

projects



saint paul chamber orchestra rehearsal facility

Client: Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra

Location: St. Paul, Minnesota

Project Type: Renovation

Seat Count: 200

Opening: 2004

Architect: BWBR Architects

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AD Scope: Acoustics | Sound Isolation | Noise Control | Room Design | Backstage Planning

The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra is the nation's only full-time professional chamber orchestra and is widely regarded as one of the finest chamber orchestras in the world. Even with all its acclaim, the SPCO had no rehearsal venue of its own. A large space with an unusually high ceiling was available in their administrative offices, which was originally a theatre. This "found space" was naturally suited to development into a dedicated rehearsal venue for the orchestra.

A preliminary study was carried out by AD to determine the feasibility and cost of developing the existing space into an appropriate rehearsal venue. Our work included identification of key sound isolation challenges, such as isolation between the rehearsal venue and the office space located directly underneath the rehearsal room. AD played a lead role in the design providing the noise and vibration isolation design of the room floor as well as providing architectural drawings of the main rehearsal room. AD's contribution included wall and ceiling shaping, development of adjustable acoustics elements, development of flexible platform elements and musician platform layouts.