

# **Danny Walker**

*Principal*



## Education:

**The University of Alabama**

Bachelor of Arts, Theatre

## Professional Experience:

23 years

## Representative Projects:

### **Hard Rock Hotel and Casino; Las Vegas, NV**

The flagship of the Hard Rock resorts, opened in March 1995 to the irreverent sound of Rock and Roll. The Hard Rock was the first Las Vegas casino to bring music to the foreground on the gambling floor. The sound and video system were designed around state of the art playback and processing components. Upgraded over the years to remain on the cutting edge, the Hard Rock has to this day the premier sound system of all the Las Vegas casinos. The Hotel's performance hall, The Joint, has played host to a wide array of current rock stars as well as legendary performers.

### **The Walt Disney Company; Storm Struck**

Designed to show the audience how different construction techniques can help save their homes during major storms, Storm Struck also entertains with dual 3D video and special effects such as wind, water and seat shakers. This attraction is part of Epcot Center's Imagineering area. The design and implementation of this attraction focused on delivering top notch entertainment to a small audience and for a modest budget. New technologies were implemented that allowed delivery of four HD video streams from a single computer in absolute frame accurate sync.

### **CityWalk; Universal City, CA**

When the original CityWalk was expanded in 1999 to more than double its original size, guests were treated to immersive audio and video experiences. Divided into three distinct sections, guests are engulfed in ambient audio tracks that enhance the visual experience of one of the most fully themed shopping experiences in California. When guests walk into fountain court they are soothed by the sounds of a whimsical fountain that pops and gurgles while exotic birds are heard flying around the space via the eight way surround sound system. A twenty foot wide LED video wall plays music videos of current Universal recording artists and movie trailers, entertaining guests in the food court and arcade area.

### **New Hampshire Motor Speedway**

Shortly after Bruton Smith purchased the speedway, it was decided that the main sound system needed a major overhaul. The system was completely renovated as a result. Today, all audio signals are distributed over fiber optic cable throughout the facility. All new speakers and amplifiers deliver clear intelligible audio to all areas. A new broadcast interface simplifies connections between the network's trucks and the facility, greatly reducing the amount of temporary cable that has to be run each race.

### **Revenge of the Mummy; Universal Studios Hollywood, CA**

Representing a new generation of roller coasters, the ride takes guests through sound and video filled vaults and tombs. Along the way the ride stops inside two surround sound viewing rooms augmented with special effects such as fire, steam, and animated figures. The final scene involving the destruction of the Mummy's tomb quickly became a guest favorite. Guests are also surprised while standing in line as they discover effects built into the walls as they are triggered by remote sensors.

### **Caesar's Palace; Las Vegas, NV**

The first major expansion of the Las Vegas icon added a new hotel tower, doubled the gambling floor and created a world class conference center. Some of the first digital signage solutions were installed to centralize and automate meeting room schedules and announcements. The audiovisual manager can view the status of the entire facility from a single point and dispatch staff as needed to accommodate any client's needs. Following the example set by the Hard Rock, Caesar's Palace upgraded their sound system to a high fidelity foreground music system adding energy and excitement to the gambling experience.

### ***The Doctor; Prague, Czech Republic***

Lighting Designer for an operatic interpretation of a Chekhov short story. The production was designed and rehearsed in Los Angeles, then toured two venues in the Czech Republic. Only available lighting equipment was used in each venue requiring the design to be adapted to two very different venues. Additional performances by local companies were integrated into the evening and had to be designed and cued on the fly.

### ***Las Vegas Motor Speedway; Las Vegas, NV***

The Neon Garage and new Media Center at the Speedway ushered in a new era in NASCAR racing. The garage buildings were rebuilt allowing fans to have a direct view as their favorite cars are prepared for racing. A completely immersive sound system allows fans to hear every word announced before, during and after races. The facility supports two LED video screens and dozens of smaller monitors placed throughout the facility. All systems are linked via a single integrated fiber optic network.

### ***Atlanta Motor Speedway; Atlanta, GA***

A tornado touched down inside the speedway destroying or damaging beyond repair a large portion of the facility. To complicate matters a complete rebuild had to be complete before the final race of the season, only 96 days away. Point Source llc designed and engineered the new sound system, providing all construction documents for the project. Point Source provided management and programming services as well.

### ***Orlando; Long Beach Opera***

Lighting Design for a new opera performed at the Edison Theater in Long Beach, CA. Worked with the composer and stage director to create an ever-changing visual environment required for the production.

### ***FedEx Forum; Memphis, TN***

Designed an interactive environment highlighting the strengths of the FedEx corporate brand. The system includes 25 computer based interactives, six HD video projections, custom built Daktronics display and WholeHog PC integrated lighting control. The entire system is automated to wake into operating mode with a single button. The lighting control system communicates with the building wide engineering system to report its status and accept override commands.

### ***Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens; Columbia, SC***

3D movie system designed as a retrofit into an existing theater. Designed and specified all projection, video delivery, audio and lighting systems. Integrated control of all systems to allow staff members to operate the theater with minimal training. Lighting system is designed to be either fully automated or manually controlled in support of special events.

### ***Texas Wild!; Fort Worth, TX***

A \$20M expansion of the Fort Worth Zoo funded by the Bass Foundation, responsibilities included audio, video and lighting design of seven distinct areas that highlight the natural diversity of the state of Texas. The highlight of the expansion is the Weather Theater, a special effects theater that gives guests a firsthand experience of a Texas thunderstorm.

### ***Gameworks Inc.; Various Locations***

Responsible for the design and implementation of audio, video, and control systems as well as specialized show control based on wireless touch panels. As the Gameworks brand evolved, a need to redesign the basic AV concept arose. The stores built on this new design are more cost effective and require less maintenance than previous installations while retaining the original look and feel of the brand.