



Brad Feinknopf

HISTORIC THEATRE STUDY FOR ORCHESTRAL USE

PALACE THEATRE

Acoustic study of 1,800-seat movie palace explored the feasibility of use as a symphonic concert hall. The study was prompted by Columbus Symphony Orchestra and their concerns over the sufficiency of their existing home being a suitable setting for showcasing live orchestra performances.

AD's team performed a comprehensive study of the Palace and surmised that, despite challenges with the Palace's current design in accommodating use for concerts, modifications could be made to make the Palace a suitable alternative to the existing venue. Recommendations were prepared along with supporting design details and associated cost estimates for aspects including:

- Eliminate seating underneath the large deep balcony overhang.
- Enlarge the proscenium opening to provide better acoustical coupling between the stage volume behind the proscenium and audience chamber.
- Introduce a new orchestra shell.
- Extend the stage platform out considerably past the proscenium.

With all of the changes described above, the Palace Theatre could not practically be developed to be an excellent concert hall.

Originally a vaudeville house, special attention was paid to the theatre's acoustics when it was built. During the '30s, '40s, and '50s, the Palace Theatre was the most active live show theatre in Columbus. Still a popular venue today, the theatre serves as a venue for CAPA concerts, performances of traveling Broadway shows, special events, and several local community events and shows.

CLIENT

CAPA
(Columbus Asso. for the Perf. Arts)

LOCATION

Columbus, OH

PROJECT TYPE

Study

COMPLETE

2009

SEAT COUNT

1,800

CONTACT

Jay Panzer
Former CAPA Dir. Of Tech. Projects
now Principal with
Facility Strategies Limited
614.654.4202

SCOPE

Acoustics