



MULTIPURPOSE AUDITORIUM & SYMPHONIC CONCERT HALL

CENTENNIAL CONCERT HALL

Study of 2,305-seat multi-use performance venue built in 1968 explored options to better showcase users including the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, The Manitoba Opera Association and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. In addition to addressing aspects to heighten performer and patron experience, considerations were also given to the venue's accommodating touring Broadway-style musicals.

AD's study included an acoustic survey of existing conditions, collection of quantifiable measurements, data analysis and research for improvement options. Recommendations were assembled in the framework of immediate accessible opportunities that may exist to improve the acoustics of the hall for its primary constituents, all of which depend heavily on the room's natural acoustics for their unamplified productions. Because a major renovation was anticipated for the hall's 50th anniversary, an electronic enhancement system offered the greatest advantage in accommodating immediate needs while retaining utility beyond the anticipated major renovation.

The system helped achieve significant improvements to the room's natural acoustics through enhancing reverberation in the audience chamber and thus creating the listener's perception that the orchestra musicians are closer. This intimate feel is strengthened by the sense that the hall seems to enhance the orchestra sound and achieves a listening experience that one has in a traditional concert hall. While the patron experience is heightened, the performer experience is also accommodated. The system also supplements acoustical feedback from the hall back onto the performance platform thus improving the performing experience for the musicians. By hearing the sound that goes out into the hall and comes back to them, the player is more confident that they can be heard, and efforts can be more directed to their artistry.

CLIENT

Manitoba Centennial Centre

LOCATION

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

PROJECT TYPE

Study / Renovation / Upgrades

COMPLETE

2010

SEAT COUNT

2,305

ARCHITECT

HGA
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CONTACT

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SCOPE

Acoustics
Coordination of Electronic
Enhancement System