

# Noise Management Plan and Report on Archives club, High Cross Centre, Tottenham, London N15.

<b>Date of report</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>
Dates of main visits.	29 <sup>th</sup> /30 <sup>th</sup> September and 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2023.
Location.	Present: Adam Cohen, Mark Hunter, Scott, Jess, Shaun Murkett. Archives club, 10 High Cross Centre, Fountayne rd, Tottenham, London N15 4QN
Purpose.	To conduct a noise survey and investigation for premises licence.
Author of report.	Shaun Murkett BSc. C.Eng. MIEE. MIOA.

## 1 Executive summary

**1.1** This is our second report on this venue. The first Noise Survey Report dated 23 July 23 addressed the initial concerns about noise breakout and gave professional advice about the noise issues from the main music room on the ground floor. There have been a few more visits recently and further recommendations have been given to resolve the noise issues. This report summarises all the work that has been done, and effectively forms the required Noise Management Plan, and should be read in conjunction with the Noise survey report.

**1.2** The building has been investigated for its construction and potential noise problems; the building is substantially built and is certainly capable, with improvements as recommended, of operating without causing disturbance to residents. Sound levels have been monitored under typical operating conditions and general observations were made at various locations in and around the building and outside the nearest residents' homes.

**1.3** Some noise break-out was observed at the alleyway from the side wall, and sound levels were measured. The main music room is now at acceptable music sound levels and the sound limiter has been set and calibrated. This will now enable the management to operate successfully without complaints at reasonable music sound levels for the main music room.

**1.4** A scheme of building works and noise reduction measures was proposed to remedy the potential noise situation and these were all installed over a period of months. The improvements to the building will have long term benefits and enable the management to fulfil all the local authority noise planning criteria and licence conditions.

**1.5** This late night sound test has now been performed, including the setting up and calibration of the sound limiters and inaudibility tests, and the the issue of calibration certificates by the Acoustic Consultant, which now forms part of the required Noise Management Plan. The licence conditions require regular noise monitoring, and calibration every year of the sound limiter and review of the Noise Management Plan

© **Shaun Murkett 2023.** *This report is intended for the sole use of Mark Hunter and those acting under his immediate direction; any third party use of this report is forbidden unless prior permission is granted in writing by Shaun Murkett Acoustic Consultants Ltd.*

1 Clissold Road, Stoke Newington, London N16 9EX  
t: 020 7923 7275 m: 07956 367598  
e: murkett@aol.com

[www.shaunmurkett-acoustics.co.uk](http://www.shaunmurkett-acoustics.co.uk)

*Managing Director and Principal Consultant: Shaun Murkett BSc. C.Eng. MIEE. MIOA*

Registered company no.3708245 VAT. reg. no. 778-2825-80

# Noise Management Plan and Report on Archives club, High Cross Centre, Tottenham, London N15.

## Contents List.

1	Executive summary
2	Noise Management Plan, summary
3	Staff and management procedure
4	Sound Limiter and Calibration
5	Security staff procedure
6	Smoking area
7	Deliveries and Bottling
8	Noise Measurements and Observations, works implemented.
Appendix 1	Location map showing venue and location of nearest residents  Graph of profile of measured music sound levels dBC $L_{Ceq}$ , , dBA $L_{Aeq}$ , with monitoring comments.  Graph of acceptable music sound level in main music room dBC $L_{Ceq}$ , , dBA $L_{Aeq}$
Appendix 2	Calibration Certificate for the sound limiter. Dated 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2023

## 2 Noise Management Plan.

### Summary

There is a general requirement of the Premises Licence as a condition of the licence to have a formal Noise and Management Plan in operation.

- This Noise Management Plan should be read in conjunction with our Noise Survey Report dated July 2023, where more details of the sound system and layout of the venue are described and also all the works undertaken to mitigate against noise breakout.
- The overall aim is to effectively, and safely, meet the four licensing objectives :-
  - the prevention of crime and disorder.
  - public safety.
  - the prevention of public nuisance.
  - the protection of children from harm

These issues are taken seriously by the venue management, and there is much experience of similar venues and event spaces at previous late night monitoring and observation surveys undertaken independently by Shaun Murkett Acoustic Consultants Ltd. These surveys indicated several areas where improvements can be made to the operating procedure of many premises. This plan should be read in conjunction with the detailed conditions on the premises licence, particularly concerning CCTV and security requirements.

