



**HARLEQUIN**  
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Harlequin's multi-use floor

**Harlequin Liberty  
Switch™**



# Specifications

Harlequin Liberty Switch is a modular multi-use floor system comprised of a base unit with the drive and control mechanism topped with a Harlequin Liberty sprung floor.

The base units house a series of moving carriages connected by rods running on high-strength carrier rails powered by actuators. Each actuator and associated controller are linked to a master control unit located off-stage. The upper panels are standard Harlequin Liberty with the addition of low-friction blocks on the underside.

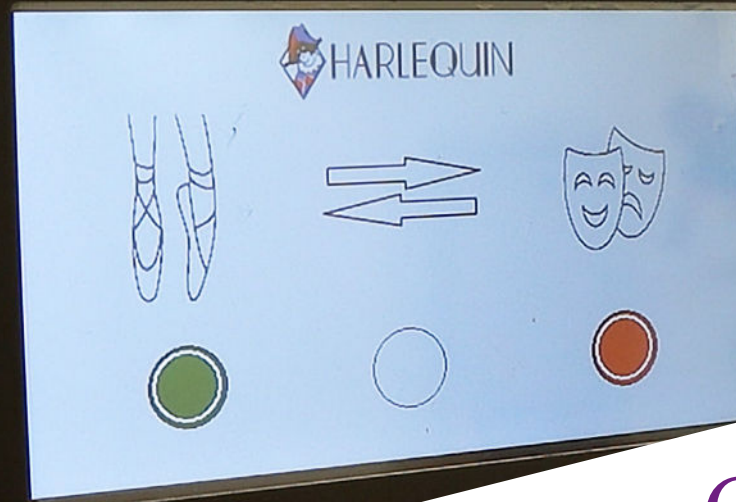
Harlequin Liberty Switch can be custom designed to incorporate features such as traps, lifts and revolves as required. Areas of the floor can be quickly isolated to create rigid zones for the placement of pianos, scenery or retractable seating while the rest of the floor is used as a sprung dance floor.



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# HARLEQUIN LIBERTY SWITCH



## Operation

Harlequin Liberty Switch is very simple to operate. The system is controlled remotely via a hard-wired master controlled unit. This can be integrated with most existing stage control or building management systems. A wireless control system with remote monitoring can be specified if required.

The transformation between the two modes will typically take two minutes depending on the size of installation. This has many benefits over the old approach of swapping floors between shows. It transforms from a sprung floor to a rigid floor in minutes using the intuitive touch display screen and is more cost effective than an equivalent ballet wagon. There are no labour costs in laying and removing a temporary floor and no storage costs.

All components are modular 'plug and play' to facilitate rapid replacement and easy maintenance. The carriage units and track are maintenance free and require no lubrication.

This innovative and versatile floor has been designed for venues who regularly put on both dance and theatrical performances and so require both a sprung and a rigid floor in the same performance or rehearsal space.

“We are extremely excited to be the first venue to have Harlequin Liberty Switch! It is easy to use and it is great being able to switch between a sprung and rigid floor so quickly. ”

Martin Schläpfer  
Ballet Director and Chief  
Choreographer of the  
Vienna State Ballet



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# Overview

Harlequin Liberty Switch transforms from a rigid stage floor into a high-quality sprung floor designed for dance, so protecting dancers by reducing the risk of injury.

- Much cheaper than an equivalent ballet wagon
- No labour costs to swap floors during and between shows
- Space saving with no storage costs
- Simple to operate
- Transforms from a sprung floor to a rigid floor in minutes
- Can incorporate features such as traps and create sprung and rigid 'zones' in the floor as required



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## Case Study: Vienna State Opera

The Vienna State Opera and Vienna State Ballet needed a rehearsal space with both a sprung and rigid floor that they could use on a daily basis. Following over two years of development in 2022, Harlequin's technical teams from the UK, Luxembourg and Germany worked together to install Harlequin Liberty Switch at The Vienna State Opera House.

Before the installation of the Liberty Switch system could begin, a sub-floor was constructed using timber battens to provide a completely level surface onto which the pre-manufactured Liberty Switch base panels, complete with the drives and control mechanism were installed.

The Harlequin Liberty top panels were then laid and locked into place, finally being topped with a Harlequin Studio vinyl floor.

The whole system is operated via a master control unit using a simple touch screen placed on the wall of the room which enables rapid transformation.

“I heard amazing things but trying it was next level, a new world. It really makes sense. Your body, your bones they love it and by the end of the day you are not exhausted. It feels really healthy.”

Rebecca Horner  
Soloist



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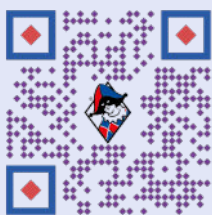
## About us

Harlequin is the world leader in advanced technology floors and stage systems for the performing arts. Established in the UK over 40 years ago, Harlequin remains the performance floor of choice for the world's most prestigious dance companies, theatres, venues and schools, production companies and events.

Harlequin design, build and refurbish performance floors and stages, working with stage engineers and theatre consultants in leading venues across the world.

Harlequin's experience and reputation are founded on the design, manufacture and supply of a range of high quality portable and permanent sprung and vinyl floors.

Harlequin is the global leader in its field with offices in Europe, The Americas and Asia Pacific.



Scan here to find more information about Harlequin

**LW**  
THEATRES

**ABT** AMERICAN  
BALLET  
THEATRE



The  
Australian  
Ballet



ROYAL  
OPERA  
HOUSE



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