



COMING SOON
TO A THEATER
NEAR YOU?



For the premiere of the feature film "Collateral," starring Tom Cruise and Jamie Foxx, the Orpheum Theater in downtown Los Angeles was outfitted with Electro-Voice X-Line line array loudspeakers handling the left/center/right (LCR) delivery of the film's soundtrack.

Apparently a brief presentation clip of "Spider-Man 2" at the ShoWest cinema convention last year, using EV line arrays, was enough to convince Dolby Labs that it was time for line arrays to go Hollywood.

The three line arrays flying behind the screen were each made up of eight XLC127+ loudspeakers, complemented by 12 groundstacked XLC118 subwoofers, and another dozen Xsub/1 (dual-18-loaded) subs carried the LFE channel. EV P4000 amplifiers provided the power, with tweaking via three Klark Teknik DN9848 digital loudspeaker processors.

"In traditional cinema, you've got a compression driver for every 333 people in a 1,000-seat theater," notes Telex Special Projects Coordinator Monte Wise. "Here, we had 36 compression drivers for 1,000 people, or roughly every 30 people, so everybody has a component serving their row, working together as one large speaker."

"You're controlling the direct energy better to individual seats," adds Russell Allen, manager, Exhibition Support for Dolby Labs. "That's why I really like about using line arrays. This is the kind of system that we need for the coverage at an event of this profile."

Steve Harvey

(Photos by Lisa Cannetti)