

LUXURY STRANGER

TECH SPEC

Please note: this is our standard spec – some items may not apply to this show.

LUXURY STRANGER is a band influenced by the music, aesthetics and stylings of alternative and 'classic' rock, 70s glam, 80s post-punk, soul / Motown, and 90s indie music. The band aim to create an atmosphere, playing songs with dark connotations – although they are commercial sounding...

The current live instrumentation for Luxury Stranger is:

Simon York – Lead voice and guitar

Martin Valentine – Bass and live backing vocals

Please note: The band have used a human drummer in the past, but for the current style, Luxury Stranger will be using a backing track consisting of real drum performances and programmed real drum samples (more on that later). The aim is to retain or excel the **power** of human drums...

Luxury Stranger's songs are driven by the rhythm section, with guitars buffering the drive and melodies – the lead vocals being **clearly heard on top**. There will be someone on hand during soundcheck to stand out front to check that the balance is how Simon would like it to be.

The sound – stage / front of house / monitoring:

Lead vocals

Luxury Stranger is a guitar-based band, however please can you make sure that the **lead voice** (Simon York) **is heard clearly out front?** Please can the lead voice be heard in all monitors clearly? Simon will wish to use his own mic (Shure Beta SM58A).

Simon's vocal range is broad – on some of the band's songs he sings melodic baritone while on other songs he may use a higher or sometimes softer end of the scale. On some songs he will go between the various 'characters'. The band will generally sound check with songs showing the deeper end so Simon can judge mic distance / monitoring for this.

A very short hall reverb in the front of house may be required on Simon's vocals depending on the performance space but it isn't essential – you know the room so we'll leave it in your hands. **No delay** is to be used at all on the lead vocal as there are specific gaps in the songs and the delay will distract from the desired effect from these gaps. Thank you...

The band may play an old song called *Another Intoxicated Release*. In this song, there is a middle section which builds up. The lead vocal is used to build the intensity with long notes making their way to a peak. During this point in the song, please could the backing vocals be brought up slightly as they 'take over' the main melody, working alongside the lead? After the 'peak' / drum break, please could the backing vocals be returned to the regular place? **A copy of the set list can be supplied on the day of the show.**

Live backing vocals

Martin's live backing vocals are textures, and not to be as loud as the lead vocal in the front of house (half the volume at the loudest – it's not Kiss / The Beatles style BVs or harmonies, they are used as a bed for the lead vocal or subtle in places of the song unless otherwise stated).

As mentioned in the lead vocal section, in the middle section of one the songs (Another Intoxicated Release), the backing vocal turns into an 'echo' of the main choruses done by lead vocal. Please could the backing vocal come up in level at this point and then cut back to the original setting at the 'peak' / drum break?

Guitar and bass

Simon's guitar is going through a single speaker (left-hand side facing) Fender Deluxe combo. If possible, please could two mics be placed on this, one to the edge of the speaker and one toward the centre of the cone and these be panned either side out of front of house? If the stage is too small to do this (also taking in to consideration that the band move around quite a lot), then this isn't essential. No additional effects are to be used if possible as Simon alters reverbs etc between and within songs.

If you are using DI on the guitar, please note that even though Simon's pedals / guitar are going through to the main input on the amp, there is also an effects unit (key to Simon's sound) going through the send / return – we have found at a past show that DI just going through the input has bypassed the effects / EQ coming from the effects unit.

Martin's bass is going through a straight cab and an effects processor. No additional effects are to be used. This can be DI'd or mic'd.

Drums

As mentioned on page 1, Luxury Stranger will not be using a human drummer for this performance. The drum backing track is currently being played using a stereo out to a split stereo jack lead (so a Y shaped cable) – please could there be a DI box with two jack inputs to accomodate the split channels? The band will control the drums on stage. The drums are an instrument, not a texture (as is the case with 'drum machine' type bands) and is key to the band's live power. Please speak to Martin (bass player) on the day if you have any queries on the drums. Thank you.

Please could a drum monitor be set up at the back of the stage – this is to send the drums through to give the 'umph' behind the band (similar to how you'd get with a drum kit) to help the band 'feel' the kit. The band will still require the drums in the front monitors. Thank you...

Lighting, projections and other stuff

Please could the lighting engineer use either mid-level white spots and / or white spots with a red, or blue filter at times? If possible, please make the audience end of the room as dark as possible?

If the song Side Of The Road is being played, it lends itself to strobe lighting in the choruses. Please could you do this if possible? There is a dead stop after the instrumental section of 16 bars, please could you drop the lights to just a spot on Simon for this section and then slowly bring up the other lighting as the song rebuilds itself?

The band may be using projections as part of this performance – please speak with Simon during set up if this will be the case.

Please do not use smoke machines during the performance as they dry out Simon's throat – they may however be used prior to the performance to help add atmosphere.

Simon will pass a copy of the set list to you on the day so you'll know what's what song-wise...

Merch / other non-tech stuff

Please could you or someone make it clear to the band where merchandise / T-shirts can be set up and sold? Thank you...

Thank you very much for your help, the band is looking forward to working with you...

C/O

Simon and Martin

LUXURY STRANGER

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