

## momo singapore

Launched in June of this year, Momo is Singapore's newest venue. Located in the city's Centra! Mall, it promises a mix of Middle Eastern appeal and Mediterranean hospitality. The venue is owned and operated by club entrepreneurs John and Helen Lee, who since their first venture in 1995 - The Gate at the Orchard Hotel - have had a string of successes. "It's about getting the formula exactly right, with an aggressive marketing strategy and of course the X-factor too," notes John.

This new creation offers a wide choice for guests. The main rooms Momo and the Boudoir are inter-connecting areas with the more spacious dancefloor on one side and a selection of sumptuous sofas, tented with Moroccan drapes, on the other. These areas are complemented by the more urban-lounge feel of the live room next door. Here, the design encourages guests to mingle with friends whilst bands perform on the small stage.

For the technical detail, John once again called on long-time collaborator Paul Lagueras - with whom he had worked on Venom (1998) and China Black (2001). "I've worked with Paul since 1996 and we have created four successful clubs since then," says John. "We've been together for so many years that Paul knows exactly what I want and delivers. We do not engage any other sound consultants and we fine-tune and modify ourselves, keeping all our work hands-on and in-house."

In the main room, Lagueras' lighting scheme is sparing, using a very simple arrangement to give the rooms a dark and intimate mood. Rope lighting outlines the butterfly shaped rig over the dance area whilst a selection of Martin Pro luminaries

provide the higher energy lighting.

In the boudoir section, sixteen Baby stars in subdued red and blue spatter the soft furnishings and contrast well with the Middle Eastern lanterns hanging in each VIP alcove.

For the sound, a larger number of German engineered GA Audio speakers have been installed (with the odd minor modification by Lagueras). "Clarity and power punch pressing are very important to me," he remarks. "This is the main reason why I use such quantities: ten children singing at the same time is better to listen to and have more power than one man shouting in a hall, if you understand what I'm saying..."

A dbx drive rack 481 is used for crossover, EQ, compressor limiter, alignment delays and zone control, whilst a Mackie SR32-4 VLZ Pro as the main sound board, provides more than enough channels to use for events and functions.

For the live room, Outline dominates the audio provision. The stage plays host to six sets every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Here the focus has been more on clarity and balance - Lagueras has put a slight delay on the high and mid highs to make the room sound more like a hall and make the vocals sound more dynamic.

With the addition of two outdoor areas (the Champagne Bar - a quieter candlelit drinks area - and the Beer terrace, just outside the club entrance) Momo is already proving itself an attractive draw to Singapore clubbers. But, like all good **operators, John Lee is taking nothing for granted.** "Compared to the rest of the world I think Singapore is a difficult place to do clubbing business as there are so many

restrictions - I have around 15 licences to operate the club and the rules **are thicker** than yellow pages. However it is getting better. We are allowed bar top dancing now and can operate till Sam. I **think** the business here is quite healthy but there is a lot of competition with over **600 clubs and pubs** here and a population of 4 million. So it's really survival of the fittest and getting it right, **which we think we have.**"





Top: the white external walls of Momo are washed with Studio Due Mini City colour changers. Above: the butterfly rig in the main dance room is illuminated by rope lighting and hung with Martin Pro fixtures

## technical information

### SOUND

Main Club: 20 x GA Tass Audio ps15 (modified); 14 x GA Tass Audio 18" dual subwoofer.(800w/e); 10 x GA Tass Audio PA 2400; 7 x GA Tass Audio PA 3600; 2 x Nexo Ps15; 1 x GA Tass Audio PA 2400. (for Nexo Ps15); 1 x DBX Drive rack 481; 1 x Pioneer DJM600 mixer; 3 x Pioneer CDJ1000 MK2 CD player; 3 x Technics MKII turntable; 1 x Vestax PMC-07 pro mixer; 1 x Mackie SR32-4 VLZ Pro main sound board

Live Room: 2 x Outline Doppia II A9075 loudspeakers; 2 x Outline Topsub Plus subwoofers; 1 x DBX 480 drive rack; 1 x Soundcraft LX7II; 1 x Outline T4.5 power amp; 1 Outline T6.5 power amp; 1 Outline T4 twin plus series power amp; 2 yamaha spx2000 multi effect processor; 5 Nexo Ps15 speaker; 2 GA Tass audio 2400 power amp; 1 x Crest Audio HD6; 3 x DBX 231 Graphic EQ; Shure Beta 58

### LIGHTING

Main Club: 8 x Martin Pro Krypton 250; 4 x Martin Pro Wash 250; 1 x Martin Pro Wizard; 2 x Magic Box laser; 1 x Martin Pro Atomic 3000 DMX strobe light; 1 x Martin Pro Magnum Club smoke machine w/ dual heads; 1 x Martin Pro Light Jockey; 1 x Martin Pro Finger; 4 x BenQ projectors PB8250  
Live Room: 6 x Emperor 250 moving head; 2 x Martin Pro Mania oil effect; 1 x Emperor rack mount dimmer; 1 x Coef Masterdisco 96 controller  
External lighting: 11 x Studio Due Mini City 250 Wash; 1 x Studio Due City Color 2000

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