

Out Of The Box: An extra-ordinary lift for BKL.

The MK 140 mobile construction crane suspends a pianist and his instrument vertically for a special music festival.

Munich, 17 August 2020 – Not exactly an everyday crane lift but an exceptional experience, not just for lovers of classical music. In January, an MK 140 with a maximum hook height of 75.5 meters from the Munich rental fleet of BKL Baukran Logistik GmbH was the backdrop for an unusual piano concert. At the crack of dawn, visitors to the building site of the future concert hall in Munich's Werksviertel-Mitte could hardly believe their eyes as the mobile construction crane lifted the pianist Alain Roche and his grand piano to a height of around 60 meters. Following the complex planning required for the operation, including meeting the most stringent safety measures, this was BKL's contribution to an unforgettable musical performance.

In early January, BKL Munich's mobile crane project planning had to think "Out Of The Box" when the organiser of the festival of the same name requested a customised crane solution. Along the lines of "Classical music meets the building site", the idea was to give a recital at a dizzying height. The extra thrill: for his "Piano Vertical" show, the Swiss artist Alain Roche combines the soft strains of the piano with the harsh sounds of construction – while he and his instrument are suspended vertically under a moving crane.

The project posed two challenges for BKL's crane experts, whose customers generally rent a crane in order to move heavy loads: overcoming obstacles almost 55 meters high, while ensuring maximum safety, including insurance.

The BKL team's solution was to use an MK 140. Configured with 9 tonnes of additional ballast and a 45° angle position, the mobile construction crane achieved the radius of 40 meters and the hook height of 75.5 meters required to lift the artist and his specially adapted piano over the 33 and 54.1-meter buildings.

As BKL was the only crane supplier able to meet the high safety standards of the project, the contract was awarded without further ado. There was just one request from the Whitebox organisers that the team did not fulfil: for safety reasons, the artist was not lifted over the audience, who were sat in deckchairs and equipped with headphones. Nonetheless, with consummate skill, the BKL crane operator still managed to achieve the planned "thrill factor": by slowly swinging Alain Roche right in front of the spectators, he allowed them to get as close to the recital as possible.

PRESS RELEASE



Technical specifications of the Liebherr MK 140			
Maximum radius:	65.00 m	Maximum hook height:	94.4 m (at luffing position)
Peak load:	1.90 t	Maximum load capacity:	8.00 t

Material:

» **Photos_1 and _2:**

With its mobile construction crane MK 140, BKL suspended the pianist Alain Roche vertically, along with his instrument, in front of the delighted audience at the Out Of The Box festival 2020.

Copyright of both: Ivana Bilz / Out Of The Box festival 2020

» **Photo_3:**

At the crack of dawn, the illuminated piano is suspended at a lofty height over the construction site from the hook of the MK 140 mobile construction crane, part of the rental fleet operated by BKL, the Munich crane specialist.

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» **Technical drawing**

BKL's MK 140 had to clear several buildings of different heights before slowly swinging the pianist past the audience in their deckchairs.

(Copyright: Alain Roche)

» **Video:**

A film of the installation of the BKL crane from the preparation right through to the event: the piano recital by Alain Roche, combining the soft strains of the piano with the harsh sounds of construction to create a unique experience at the building site in Munich's Werksviertel-Mitte:

<https://www.bkl.de/en/news/#videopiano>

Indications of weight in tonnes refer to metric tons.

About Out Of The Box 2020.

Information on the festival is available at www.OutOfTheBox.art and on event organiser whiteBOX's website at www.whitebox.art. There were also countless media reports of the event.

About BKL.

BKL Baukran Logistik GmbH specialises in crane rental, sales and service. With approximately 300 employees in Munich, Ingolstadt, Rosenheim, Frankfurt, Hannover and Hildesheim, the company celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2019 as one of Europe's largest manufacturer-independent providers of crane solutions. BKL's crane fleet offers over 500 tower cranes, with a radius from 22 to 90 meters, plus over 100 all terrain mobile cranes from 30 up to 650 tonne giants and 10 mobile construction cranes with a radius of up to 65 meters. Moreover, BKL customers benefit from the bespoke turnkey package, certified according to DIN EN ISO 9001 and SCCP, including planning, logistics and transportation, as well as the 24-hour emergency service. BKL's reference projects include the European Central Bank, the Allianz Arena and BMW Welt. For further information, please see www.bkl.de.

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