

DANCE / THEATER SPACE

DORIS DUKE PERFORMANCE CENTER

New 192-seat theatre is the main feature of non-profit Dance Theater Workshop's new home which includes lobby and box office, dance studios, DTW offices, a rooftop garden, retail space and a café. The theater occupies the basement and first three floors of a new 11-story mixed use building. Above the dance studios are 12 loft condos.

The new theater space, called The Bessie in honor of the modern-dance master-teacher Bessie Schönberg, has a large stage, extensive wing space, twice as many seats as the old theatre and a heated stage floor. The stage raises two floors from the basement. Rehearsals on the 3rd floor are watched by passers-by through floor-to-ceiling windows, a popular innovation in dance buildings.

The dance company's primary priority was to achieve an excellent acoustic environment to support dance performance to both live and recorded music. The buildings mechanical and electrical systems and the air distribution system serving the theater are especially quiet, to enhance the dramatic effect of quiet moments in performance.

CLIENT Dance Theatre Workshop

LOCATION

New York, NY

PROJECT TYPE
New Construction

COMPLETE 2002

> COST \$11.5 M

SEAT COUNT 192

ARCHITECT
Rawlings Architects

CONTACT
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SCOPE Acoustics