I think you might enjoy this!
Aoife

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Rod Lane" <rodney.lane@blueyonder.co.uk>
Date: 9 November 2008 17:27:12 GMT
To: "'aoife donnelly'" <studio@aoifedonnelly.com>
Subject: RE: Chorlton Mill, Cambridge Street , Manchester

Dear Aoife
I have looked up my limited data on sound levels from instruments and have found a reference to the power level of a grand piano being in the order of 0.5 watts, this equates to a sound power level of 117dBW (SWL = 10log w/10-12). This means a sound pressure level would have a maximum of about 95dBA depending on the room size/construction. I have carried out some "tests" (though not too scientific) of playing piano solo pieces (an excuse, if any needed, to listen to Bach) in my lounge (which is acoustically soft and probably about 10% of the volume of your space) and from this I estimate a level of about 80dBA within a reverberant space (the studio had hard surfaces throughout I recall). Note this needs to be increased for recitals involving Rachmaninoff or late Beethoven!
For the poetry I have no such pre-recorded material but had some speeches from Henry 5th and some Hoffnung (1950,s - much before your time) talking to the Oxford Union and based on this (allowing for Oliver's over the top renditions) a level nearer 72dBA could be used as a basis for the sound level predictions.
Where quieter pieces are played , sung or recited we would expect the levels to be lower, but remember that rooms for optimised for speech are acoustically different than those for music.

Hope this is of assistance, if you need any further information, please let me know.

Best Regards

Rod Lane

From: aoife donnelly [mailto:studio@aoifedonnelly.com]
Sent: 07 November 2008 11:07
To: Rod Lane
Subject: Re: Chorlton Mill, Cambridge Street , Manchester

Dear Rod,

thank you for this. I am in conversation this am with Julie Weldon Environmental Health Manchester CIty Council who is going to take a look at the report and identify whether we need additional testing or reporting done.
I will return to you on this as soon as I hear from her.

Would you have an estimation of the db output of a non-amplified grand piano playing average level compositions and of a person reciting poetry?

Best Wishes,

Aoife Donnelly

aoife donnelly architect

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On 7 Nov 2008, at 08:58, Rod Lane wrote:

Aoife
Further to your telephone call yesterday I have been able to "dig up" a copy of the 2001 survey carried out at the above. The survey was not specific to your area and has a great deal of irrelevant detail but those appertaining to that with which you are concerned will be identified by "studio" in the title. The original Excel > been lost as has the original note book so the data remaining is in graphical form showing the "actual" transmission loss values which were the object of the survey / report.
Since the report was written, we have concentrated less on the industrial side and more on the building (and building services) aspects of acoustics/vibration and subsequently changed the trading name to ROD LANE & ASSOCIATES which we now trade under. The contact
details are as below and we would be pleased to offer our services to your goodselves on this or any other project where our 35 years experience in solving acoustics/vibration problems would be of assistance.

If you require a "paper" copy of the report, please let us know.

Best Regards

Rod Lane BA FCIBSE MIOA

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