



EgglestonWorks

The Central Station Hotel case study: EgglestonWorks





The loudspeaker sculpture creates a unique vibe that screams Rock & Roll!

Founded in 1996, EgglestonWorks is a boutique loudspeaker manufacturer proudly based in Memphis, TN—the birthplace of Rock’n’Roll and also home to Sun Records, Gibson Guitars and a colorful music legacy that has energized the city for many decades. EgglestonWorks is dedicated to creating loudspeakers that merge accuracy and musicality with unrivalled aesthetic beauty. Since the company’s first designs were conceived, the underlying goal of all EgglestonWorks loudspeakers has been to strike that powerful, emotional chord naturally present in live music, to recreate the palpable realism of a live performance, complete and authentic to the most miniscule detail.

A 100 Year Old Train Station

And then one day, EgglestonWorks President and Chief Designer Jim Thompson received a call from developers

looking to rejuvenate the 100 year old downtown (Memphis) train station, seeking to create a buzz-worthy Hilton-branded hotel and add to the nightlife in the area. With Memphis music as a foundational theme, great sound was prioritized as part of the design motif and the guest experience. Within the hotel, the 8 & Sand Bar, with epic 35-foot ceilings and almost all concrete and glass, wasn’t the easiest space to fill with balanced, detailed sound. Thompson designed custom loudspeakers to make this space sound simply fantastic. Embedded in the bar shelving that contains countless LP records of Memphis music, Thompson installed a massive loudspeaker using two huge 18-inch woofers and a midrange/tweeter combo he uses in other speaker models. Visually, the speaker is very much a statement that this bar is a music-first establishment. To extend the sound away from the bar and into the seating areas,



The bar and lounge area—note the massive custom speaker and subtle pendant speakers integrated into the décor.

Thompson engineered custom pendant speakers from 6-inch composite stock that is reinforced with carbon fiber and

suspended from above. There are six pendants in the bar and two in the lobby area. Rather than choose an arbitrary

height for the suspended speakers, the team did testing to determine how high to place the pendants so as not to interfere with conversation, enabling patrons to socialize yet still enjoy music as part of their experience. Each pendant contains wooden internal bracing that also secures the full-range drivers, similar to those used in EgglestonWorks' legendary Viginti loudspeakers. Twelve commercial-grade mono amplifiers, which run 24 hours nonstop, effortlessly drive all of the bar and lobby speakers.



The EgglestonWorks custom pendant speaker

A Listening Lounge!

Because of the rich history of music that is so much a part of Memphis culture, Thompson conceived of a truly unique idea for the hotel—to create a Listening Lounge that offers a refined music system and various curated playlists highlighting Memphis artists, Memphis-based recordings—any musical work that has ties to the city. The centerpiece of the Listening Lounge is a pair of EgglestonWorks Viginti speakers, which feature a bass enclosure incorporating dual 10-inch carbon woofers and a unique slot porting system that achieves authoritative, effortless, pitch-perfect bass response. To achieve superb midrange and high-frequency clarity, the Viginti speakers utilize a 6-inch carbon dome midrange driver mated to a cutting-edge Beryllium



The Grand Central Hotel listening lounge, featuring a pair of massive EgglestonWorks Viginti loudspeakers



tweeter that provides the fatigue-free musicality that has become the hallmark of EgglestonWorks designs. Cabinets are handcrafted and feature a myriad of meticulously formed and critically placed internal braces, while extravagant use of aluminum and carbon fiber compliment the speaker's stunning form factor and paintwork. The EgglestonWorks Viginti loudspeakers are powered by a Bryston 4B Cubed Series amplifier, legendary for both outstanding performance and reliability. (IMAGE 9 HERE) The Central Station Hotel's Listening Lounge lets patrons select content from a touch screen, enabling them to explore an eclectic mix of artists and their songs.



The equipment rack for the listening lounge, featuring a Bryston 4B Cubed Series amplifier

More and More and More...

Thompson's creative designs have found their way throughout the Central Station space. He designed and built an astonishing speaker sculpture that resides in the hotel lobby, and he created a DJ booth based on the framework of an old organ. This is an example of the classic and clever repurposing that is so often exhibited on shows like American Pickers. There are also EgglestonWorks speakers populating the lobby, terrace, and guest rooms, providing all visitors to the hotel an opportunity to enjoy a combination of refined sound and Memphis music. The custom-designed guest room speakers are small wall-mount fixtures finished in bright colors that scream "here I am!!" as opposed to most architectural speakers that try to hide behind flush grilles and matching paint. Each speaker is adorned with an ID panel that states: Custom Designed for Central Station Hotel. Hotel management thoughtfully provides playlist cards in each room to help navigate the available content, and the décor of the hotel proudly continues with the music theme, featuring an old reel to reel tape deck and LP records on shelves as eye candy for guests.

The Central Station Hotel project is a glowing example of how creative thinking, combined with customized solutions and precise, refined engineering capabilities came together to create a memorable, immersive experience for hotel guests. EgglestonWorks is a unique Made in USA success story that has transformed the passions and energy of its Chief Designer into one of the truly great high-performance audio brands, providing breathtaking loudspeakers for nearly any application to discerning customers around the world.



Thompson ingeniously repurposed an old organ as a DJ booth



Each guest room features custom EgglestonWorks speakers



Guests enjoy playlists featuring music connected to Memphis in some way

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