- The recommendations in this Noise Management Plan are primarily to reduce all potential for noise disturbance to residents, and to ensure a safe working environment for staff and customers. The nearest noise sensitive resident's location has been identified as Erskine Crescent, at 50m away, on the other side of the railway lines. Any music noise or people noise reaching this area is critical.
- The aim of this Noise Management Plan is to adopt where possible the best practicable options to ensure that the conditions of the Premises License are met, and noise and disturbance are kept to a minimum. This is considered an active working document, and subject to regular updates, and as such any comments and consultation from other professional bodies is welcome to improve the effective working of this plan. This approach has been highlighted in the conditions of the Premises Licence where it is required to regularly review the Noise Management Plan and make proactive improvements as the venue continues to operate to the later hours and full capacity.
- This Noise Management Plan only details the internal main music rooms on the ground floor, and the smoking area to the north. It is understood that the roof terrace will be introduced into operation within six months and this will require a separate Noise Survey and Report from the Acoustic Consultant, and this Noise Management Plan will need to be revised to include this new outside area.

### **3 General operating procedure for staff to help to reduce noise levels**

It is essential that all the staff are made aware of the noise implications to the business and the consequences of any noise complaints. A briefing is recommended to inform staff, with notices to remind staff placed around the building and staff rooms.

Lobby doors should be kept closed as much as possible as this forms a clear route for the music noise to break out; customers must be persuaded not to linger around near the doors and come in and out as quickly as possible.

The operation of the entrance lobby should be such that two or three people can come in at any one time with a door always closed between the building and the street. This needs to be impressed upon the door security staff and regularly monitored by the management to ensure the procedure is working effectively. All lobby doors to be kept closed when music is on. A set of notices posted on each side of the exit doors would remind customers of the noise situation and ask them to respect the neighbours and leave as quietly as possible.

It is further recommended that the duty manager regularly conducts inspections outside to ensure there is no noise breakout, and to monitor the effective operation. It is recommended that a car parking policy be considered and implemented to reduce the potential for complaints from residents and other users about parking access.

This Noise Management Plan should be read in conjunction with the Entry and egress and Dispersal Policy and also any general Management Policy for the venue. These comments below relate directly to reducing the likelihood of noise breakout to residents in a safe way.

- All Staff should pro-actively ask customers to refrain from shouting and any unruly behaviour, and for staff to tell them to be quiet and to respect the premises and the neighbours, and other customers in the premises.
- The DPS and managers to inform and train all staff in this respect. All staff to be given a copy and informed of this Noise Management Policy.
- All Lobby doors, and particularly at the front, are not to be held or fixed open; they are all fitted with return door closers and these should be used at all times. With a large door entrance lobby effectively containing all the people noise and music noise inside from affecting residents outside nearby there should be very little likelihood of any undue noise and disturbance from the building heard at the residents, especially when compared with the existing traffic noise and general activity already in the area.
- The front entrance door to be kept closed as much as reasonably practicable to allow entry and egress of customers; this front door not to be fixed open.
- Manager's mobile or contact phone number for the venue to be given to all nearby residents and displayed on notice clearly visible outside the bar windows.
- Any incident relating to noise or disturbance to be clearly written up in the diary or incident book; all staff informed and trained as to how to use this procedure.
- Staff to be instructed to ensure clients leave the building in an orderly and quiet fashion. Staff to clear any litter or flyers or anything associated with the venue.

#### **4 Sound limiters and control of music sound levels in the premises.**

- The music sound levels in all the rooms are all effectively controlled through the sound limiter and zone control volumes. The sound limiter has been carefully set and calibrated to enable a reasonable music sound level in the venue and yet be acceptable and almost inaudible at the nearest residents. This internal acceptable music sound level, is the loudest the music level should reach, and should remain at that level.
- The sound limiter has been carefully calibrated, and the certificate issued by the Acoustic Consultant should be clearly displayed together with the Premises Licence summary behind the bar where it can be clearly seen by any visiting Police or Local Authority officers.
- There should be no additional sound systems or loudspeakers of any kind in use, unless for particular events and then they should be separately limited and calibrated by the Acoustic Consultant.
- The sound limiter is on display, in a locked rack, and should not be accessible to any staff other than the DPS and sound engineer.
- The sound limiter will be regularly checked and calibrated each year by the Acoustic Consultant, and the calibration certificates sent to the noise team. In the first few months of operation with additional recommendations still being implemented this may require more monitoring and calibration. With such a large venue a check and recalibration after 3 months is advised.
- In the event of any noise complaints about music noise, from either residents or the Local Authority, or any concern about a change in music sound level, the venue management will contact the Acoustic Consultant to arrange a check on the music sound levels and calibration of the sound limiter as a matter of urgency.
- The acceptable music sound levels have been determined to be at
- 109 dBC  $L_{Ceq\ 1\ min.}$  , 93 dB  $L_{Aeq\ 1\ min}$  at 10m from the main stage loudspeakers.
- There is a full sound limiter calibration certificate shown in the appendix.

