Home Cinema Case Study
Movin’ On Up to a Truly Immersive Home Theater

When this couple built their 12,000-square-foot dream home outside Nashville, they called Brain Warford, who had designed and installed a home theater in a converted garage for them nearly ten years earlier while he was with a different company.

This time around, as the President of his own Nashville-based Brian’s Custom Theaters & Hi-Fi, Warford was engaged to design and install the whole-house automation and control, distributed entertainment, lighting, and security systems for the couple’s new home, located on a sprawling 65 acres and “right across the street from the horse farm that their kids and grandkids live on.”

High Impact, Immersive Entertainment
When it came to designing the home theater, Warford says, “The clients really wanted something that was several steps above the first home theater in terms of the overall scale and impact of the system.”

Knowing that the couple had entrusted him with providing the best quality image, Warford called the Atlanta headquarters of Digital Projection (DP). He had been selling DP projectors for several years and has a great relationship with them. “So when I talked to Digital Projection I said, ‘I know I want a 3-chip, and I’m thinking about this HIGHlite model.’” With seating for 12 people, the home theater measured approximately 18 feet wide by 30 feet long, and the Vutec screen was 12 feet wide (152-inch diagonal), which meant the projector needed to have enough light output. They recommended that I look at the HIGHlite series for this application.

“Of course with 100 percent lighting control in that room, I went for the higher contrast ratio and chose the HIGHlite 330 HC 3-chip DLP projector,” he says. The projector has a 16:9 aspect ratio, and a full on/off contrast of 20,000:1, and is capable of up to 3,000 lumens. “You don’t have a color wheel in there as you would with a 1-chip DLP, so you don’t have any chance of anybody seeing any kind of moiré patterns. The color is very natural, very life-like, and there’s plenty of light output. Plus, Digital Projection does a great job at producing blacks with their light engine, so I concluded that it was a really good choice.”

Projectors Used: HIGHlite 330 HC

Key Features:

- 3,000 lumens / 20,000:1 Contrast
- 1080p Resolution
- Geometry Correction
- Warp & Edge Blend