

# projects



## the grove theatre

**Client:** CDP Ltd. in partnership with South Bedfordshire District Council

**Location:** Dunstable, United Kingdom

**Project Type:** New Construction

**Seat Count:** 780

**Opening:** 2007

**Construction Cost:** £19.6 Million

**Architect:** Glenn Howells Architects, Birmingham

**Contact:** Philip Soleil, Director | Ashgate Development Services Limited | 020 7404 8881

**AD Scope:** Acoustics | Sound Isolation | Noise & Vibration Control

The Grove Theatre is a multiuse performance center situated in Grove House Gardens. The auditorium seats 780 people on two levels (Stalls and Circle). The Stalls seating is also retractable allowing access to a flat floor space that increases the capacity to 1,000. AD worked with the design team to create a space that would support mixed and diverse entertainment incorporating drama, dance, music, comedy, musicals, film and community performances. Like many arts centers, this diversity of programming allows the venue to be not only culturally vibrant but also economically viable.

The key acoustical issue here was to establish the range of performances for which to achieve excellence. We assisted the Client in assessing the options of accommodating unamplified orchestra performances within the auditorium both in terms of cost and space requirements. As orchestral use would have been rare, the final brief was to achieve excellence for amplified sound including lightly-amplified "orchestral pops" with a seated audience and full rock-and-roll events with a flat floor.

**ACOUSTIC DIMENSIONS**