: On the evening of the performance, a dinner buyout will be provided for artist. This can be at a nearby restaurant, or venue can provide a restaurant menu and artist will take orders for delivery to venue. Strong preference Thai, Vietnamese, pan-Asian food. Greek, Mexican, Italian/Mediterranean also ok.

Crew Hospitality (for 3 people):

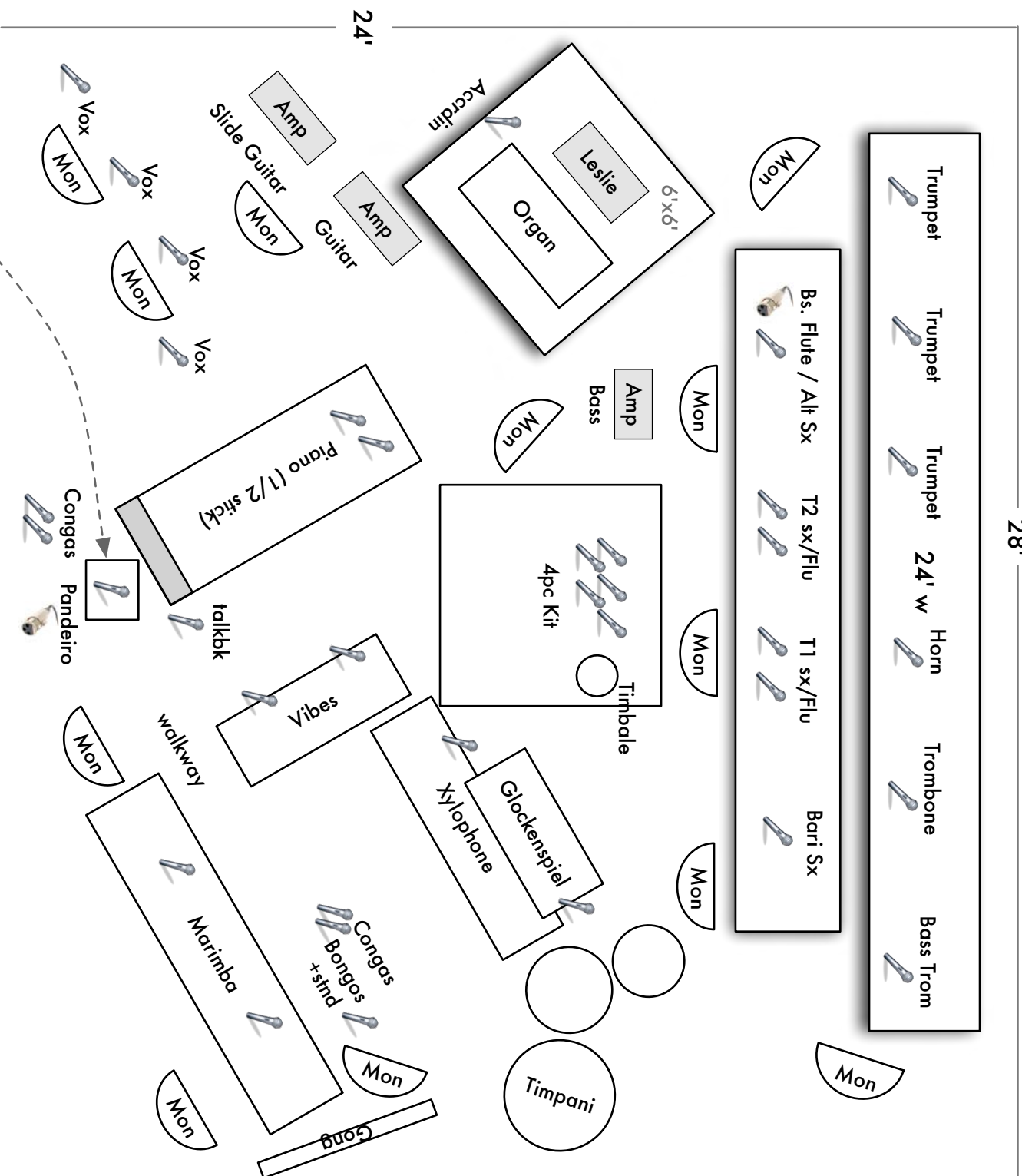
- To be provided on day of concert and any rehearsal day(s) prior
- BEFORE 11:00 a.m. – donuts, bagels, cream cheese, coffee, bottled water, napkins, utensils.
- AFTER 11:00 a.m. – pizza, bottled soda, bottled water, plates, napkins, utensils Crew Hospitality should be ready and available INSIDE OR BACKSTAGE LOCATION AS DESIRED BY THEATER MANAGER upon Mr. Jugenheimer's specified arrival to venue.