## 5 Security staff and operations

- At least 20 SIA security staff to be employed, if working at full capacity of 1600, including both male and female staff, with supporting stewarding staff as necessary, to keep noise to a minimum on exit and egress of customers, particularly on Friday and Saturday nights, in line with Premises Licence Conditions, and on other nights on an assessment basis.
- All door supervisors are required to carry an SIA license when working. To register for this security staff, need a BIIAB (British Institute of Innkeepers Awarding Body) national certificate for door supervisors. Without SIA approval door supervisors would not be able to work as security operatives. Security staff are required to wear their badges, and high visibility jackets and armbands for ease of identification.
- On all other nights the management and staff to manage the egress of customers effectively in line with this noise management policy, ie in a controlled and quiet manner.
- All SIA staff and street marshals or stewards will be trained on site, and regularly supervised by the management to confirm effective operation. Stewards to wear high visibility waistcoats and clearly identified as Archives staff.
- All customers are to be pro-actively asked by SIA and stewards to keep quiet and respect the neighbours as they leave.
- Staff to point to notices depicting the message "Please Leave Quietly" and usher customers in the exit direction.
- All music to start steadily decreasing in volume twenty minutes before last orders, and to stop completely at least half an hour before final closing time. Lights to be turned up slowly at twenty minutes before last orders to assist with customers leaving.
- SIA and staff to ensure **all** customers have left and the street is clear in both directions, and to actively discourage any loitering outside the premises.
- The nearest noise sensitive residents location has been identified as on the other side of the railway lines at Erskine Crescent.
- An indication of any noise reaching that area can be easily indicated by walking outside up the alleyway from the stage end of the venue up to the north end of the venue next to the railway lines and next to the side wall. Any doors left open will readily indicate music noise breakout along this area.
- It is recommended that at least one security staff be positioned throughout any late night event after 11 pm, outside the residents, and equipped with a walky talkie who can access the duty manager and front of house mixing desk urgently if there is any music noise breakout clearly heard at the residents.
- The Duty manager should regularly patrol outside the premises to ensure that there is no music noise breakout, at the areas to the north, the side wall and also regularly at the residents near Erskine Crescent, the other side of the railway lines.

## **6 Smoking and seating area at front of premises to the north.**

The smoking laws now prevent smoking inside the building, and an outside area has been designated for smoking. It is recommended a general smoking policy be devised and fully implemented, with a suggested maximum number of 5% of capacity customers outside at any one time, supervised effectively by security staff, to prevent noisy behaviour. It is considered that this number of people talking quietly, with effective supervision, will be comparable to the general ambient background noise of traffic, and will not be a nuisance, or unduly disturb residents.

- This outside seating area to the north will be critical for “people noise” which will easily reach the residents if not carefully managed and controlled by security staff.
- Notices should be put up in smoking area “ Please talk quietly, and respect our neighbours”
- No drinks allowed outside after 11 pm ; all outside tables and chairs empty by 11pm; (except maybe for under the sheltered smoking area with strict supervision by security, to be carefully assessed initially for any people noise breakout)
- Numbers restricted to 100 customers at any one time in seating and smoking area to the north.
- Four SIA security plus at least one street marshal or steward to be outside to ensure customers talk quietly and no shouting as necessary, particularly at weekends. After 11 pm this may be able to be reduced to one or two security staff to work in the covered smoking area.
- Bar staff to pro- actively tell customers to be quiet when using the smoking area outside.
- If any new smoking area to be set up then the Noise Management Plan to be reviewed accordingly.

## **7 Deliveries and Bottling with refuse noise**

- Staff to keep any bottling noise with refuse bags to a minimum and to adhere to the permissible times if specified for this operation in any detailed conditions.
- Unless otherwise specified, generally there should be no deliveries or bottling or dumping of refuse bags with bottles outside, between the hours of 8 pm and 8 am.

## 8 Results of recent Sound measurement and Analysis.

Visit of Friday 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 11 pm to 2 am.  
( see graphs and octave spectra in the appendix at end of report)

### 8.1 Music sound levels inside music room .

This was a calm dry night and with little background noise so considered a representative night for an accurate assessment of any music noise breakout.

The sound system was set up playing music at typical loud evening music sound level, and measured at a distance of around 10 m from the loudspeakers in the middle of the room, at Location A. The sound level meter was set in octave band logging mode gave a result in terms of music sound level in dB L<sub>eq</sub> 1 min. (linear), and dB L<sub>Aeq</sub> 1 min

### 8.2 Initial and final acceptable music sound levels in main music room. 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023

The music was set playing in the main music room, whilst monitoring was conducted at the residents, and by phone communication the music sound level was gradually reduced in volume until virtually inaudible at the residents, and acceptable, at around 1 am.

