DiGiCo SD10 flexibility to M83 mix

French band M83 has been touring its brand of electro-pop – and its latest album, *Junk* – around the world, playing festivals including Coachella in the US and Glastonbury in the UK, as well as headlining at academy-sized venues, all to rave reviews. Their audio system has been supplied by Clair Brothers since the band was big enough to take one out, says Front of House engineer Robbie Barr, with a pair DiGiCo SD10s now forming an indispensable part of the package.

Laura Davis

Robbie has been with the band since 2012, initially on playback / Ableton and now mixing the show for the current album campaign, whilstmonitor engineer Laura Davis joined them this year. Both engineers have experience with DiGiCo consoles, both are using an SD10 for thefirst time for the tour, and both have the latest Stealth Core 2 software which, they say, is a game changer.

"M83's sound requires a lot of detail and that was something I was finding hard to achieve on other consoles, without resorting to stacks ofplugins just to get the initial tone," explains Robbie. "I'd used an SD8 with a d&b system for a show at the 9:30 Club in Washington, DCmixing Ryn Weaver, and found that the console reacted exactly how I wanted it to out of the box, just using the built-in channel strip andDiGiTubes. So, once I heard that Laura was requesting an SD10 for this tour, I did the same."

"I chose to use the SD10 because it's so flexible and sounds great," says Laura. "Coming into rehearsals, we had no idea whatwe were walking in to, so to have the flexibility to expand and change things so easily was very useful."

Both Robbie and Laura are using all 56 inputs on their SD-Racks.

"At my end, with channel doubling and FX returns, I'm running 83 channels in total," says Robbie. "I love how flexible the layers on this console are. I have some channels doubled so I can widen the guitars, etc., and being able to have those channels hidden on another layer with a VCA in their place really keeps my workflow simple. I also have DiGiTubes on my parallel drum buss, bass instrument busses and guitars buss.