

# ACOUSTIC AWARDS 2023

Now in their 10th year, the ANC awards highlight the unique skills of UK based acoustic and noise professionals, and the dynamic and diverse nature of the industry overall, to inspire the next generation of acoustic consultants. These accolades demonstrate excellence among ANC members in addressing challenges, championing innovation and originality and showcasing the significance of a profession which blends art and science to transformational effect.

## Building Acoustics



WINNER + Acoustic Consultants Ltd: RD Studios

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**This project concerned the process of designing a new studio building in West London, including the conversion of a Portal Frame B2/B8 building to form five sound stages, each with production facilities, and of different sizes to accommodate a range of productions. The client requirement was that the sound insulation between studios would allow simultaneous use of each sound stage without it adversely effecting sound recording in any other space. Furthermore, the room acoustics needed to be suitable for audio recording and so too did noise from building services.**

The sustainable approach of re-utilising an existing building in a highly accessible location introduced a number of issues in terms of acoustic separation. The existing building was of lightweight construction with no significant sound insulating properties and was unable to support the additional mass that would be required.

Room acoustics was addressed through the use of Insulquilt fixed to the walls and ceilings in conjunction with drapes. The specification of drapes, locations of materials and co-ordination with building services was completed with the design team. The aim was to provide an element of variable acoustics with the drapes but also ensuring that if there was a production need to pull them back the room acoustics was still acceptable for the use.

The judges noted the excellent collaboration between all parties, which ensured the continuous use of other stages whilst work was ongoing. This was a very challenging project due to multiple studios which need to be used simultaneously so the acoustics and sound insulation had to be right. Overall, the judges felt it was a good design through meticulous attention to detail which the time and budgetary constraints made even more impressive.

The Managing Director of RD Studios said:

***"The feedback from producers on the truly impressive high quality sound spec of our studios has been unanimous; from 40-piece orchestras to solo artists, from film to theatre, this week we have Gold Dust Productions recording the first 2 episodes of a major music series for a streamer, that involves live production recording. These episodes will be recorded in Studio 1 - all featuring A listers, all under NDA! The production team are already so impressed with the sound quality of the stages having done their test shoot in studio 5, and they will record the next batch of episodes in studio 3. They have said they are happy to use whichever stage is available; a great testament to all the work done by everyone to deliver the premium sound quality throughout RD Studios 5 stages."***