Line needed only

Microphone





Stage plot & mic diagram (28x24)

Contact: Brian O'Neill
1.617.905.9660 (USA)
info@orchestrotrica.com



Line + phntm only



Microphone

NOTES:

- * single mics ok for ww's
- * riser priority is brass
- * drums & organ riser opt.
- * gtrs on risers opt. (if fits...)

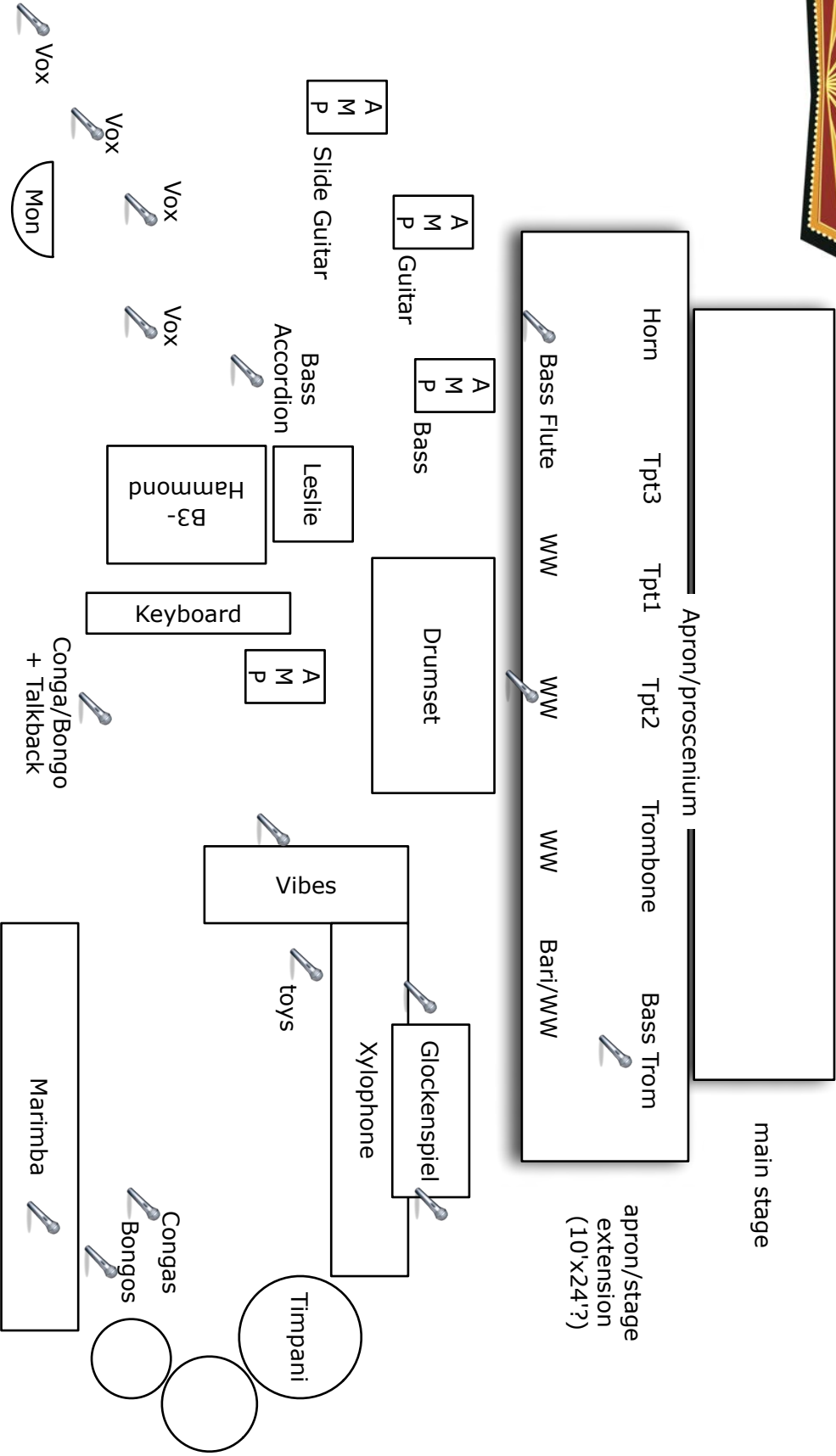
cajon w/ bd-mic stand

Audience



Stage plot and microphone diagram

Contact: Brian O'Neill 1.617.905.9660 (USA) info@orchestrotica.com



Audience

Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica

Input List (The Esquivel Megaband)

Primary Contact:

Matt Jugenheimer (engineer, tour mgr.)

1.413.834.3703 (m)

jugenheimer@gmail.com

Visit [this Google spreadsheet](#) for the latest input list. Thanks!



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[rev. July 2017](#)