



Concert Halls



Judy and Arthur Zankel Hall

Carnegie Hall
New York, New York

The new Zankel Hall has fulfilled Carnegie Hall's longstanding need for a third performance space: one specifically designed to support many kinds of productions too modest for the 2,800-plus-seat Main Hall but too large for the 268-seat Weill Recital Hall. Early music, experimental music, jazz, world music, chamber opera, musical theater, poetry readings, film screenings, interactive video events—all these are among Zankel Hall's projected uses.

JaffeHolden is creating an acoustical environment that will satisfy the exacting demands of Zankel Hall's diverse range of events—including both amplified and unamplified performances. Acoustic-design challenges posed by the space—which is literally carved from the rock beneath Carnegie Hall—include isolating the new hall from the world-renowned performance space above and controlling noise and vibration from adjacent subway lines.

The theater's design will allow both stage and auditorium to be dramatically (and easily) rearranged. In the orchestra floor, a system of lifts will facilitate end-stage or center-stage raised performance platforms; patron seating will consist of a series of movable "chair wagons" that can be stored, when necessary, in an adjacent "garage." The acoustic design serves the hall equally well for both configurations—one that places the stage at the center of the room and the other that situates it at one end of the space. Among the new hall's outstanding technical features are state-of-the-art recording systems and high-performance communications technologies, including a distance learning system.

Project Information

644-seat Flexible Performance Space

Scope of Work

Architectural Acoustics
Mechanical System Noise Control
Sound and Vibration Isolation

Budget

\$72,000,000

Completion Date

2003

Design Team

Architect: Polshek Partnership
Theater Consultant: Auerbach & Associates

Consultant Team

Christopher Jaffe, Principal Designer
Russell Cooper, Project Manager

Client

Carnegie Hall Corporation

"Apparently, it's love at first sight. No one I encountered at the opening concerts of Judy and Arthur Zankel Hall, thenew 644-seat performance space located beneath Carnegie Hall's Isaac Stern Auditorium, had anything but raves for the place."

Peter G. Davis
New York Magazine

JaffeHolden.com

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