

Helpful Tips for Playing “In a Pig’s Eye”

First the general stuff:

- You play for 2.5 hours from 9:00 pm – 11:30 pm (setup between 8:00 - 8:30 pm depending on when the tables are cleared).
 - Sunday jazz is 3 hours from 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm.
- “The Pig” is a small venue – about 50 seats.
- On top of the pay you get dinner and a couple drinks.
- Send your flyers to “In a Pig’s Eye” 148 Derby Street, Salem, MA.
- Bring your own PA. The Pig does NOT have a house PA.
- We take care of local press, calendar and event pages.
- You email your fans, create events on Facebook / MySpace.
- The Pig is a local pub with a good eclectic following (no tv – people come for the music).
- Links for your fans: <http://www.inapigseye.com/> and <http://www.facebook.com/inapigseyefanpage>

A little bit about the room:

It’s a small room with brick front and back walls and a high painted tin ceiling. While most bands like the sound of the room there are some that seem to have a bit of a tough time. Just bear in mind that it is a small room and you don’t need a PA big enough to play a stadium. A small powered mixer and 1 speaker is fine. You set up on the Daniels Street side of the room (The Pig is at the corner of Derby Street and Daniels Street). Drums work best on the bar side of the space. This puts brick and wood behind the drummer instead of glass so there is less reflection.

The stage area is small and fits duos and trios better than 4 pieces but you can make a 4 piece fit if you get a little cozy with the clientele – they don’t bite (well, most of them don’t anyway). We’ve even occasionally squeezed in a 5 piece but it’s **REALLY** tight. You can get a small drum kit on stage but you should be prepared to strip down to the bare essentials. Some bands play The Pig in a more semi-acoustic configuration going with some percussion instead of a full kit. Bring small guitar/bass amps. You don’t need a lot of power to play here. There will be a table on either side of the stage that you can put your mixer and/or speakers on or you can use a speaker stand. The tables can be stacked on one side of the stage to give you more floor space and get speakers up higher. Some bands have used one speaker directly behind them as a monitor as well as main. This usually **DOES NOT** work well. You can hear yourself fine but nobody else can because you are blocking the sound. I know, obvious, but not to everyone. Speaking of monitors, there really isn’t enough room in front of the band for monitors but you should be close enough to your main(s) to hear.

Sound:

Start out a little quiet and work up. The room has a level that sounds really good. Too loud and feedback and room reflections are gonna kill you. Nothing drives people out of a small venue faster than feedback every other song.

OK, captain obvious checking in again but... if you don't have a PA and have to borrow one, please, please make sure you try it out and know how to set it up before the gig. Don't be "that band" that is still trying to get the PA to sound a little bit better than a 1960's transistor radio with a ripped speaker an hour into your set. If no one in the band is familiar with setting up a PA, ask a friend who knows how to come along. Don't be afraid to ask the audience how it sounds. At any one time there are probably at least 2 or 3 musicians in the audience and they've probably played The Pig before.

We want you and the audience to have a great time at The Pig – blow us away by how great you sound!

(and yes, everything obvious mentioned above has already happened on someone's gig – so even though it's obvious to you and me, it wasn't to someone)