Monitor position A, initial music sound level	122 dBC L <sub>Ceq</sub> 1 min. ,	106 dB L <sub>Aeq</sub> 1 min
Acceptable music sound level	109 dBC L <sub>Ceq</sub> 1 min. ,	<b>93dB</b> L <sub>Aeq</sub> 1 min

The octave frequency spectrum of the sound of acceptable music measured in the room is shown in the graph at the end of the report, and also the final graph of the calibration.

### 8.3 Reducing the amount of sub bass.

At the visit of the 29<sup>th</sup> September, and as seen on the graph there was a disproportionate amount of sub bass around 32 and 40Hz and this caused the structure of the building to vibrate excessively at very high music levels. This was noticed on the side wall vibrating and also the ventilation grilles buzzing and rattling. The ventilation grilles were very effective in reducing the amount of low and mid and high frequency noise breakout that was previously identified.

The ventilation grilles will be treated with anti-vibration damping pads to eliminate the rattling and buzzing of the metal louvres.

It is recommended that this low frequency around 32 – 40 Hz is substantially reduced by the time the calibration of the limiters is set with the sound company. For a general purpose venue like the Archives, this high amount of sub bass is unnecessary, and would be more effectively aimed at a pure drum and bass nightclub.

### 8.4 Sound limiter calibration, October 24<sup>th</sup> 2023.

The frequency content of the music sound in the sound system was adjusted to reduce the very low frequency content around 30 and 40 Hz , and the system then tuned to give the best quality sound, and the sound limiter calibrated to the acceptable music sound level that was determined at the monitoring near the residents late at night on 30<sup>th</sup> September.

A slight safety margin was incorporated and the sound limiter set at just below the monitored acceptable music sound level determined by late night listening on a calm night outside the residents.

The calibration certificate and graph can be seen in the Appendix 2 at the end of this Noise Management Plan report.

### **8.5 Works implemented to mitigate noise breakout since our first visit in March 2023.**

On our first visit many recommendations were made for building works to reduce the noise breakout and these were all summarised in our first Noise Report. These included installing many acoustic lobbies, filling gaps in the side wall, large acoustic enclosures around all ventilation grilles and ducts, both internally and externally, improving walls and enclosures around heating plant, improving mass and sealing of all fire exit doors, location of sound system and need for sound limiter and effective sound level control, and many internal absorption panels to improve internal acoustic character.

These have all been implemented successfully, and the improvements confirmed in the substantial reduction in music noise breakout. Further minor improvements have been recommended to the side wall to further improve the situation and these are currently being considered by the management.

