

The Gordy focuses on quality and flexibility with Vari-Lite & Strand

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Houston, TX, USA - One of the newest and brightest hubs for Houston's performing arts scene, The Gordy, has equipped its three theater spaces with stage lighting technology from Vari-Lite and Strand, [Signify](#) (Euronext: LIGHT) entertainment lighting brands.

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Designed by architects Gensler and theater consultants Charcoalblue, The Gordy is named for philanthropists Russell and Glenda Gordy, and home to performing arts producer Stages. Its three intimate theater spaces - the 252-seat Sterling Stage, the 220-seat Lester and Sue Smith Stage, and the 134-seat Rochelle and Max Levit Stage - provide dynamic settings for a variety of live theater experiences.

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“For lighting, flexibility was key, alongside quality of light output, a deep color range and smooth dimming resolution,” said The Gordy’s Technical Director, Joel Burkholder, who chose over 300 Vari-Lite and Strand fixtures, including 200 tungsten-source [SPX ellipsoidals](#).

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“We love the SPX’s innovative features,” said Burkholder, “such as the locking shutters, the resolution of lens tube placement, the consistent field of light across multiple fixtures, and the fine-tuning of the focusing.”

LED-based fixtures including 55 [VL800 PROPARS](#) and 10 [SL STRIP 10 IP](#) units add color and flexibility. “The PROPAR’s motorized zoom was the big selling point,” said Burkholder. “The wide zoom range and the deep color work perfectly for our down-light and back-light system. We use the zoom function far more than we had imagined we would.”

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He concluded, "We're very happy with the lighting, especially during the pandemic, when we had to shift programming to create digital experiences for our patrons - everything looked great on camera!"