

projects



riverside church

Client: The Riverside Church

Location: New York, NY

Project Type: Renovation

Seat Count: 2,100

Opening: December 2000

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AD Scope: Acoustics | Audio

Our work at The Riverside Church began in 1993 with a Phase 1 study of the Nave that included a study of both the sound system and the natural acoustics. The outcome included a recommendation to seal the sound absorptive gustavino ceiling tile and to upgrade the loudspeaker components and electronics. Phase 2 included the replacement of the 40 year old loudspeakers that provides coverage to the floor.

Plans for upgrades to the sound system provided more even sound quality throughout the sanctuary, additional flexible control and capability to support more contemporary musical styles and improved speech intelligibility to all seating locations. Loudspeakers in the chandeliers were replaced with custom units that have a unique asymmetrical directivity pattern that will not send sound directly down into the sound-reflective aisles but focus sound into the pews to either side.

Performance lighting in the chancel area was improved to support video recording. The front half of the congregation area was lit to add the ability for congregation and interior camera shots to deliver a more interesting and engaging webcast. In order to establish contrast ratios and depth of field backlight, background lighting positions were developed for the platform area.