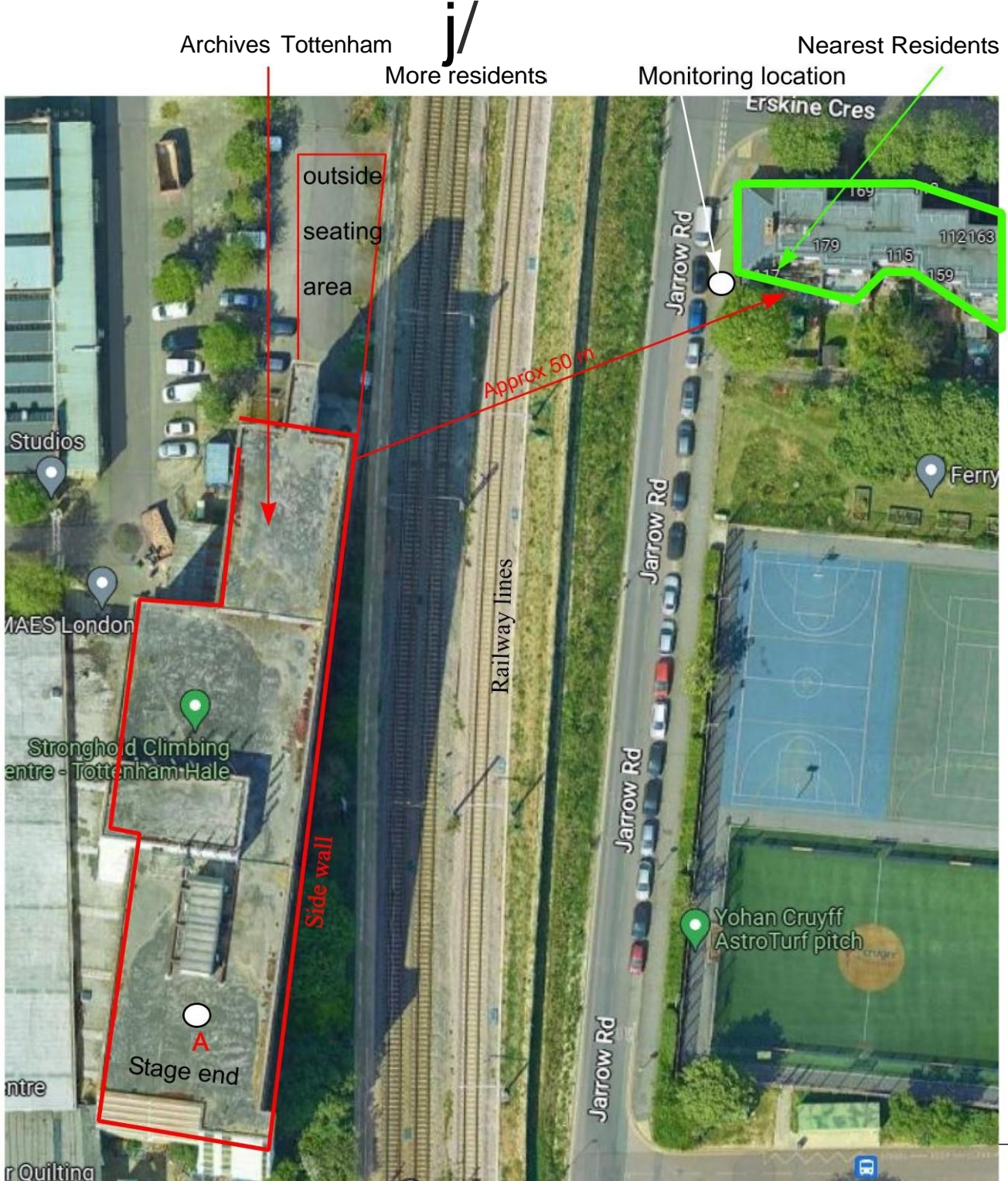
### **8.6 Final late night sound test when club is in full operation after a few weeks.**

The local authority premises licence requires regular review of the noise management plan, and as part of this requirement, if more additional recommended works are carried out to further improve the reduction in noise breakout, (and possibly gain a slight increase in music sound level), then a further inaudibility listening test could be carried out after a few weeks.


In any case it is recommended that when the club has been in full operation for a few weeks, with all the final recommendations in place, and the sound system tuned if necessary, to sound the best with the most effective balance of bass and midrange that a final sound test be conducted at around 1 am with monitoring at the residents. This test should be undertaken on a quiet weekday, on a calm night, to represent accurately the typical working operation. Then maybe a slight increase in acceptable music sound level may be successfully achieved, if this is desired.

For acceptance and compliance this final sound test could of course be carried out in liaison with the local authority noise team, if this is convenient to the noise team. They could then witness the final acceptable music sound levels and the setting of the sound limiters. The sound limiters could then be re-set to the slightly higher levels, if these were found to be acceptable, and the sound limiters re-calibrated, and a fresh calibration certificate by the Acoustic Consultant given to the local authority for compliance for the next 12 months of operation.


