



Performing Arts Centers



The Moores Opera House

University of Houston
Houston, Texas

The centerpiece of the University of Houston's Moores School of Music is the Moores Opera House, an 800-seat "jewel box" theater that can accommodate the full range of student productions—operas, symphony orchestra concerts, jazz ensembles, and popular music events. Completely outfitted with a full stagehouse, orchestra pit, orchestra shell, variable acoustics, and a state-of-the-art sound system, the Opera House lets student performers experience creating music in a true concert environment—one that is acoustically accurate and quickly responsive to sound sources.

The Moores School of Music building also houses rehearsal rooms for chorus, ensemble, band, and opera; studios for percussion, recording, and control; classrooms for instrumental and vocal instruction, composition, and theory; and student practice rooms. Meticulous sound isolation allows all the facility's spaces to be used simultaneously without sound-transmission interference.

Project Information

800-seat Opera/Concert Hall
Rehearsal Rooms
Percussion Studio
Recording Studio
Practice Rooms

Scope of Work

Architectural Acoustics
Mechanical System Noise Control
Sound Isolation
Sound Communications Reinforcement System
Concert Shell Design

Budget

\$25,000,000

Completion Date

1997

Design Team

Architects: The Mathes Group
Theater Consultant: Theatre Projects Consultants

Consultant Team

Christopher Jaffe, Principal Designer
Russell Cooper, Project Manager
Jonathan Laney, Electro-Acoustic Designer

Client

University of Houston

"Praise keeps coming in for the acoustics in the new Moores Opera House, as well it should. This is the third major music building project I have been involved with and it has been, without question, one of the best experiences I could imagine."

David Tomatz, Director
Moores School of Music

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