

Architectural and Acoustic Specifications

Salon

The Salon is a beautiful, contemporary space that is perfect for smaller concerts and recordings.

Ian McDougall, Principal Architect on the Melbourne Recital Centre Project writes:

“In the 1997 rebuilding of the incinerated La Fenice, Venice, the architect for the project, Aldo Rossi, introduced a second performance space to the 200 year old building to accommodate smaller ensembles and as a space for entertaining. In the Melbourne Recital Centre, the inclusion of a space for smaller performances and newer music, recording, pre-concert events and other functions, is not an addition but a key to the mission of the new Centre. It is a performance space in its own right with its own design, acoustic and presence in the Centre.”

The space has been conceived as an acoustic volume, tall and rectangular – approximately 16m x 10m x 9m - a flexible acoustic box with a fully flexible lighting grid across the entire ceiling, providing the widest range of theatrical lighting options for the widest range of performance and event modes.

It is a timber lined space. It has been designed using a series of randomized diffusing panels, tessellated plywood faces tipped in and out to form a modulated wall and ceiling, an all-over treatment responding to the desired acoustic performance for the space. Across this plywood surface is inscribed a section of graphic score by Australian composer, Percy Grainger.

Auditorium

FORM: Rectilinear

SEATING: 130

LENGTH: 15.5m

WIDTH: 10m

HEIGHT: 8m

WALLS/CEILING: Laminated plywood timber panels (40kg/m²) Australian plantation

Hoop Pine timber

FLOORS: Timber

Acoustic description

ROOM VOLUME: 1630m³

REVERBERATION TIME (RT): 0.8 -1.1sec ± 0.1 (mid frequency)

BACKGROUND NOISE LEVEL: PNC 15