Shaun Murkett 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023



### Key

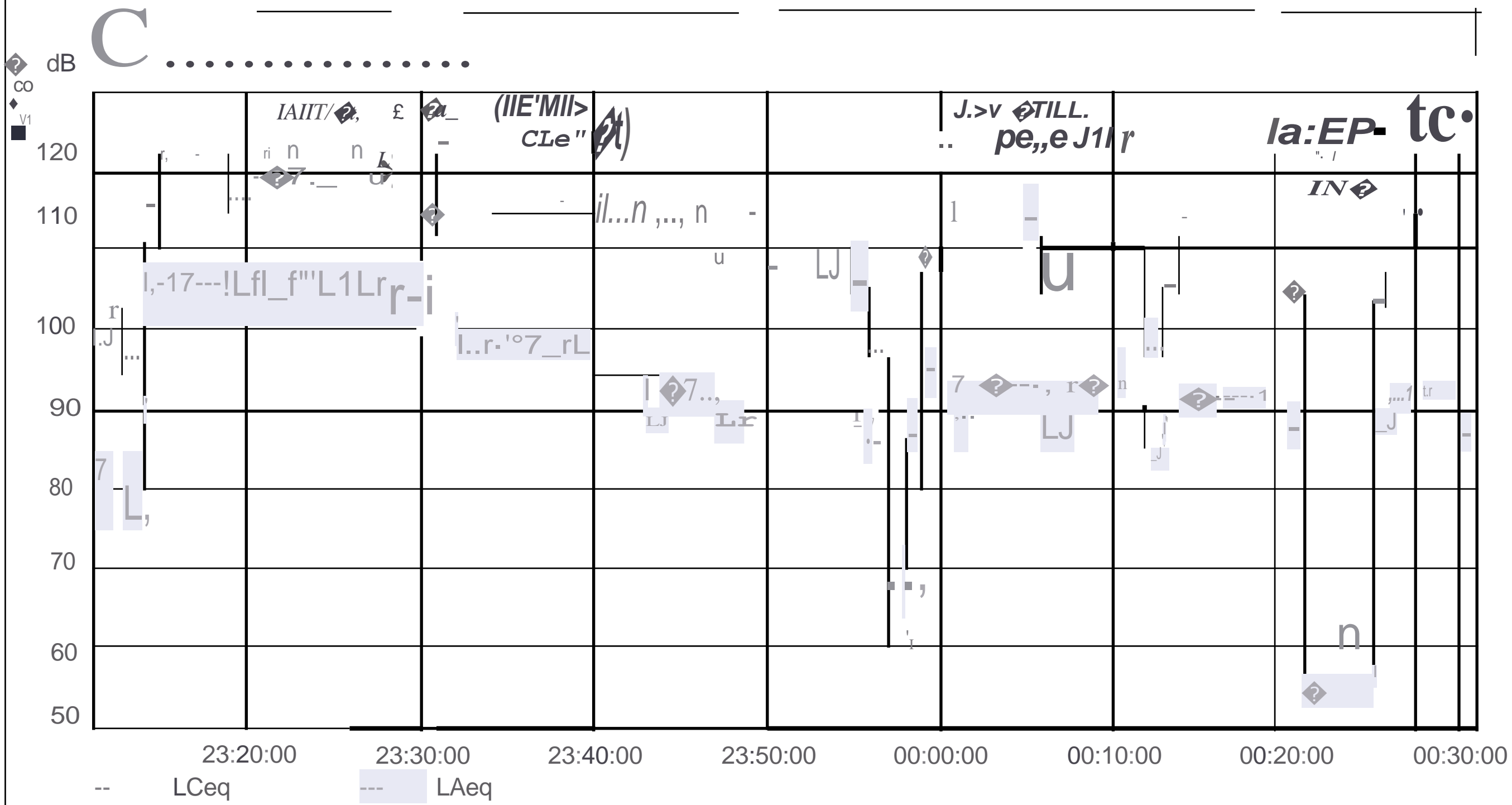
Sound level monitor point and monitoring locations 

