

Airsound Spatial



SPATIAL AUDIO CASE STUDY:

Airsound Spatial at The Distillery II, Bristol

Transforming a Live Room into a Studio-Grade Spatial Audio Listening Environment

1. Introduction

Airsound Spatial was invited to demonstrate its immersive audio system at The Distillery II in Bristol — a unique venue that combines a highly specified recording studio with a live performance / multi function space. The impressive demo has now led to a first-of-its-kind Airsound Spatial permanent installation that now plays host to album launches, Dolby Atmos showcases, private listening sessions and allows live spatial audio playback in recording sessions.

2. The Brief

The team at The Distillery II wanted to transform their live room into a flexible, high-impact audio space. The goal: deliver immersive spatial sound without the disruptive installation required for traditional technology. The challenge: **do it quickly, unobtrusively, and without modifying the building structure.**



Rear Airsound Spatial array, featuring 4 Martin Audio CDD-8 Live units in a dipolar steering arrangement.

The PA system features a combination of active and passive units from Martin Audio and a QSC Dante Routing matrix.

See <https://distillermusic.com/studio>



3. The Solution

We deployed Airsound Spatial using a minimal set of loudspeakers, arranged to utilise dipolar steering — including 5 low level units and 1 elevated height unit — all fed from a compact MacBook Air running our custom ASAP (Airsound Spatial Audio Processor) engine.

A custom software patch presented 7.1.4 and 9.1.6 layouts to the network, allowing direct access from a number of playback sources. Audio was distributed over Dante to powered loudspeakers positioned throughout the space. No physical controller or complex wiring was needed.

Tech Summary

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Core processor: | MacBook Air (M4 silicon) |
| Software: | Airsound Spatial Engine Dante Network |
| Audio I/O: | Dante Virtual Soundcard |
| Speaker config: | Virtual 7.1.4 / 9.1.6 Physical: 8 channel |
| Installation time: | 1 day, plus tuning |
| Control: | Midi Remote Remote Desktop Direct Control (laptop) |
| Playback sources: | Apple Music, TV, Quicktime, Dolby Atmos Renderer, Pro Tools Renderer |



Initial configuration of the ASAP software and measurement to fine-tune during testing phase.

4. Key Innovations

Dipolar steering: Dipolar steering delivers a highly immersive experience from few sound sources.

Wide sweetspot: An engaging immersive sound field is experienced throughout the room.

Flexibility: Easily reconfigurable for control room monitoring or immersive album playback.

Multiple room modes: Soundstage can be dynamically repositioned to suit different listening positions — no need to move speakers.

5. Installation Highlights

One of the most surprising elements of the project was the speed. We completed the full setup and tuning, in under 24 hours. The next day, the room was already in use — impressing guests from Dolby and beyond.

Emre Ramazanoglu Atmos engineer for Lily Allen, Sia and many more paid a surprise visit during the installation and played back some of his mixes through it.

“I can hear everything where it is supposed to be in a wide sweetspot - and it sounds amazing.”
Emre Ramazanoglu



The system provides incredible dynamic range with studio grade quality.

7. Results

The Distillery II plans to host a range of immersive events, including Atmos playback sessions for spatial album launches. The venue offers a unique capability for a welcoming space with playback at the same spatial fidelity as top-tier studios but with concert level dynamics.