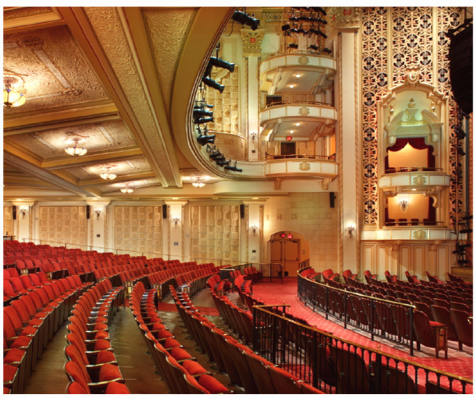
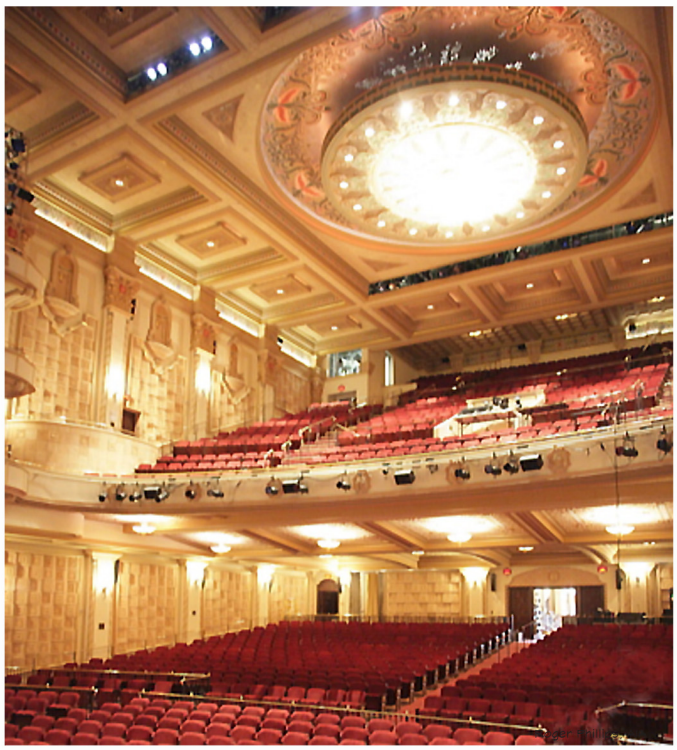


MCH

McKAY CONANT HOOVER INC

Acoustics and Media Systems Consultants



In March 2008, the City of Santa Barbara opened the $45M renovated 1550-seat Granada Theatre to rave reviews. Initially opened in 1924 as a film and vaudeville venue, the Granada treated audiences to live performances by Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, Henry Fonda, Helen Hayes, world-class ballet companies, the New York and Berlin Philharmonic orchestras and the Cleveland Orchestra. Since the 1970s the venue served principally as a film theater and had fallen into major disrepair. The Granada now serves as a large-scale, year-round venue for theater, dance, orchestra, recitals, opera, musicals, film series (including premiers and film festivals), lectures and conferences. Of prime importance, is its new role as the home of the highly regarded Santa Barbara Symphony Orchestra and local opera programming. Much was required to bring it up to the expectations of both today's performers and audiences including backstage support in a full, new basement plus stagehouse expansion. After significant vetting, MCH provided provide both acoustical and audiovisual guidance and design to meet the needs of all performers. MCH's work involved noise control design for entirely new HVAC and exterior noise control in an urban environment, scrupulous interviews with the extraordinarily wide range of user groups, careful acoustical modeling and subsequent design for acoustical improvements, design of a custom orchestra shell, variable acoustics and full audio and film & video recording and projection systems to serve all users including the Santa Barbara Film Festival. Opening night inspired rave reviews. Steven Libowitz (*Montecito Journal*) commented "*The acoustics in the new theater are so crisp, so clear, each instrument so articulate. I'm not sure I ever want to hear music in any other hall in Santa Barbara again*". A 15 year veteran violinist commented that "*he was simply overwhelmed and overjoyed by the acoustics.....that the Granada was as good as the great halls of the world, including the Berlin Philharmonic.*"

Reference:

Peter Frisch, Executive Director 805.899.3000

Steven Metsch, PMSM Architects 805.963.1955

Visit:www.granadasb.org/about-us.html

GRANADA THEATRE RESTORATION SANTA BARBARA, CA