**Location map of Archives Tottenham, showing location of venue and nearest residents.**

©  Shaun Murkett  
Acoustic Consultants Ltd

September 2023

tel. 020 7923 7275

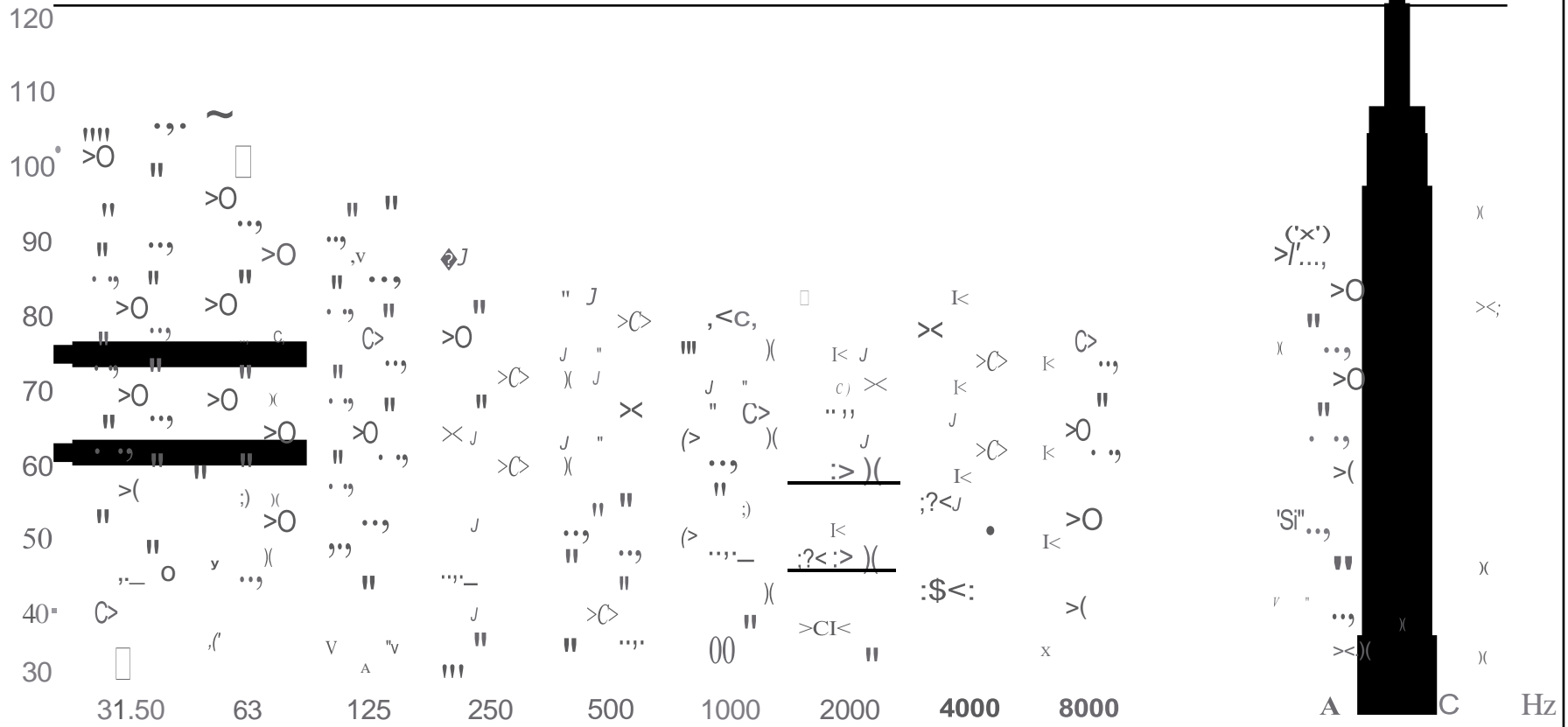


Sound profile log of music sound level level dBC Leq 1 min.dBA LAeq1min measured in the main music room at Archives, High Cross Centre, Tottenham, London, N15 4QN with monitoring comments. 30 September 2023. Acceptable Music Sound level in main room, whilst monitoring outside residents= 109 dBC eq, 93 dBA LAeq.



0016.S10

dB 30/09/2023 00:27:00 - 00:28:00



Cursor.(C) LFmax=116.0 dB Leq=109.1 dB LF90=- LFmax=116.0dB

Octave frequency spectrum of sound of music measured in dB L<sub>leq</sub> 1min  
 at Location A, in main music room, at 10m from the main loudspeakers  
 Archives, High Cross Centre, Tottenham, London N15 4QN  
 at around 12.30 am Early Saturday morning 30th September 2023  
 whilst monitoring at residents opposite railway lines.

Acceptable music sound level = 109 dBC L<sub>ceq</sub>1 min    93 dBA I<sub>Aeq</sub>1min.

## Certificate of sound limiter calibration. Oct 2023

This is a certificate of calibration for the sound controlling equipment for live and Dj music, installed in the Archives Club, Highcross Centre, Tottenham, London N15 4QN, under the management of Mark Hunter. The noise limiting device installed is part of the Sound Web controller as part of the sound system, to control internal sound levels in the ground floor main music room.

The sound system comprised CDJ players and live mixer inputs and a digital mixer, then connected to the Sound Web controller and sound limiter, then to the three L acoustics type LA8 amplifiers, then to the 6 off A15 mid high speakers, 4 off SP28 sub bass units and also 4 off delay line speakers of type Arc Wifo .

To fulfill the conditions of the local authority premises licence for this establishment, and to keep external noise breakout to a minimum, with inaudibility at the residents, a limit on the internal music sound level from amplified music has been agreed.

The sound limiter has been set to an internal music sound level limit of:-  
107 dBC Leq <sub>1 min</sub>, 92 dBA LAeq <sub>1 min</sub>, 106 dB at 63 Hz; 97 dB at 125 Hz.

Measured at around centre of rear main music room, at about 10 m from the nearest main loudspeakers, near the live mixer position.

This calibration was made with a Bruel and Kjaer 2260 type 1 sound level meter in accordance with relevant British Standards, at around 8 pm on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023, witnessed by the manager and Shaun Murkett, and to be confirmed by the Local Authority noise team when convenient. The octave frequency graph forms part of this certificate. Inaudibility at the nearest residents was confirmed on this visit, and also on a previous visit at around 2 am on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023

This calibration is valid only for the equipment as specified above, and for one year only. It is part of the licence conditions to inspect and re-calibrate the limiters annually by a professionally qualified consultant accredited by the Institute of Acoustics to satisfy local authority requirements.



