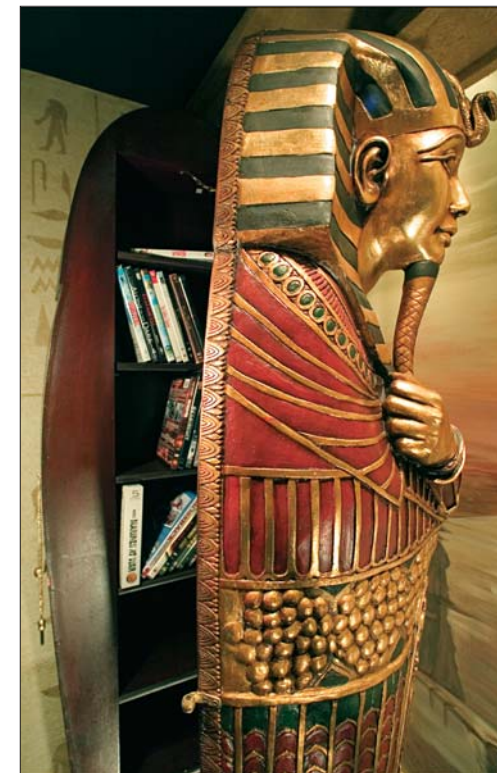


IF TUT HAD A THEATER...



TIME AND EXPERTISE:

Task.....	Hours
Client Interviews.....	15
Electronic Design and Engineering.....	5
Proposal and System Documentation Preparation.....	6
Project Management.....	30
Pre-wire/Rough-in.....	20
Trim-out.....	10
Programming/Shop Time for Racking and Testing.....	2 days
Final Installation and Calibration.....	3 days
Client Instruction.....	2
Interior Design and/or Architecture by Hi-Fidelity.....	6
Interior Design and/or Architecture by Others.....	20
Total.....	114 hours/5 days



A high-powered businessman in Pennsylvania wants the best of both worlds: a place to relax and listen quietly to music while working, and a raucously good time filled with all the blasting sound and excitement of action movies crashing across the big screen. Working with Mark Glidden of Stone-Glidden High Performance Home Systems, the homeowner decided to eschew the traditional look of his home and opt for an Egyptian-themed theater with a raised island in the rear that could accommodate the necessities of working at home when the theater is not in full, boisterous use.

Fitting the room to the theme required some thinking “out of the box” due to HVAC ducts and steel I-beams being in the way. As the client did not want any rerouting, this was circumvented by the steel supports being placed into faux-painted, fiberglass, false sandstone columns, while the I-beams were clad with false stone and mimicked on both sides so as to provide a symmetry for the room. The ducts, meanwhile, were cropped into a soffit running all around the room. Covering up the ducts, according to Glidden, allowed for the lighting to create an impression of the room being taller and more spacious, a trademark of the company. This also allowed for some needed illumination when the main lights are out, but does not interfere with viewing. Working closely with the electrician made sure that the lighting did not interact with the columns and cast shadows. Six Premiere Savoy theater recliners add to the room’s comfort.

A ceiling-mounted InFocus Screenplay 777 three-chip DLP front projector displays on a 119-inch Da-Lite screen. A JBL Synthesis sound system provides for both music and home theater multichannel audio: front speakers are concealed behind the screen, with two subwoofers hidden inside custom enclosures in the front wall. All of the other speakers are hidden in-walls painted to match the murals in the room.

A Comcast HD box with a built-in digital recorder is housed in a Middle Atlantic swing and swivel rack that fits flush to the island in the back. Here, too, can be found the Marantz DVD player, and X-Box and PlayStation 2 video game consoles. Tributaries cables are used for all video and audio connections. Components are cooled using Active Thermal Devices “Cool Stack” fans with Panamax power conditioners ensuring constant and clean power. All is controlled through a Creston STS system – one touch of a button on the touch-panel takes care of all controls in an instant.

The client is thrilled with the room. He now has the opportunity to work quietly at home with gentle music playing and then shift over to sports and action movies when the impulse hits. It’s the best of both worlds, set in a timeless beauty that is also attractive to the eye when nothing is playing. ●

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