



cyprus national theatre nicosia

Client: National Theatre of Cyprus

Location: Republic of Cyprus

Project Type: New Construction

Seat Count: 550 (Lyric Theatre), 150 (Studio)

Opening: 2009

Architect: Kohn Pedersen Fox (London) in association with D. Kythreotis & Associates (Nicosia)

Theatre Consultants: Theatre Projects

Contact: Fred Pilbrow | Kohn Pederson Fox | 0207 596 4357

AD Scope: Acoustics | Audio | Communications

The design integrates a new theatre and public park with outdoor performances in the park using the theatre foyer as a multi-level stage. The dramatic form of the 550 seat lyric theatre, the centrepiece of the composition, is a direct expression of its internal geometry. The organically shaped auditorium, on three levels, maximizes contact between performer and audience with inclined horseshoe balconies.

Acoustically, AD's solution supports what the architect is achieving visually. The concrete structure utilizes columns curved in harmony with the ellipsoidal shape of the auditorium which is also expressed in the form of balcony fronts. The concrete columns scatter the sound making them a secondary sound source. This acoustical scattering helps to make speech intelligible even when the performer faces across stage and some of the audience seated are effectively behind the performer. To minimize late sound, the wall surfaces between the columns are finished primarily with sound absorptive material.