

GENELEC®

CASE STUDY

**Finland's revered
death metal scene
honoured by Genelec
at new Espoo bar**

BODOM BAR AND SAUNA
CELEBRATES THE LEGACY
OF RENOWNED FINNISH
ROCKERS CHILDREN
OF BODOM



Henri Seppälä (Henkka T. Blacksmith), Jaska Raatikainen & Janne Wirman



**CHILDREN OF BODOM CHOOSE GENELEC'S
4000 SERIES LOUDSPEAKERS** TO PAY
HOMAGE TO THEIR INFLUENTIAL CAREER



Located in Espoo, Finland, [Bodom Bar and Sauna](#) is the headquarters of melodic death metal band [Children of Bodom](#). Complete with poster strewn walls, red leather couches and memorabilia from across the band's career, the venue recently collaborated with their Nordic friends at [Genelec](#) on a sound system capable of handling the band's back catalogue of chest-rattling riffs.

Espoo is the hometown of the pioneering five-piece who rose to fame in the late '90s and early 2000s. Taking their name from one of the most intriguing cases in Finnish criminal history – the Lake Bodom murders – Children of Bodom released 10 studio albums across their career, gaining them a loyal long-haired following who travelled globally to see the band perform.

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They continued to tour up until their split in 2019, which was shortly followed by the sad passing of lead guitarist Alexi Laiho in 2020. Bodom Bar and Sauna was opened to celebrate the legacy of the band and, in true Finnish fashion, houses three on-site saunas alongside the standard bar offering, plus tons of unique pieces of band memorabilia.

Sound was a big consideration for the project, given that it was to pay homage to one of Finland’s most influential death metal bands, and Children of Bodom already had an extensive history with Genelec, which made them the obvious loudspeaker choice. “Eight of our studio albums were recorded in Finland and fully mixed and mastered on Genelec loudspeakers,” begins Janne Wirman, owner of Bodom Bar and Sauna and former keyboardist in the band. “It’s safe to say that about 90% of all the music we ever recorded was monitored on Genelec loudspeakers.

“I’m a big audio geek, and I bought my first pair of [1030s](#) after a visit to the Finnvox studio where our second album was mixed. I was sold on the quality of Genelec active studio loudspeakers and have been a user ever since. Nowadays, my home studio is equipped with a pair of [8351](#) coaxial three-way models, which are amazing. With their [Smart Active Monitoring \(SAM\)](#) technology it’s possible to get the best sound even in challenging spaces.”

Bodom Bar and Sauna is equipped with five Genelec [4030](#) installation loudspeakers and four of the more compact [4020](#) models all in the [RAW](#) aluminium finish, plus a [7050](#) subwoofer and an [F_One](#) subwoofer, which were installed by Wirman and the Genelec team. The system is mainly used for background music and to take guests on a nostalgic journey through Children of Bodom’s discography, but the bar has also



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recently launched weekly vinyl nights in which DJs play wax-only through the system. If Bodom Bar and Sauna ever wanted to accommodate live musicians, the set-up would be ideal for that too.

“The helpful team of specialists from Genelec visited us early on and recommended the 4020 and 4030 loudspeakers,” furthers Wirman. “I agreed that the size of the speakers was sufficient for the space, and we decided on the RAW finish as we knew that the rugged, industrial look would work well with the colour theme in the bar. It’s also a sustainable system, and that’s something very important to us.”

The speaker system covers the whole main room at Bodom Bar, as well as the corridor that leads to the saunas. The main space houses five 4030 models and the 7050 subwoofer, and the corridor features two

4020 loudspeakers. A separate VIP lounge in the back is where the F One subwoofer can be found, alongside the other two 4020s.

“We opted for the F One so that the VIP guests can play their own music through the system if they want to,” explains Henri Ulmanen, sales engineer at Genelec. “Customers can watch TV or listen to their own music via Smart TV apps, or they can listen to background music from the bar by changing the input using the subwoofer’s remote control. The lounge TV is connected to the F One’s optical input and the bar background music is on an analogue input.” An Allen & Heath [AHM16](#) matrix processor was chosen for its versatility and uncompromised processing capabilities.

“Luckily a lot of acoustic treatment was added to the ceiling in the bar, which makes the new system sound absolutely fantastic,” adds Wirman. “The old temporary system



that we had in place suited the bar's 'dive aesthetic', but as the band has had such an extensive history with Genelec, I feel that the guest experience is now sonically at the level where it's supposed to be.

"I had so much fun unboxing the products, hanging them up on the walls and wiring them with the most awesome installation team from Genelec. The whole project was a real pleasure."



THE KIT

- 5 x 4030C (RAW)
- 4 x 4020C (RAW)
- 1 x 7050C
- 1 x F One

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