Shaun Murkett 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023

1 Clissold Road, Stoke Newington, London N16 9EX

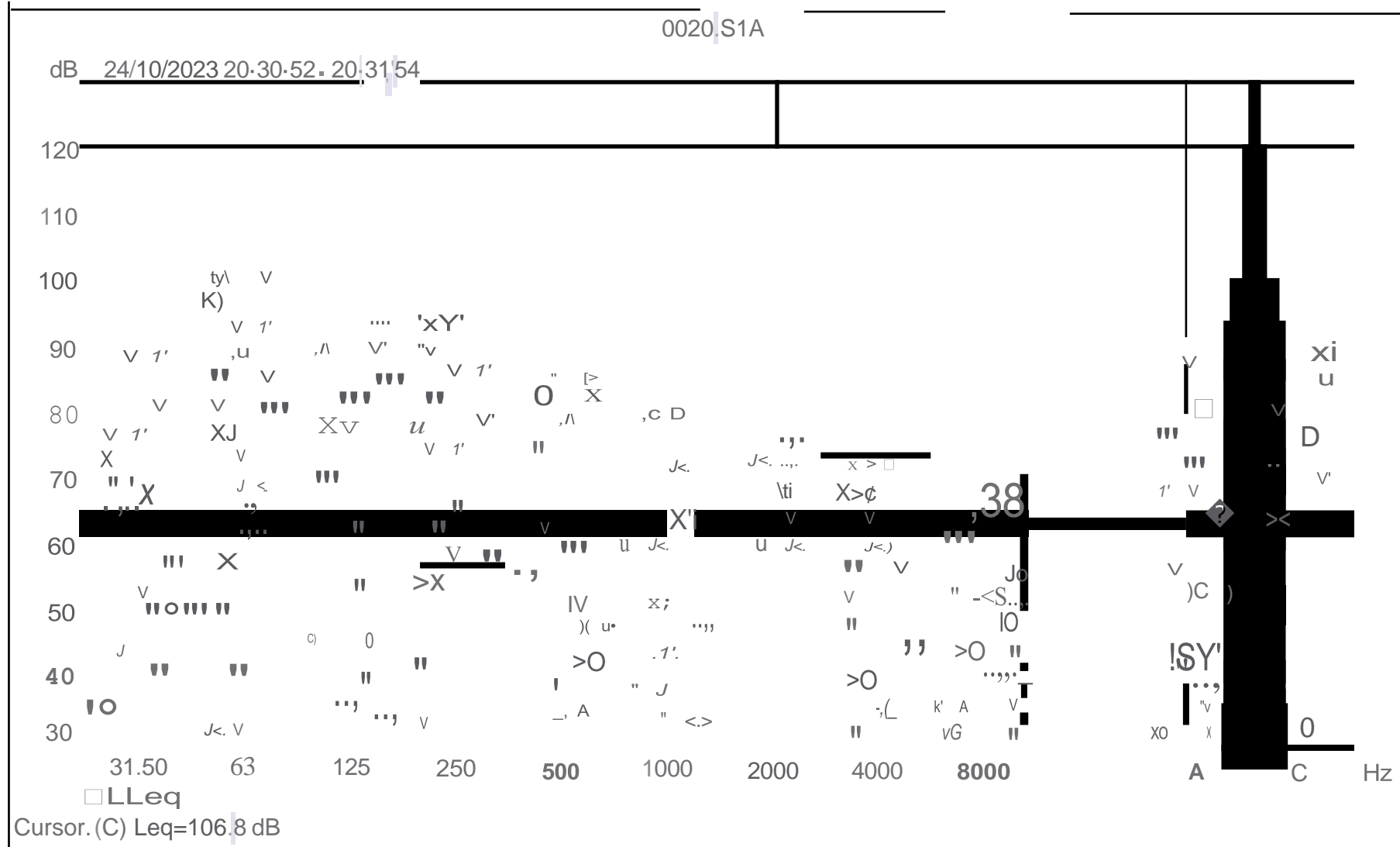
t: 020 7923 7275 m: 07956 367598

e: murkett@aol.com

www.shawnmurkett-acoustics.co.uk

Managing Director and Principal Consultant: Shaun Murkett BSc. C.Eng. MIEE. MIOA

Registered company no.3708245 VAT. reg. no. 778-2825-80



Octave frequency Spectrum of sound of music in dB L eq measured at 10 m from main loudspeakers in centre of main music room.

Archives Club, Highcross Centre ,Tottenham, London N15 4QN

Sound Limiter Calibration Tuesday 24th October 2023

Calibrated music sound level - 107 dB L Ceq 1 min , ( 92 dBA L Aeq 1 min)

© Shaun Murkell  
Acoustic Consultants Ltd.  
www.sh Shaun Murkell Acoustics .co.uk