



With MCH's assistance, a complete restoration and renovation of this 1,400-seat grand 1929 Movie Palace was completed in 1997. Great care was taken by MCH with the architects to restore all the acoustically-good parts of the original design and subtly modify the acoustically-troublesome parts (severe focusing, excessive reverberance, and noise control) so they looked the same but performed acoustically right. In the course, the orchestra seating rake was steepened, the pit was expanded and deepened and a lift added, the stagehouse was made deeper and taller, sensitive reshaping of the side mural walls and refinishing of the coved and domed ceiling was undertaken to reduce the reverberation time suitable for the new uses. A beautiful playhouse was achieved, with fine acoustics, an extremely quiet HVAC system, a surrounding Italian village, plenty of gilt, moving clouds and sunsets overhead. The venue now successfully hosts shows from performance art to ballet to jazz and while it was not intended (acoustically) to serve classical music it does serve the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra with our custom designed orchestra shell. Altogether, no small result at \$14.2M for an old and historically important venue that originally cost \$740,000. See "Acoustical Components of the Phoenix Orpheum Theatre Renovation" by David A. Conant, Paper 2aAA1. Presented at 143rd Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, June 2002, Pittsburgh, PA. JASA Vol. 111, 5, Pt. 2 of 2, May 2002.

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