



## Parker Performing Arts Center Features Clancy Rigging

**Syracuse, NY • January 1, 2012** The Parker Arts Culture and Events Center (PACE) in Parker, Colorado, opened late in 2011 to an exciting season of more than 28 different shows.

The inaugural season includes productions of *A Christmas Story* and *Annie*, the premier of an original musical, a custom light show created by Luma, the Irish dance troupe *Direct* from Ireland-Celtic Nights, and an interpreted production of *Stuart Little* for hearing and deaf audiences.

The brand-new facility's 536-seat theatre — one of two performance spaces in the extensive center — can host this diverse series of events due to the easy-to-use automated rigging system provided by J.R. Clancy, Inc., and installed by Barbizon Light of the Rockies. Barbizon's Rick Loudenburg was on the design team as the theatrical rigging and lighting integrator with Semple Brown Design Architects, David L. Adams and Associates, and Shaw Construction.

The new theatre features 14 Clancy PowerLift automated hoists (8 variable-speed and 6 fixed-speed). PowerLifts provide many built-in safety features, including a dual-braking system and load monitoring.

"We love the rigging system," said Shaun Albrechtson, technical director at PACE. "It's very versatile and easy to use. We really enjoy that we don't have to worry so much about weights. It's freed us up from the mundane aspects of the standard rigging system. The safety features alone are phenomenal — it has everything calculated through the computer, and everything operating smoothly is just a comforting feeling."

Clancy's popular Altus digital controller was the system of choice for Powerlifts and the front curtain. Designed for mid-level backstage rigging systems with up to 48 hoists, Altus allows operators to create

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up to 200 cues with different speeds and targets for each hoist. Its intuitive touch screen menu is easy to learn and use, even for crewmembers with limited backstage experience.

“We originally planned to go with a more expensive controller, but Altus was introduced while we were designing the system,” said Dan Obenhaus, senior project manager for Barbizon Light of the Rockies. “Altus did everything we needed — it was easy to use, and it brought the price of the project down. It was good for everyone.”

The theatre also features a Wenger Diva Acoustical Shell, providing full-stage acoustics for optimum sound onstage and to the audience. Lightweight and easy to install, the Diva Shell includes overhead panels that can be raised and lowered with Clancy’s PowerLift rigging, and stored in the fly loft when not required for the performance.

Overall, Obenhaus said, the project went as smoothly as he had expected it would. “I’ve been working with Clancy for well over 15 years on different projects. This one stood up to all the other experiences I’ve had with them, which have always been good.”

**More information about Clancy is available by calling 1-800-836-1885 or at [www.jrclancy.com](http://www.jrclancy.com).**