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## Masque Sound Specs Ravinia Fest

Nov 1, 2008 12:00 PM, By Sarah Benzuly

A Sound Choice and Masque Sound provided the audio gear for the 2008 Ravinia Festival located in Highland Park, Ill., just 20 miles north of Chicago. A fixture of the city's summer entertainment scene since 1904, The Ravinia Experience features three venues: the 3,200-seat open-air Pavilion; the 850-seat Martin Theatre and the 450-seat Bennett Gordon Recital Hall. Performers during the 2008 season included dozens of genre-spanning artists such as James Taylor (pictured), Lyle Lovett, the Emerson String Quartet, Backstreet Boys and Chicago blues icon Buddy Guy.



James Taylor performing at the 2008 Chicago Ravinia Festival

According to A Sound Choice principal Mike Gotshall, tech guru Paul Klimson performed extensive tests throughout the venue to formulate a package. Masque co-principal Geoff Shearing developed a program that enabled Sound Choice to rent everything needed while staying within their budget.

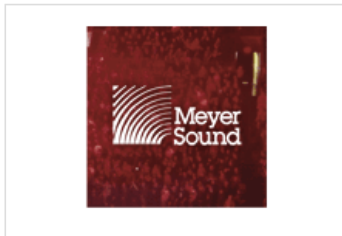
"Our gear package for Ravinia is designed to serve a multiplicity of performance needs — from the soft jazz to hard rock to full symphony orchestra," Klimson says. "Because optimum flexibility was a priority, the system can provide full FOH mixing capabilities for artists who travel without consoles or function as a 'guest position' for self-contained acts."

Gear spec'd includes Yamaha PM5DRH digital consoles at FOH and monitors, L-Acoustics wedges, a Meyer Sound P.A. and a full list of high-end mics.

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