

DCC 500-SEAT VENUE – INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE

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Building tomorrow together is creating innovative, sustainable, and livable designs through collaboration. As a result, we assure durable and aesthetic solutions with lasting value for clients, occupants, and society.

The Fire Station Auditorium

The Fire Station Auditorium is a new venue in Sunderland developed by the Music, Arts and Culture Trust who are developing a Music, Arts and Cultural Quarter (MACQ) in the center of Sunderland, that will restore and re-establish the area's previous importance as the Edwardian heart and soul of the city.

The project was won in competition in 2016 and forms a key component in the masterplan for the Music and Cultural Quarter, built around the refurbished Dun Cow pub and the recently renovated adjacent Fire Station.



ARCHITECTS	LOCATION	YEAR
Flanagan Lawrence	Sunderland, UK	2016



The new auditorium, is a versatile performance space, offering 4 different stage formats.

The venue accommodates a variety of events ranging from live music ranging from Classical to Rock, drama, dance, comedy productions, exhibitions, and craft fairs.

The foyer has been designed as an extension of the ground floor public space of the Edwardian Central Fire Station. With the original parade ground to the rear of the Fire Station being developed to include an outdoor stage and performance area.





The Fire Station is an elegant example of how to transform and design theaters within historical and unique urban settings, while at the same time resolving some of the universal dereliction across the City, and thereby a project of similar type can be seen as an urban generator in several levels.

With the multifunctionality and due to its central location, it is experienced as a cultural hub across the local community.



General Specifications

- Area: 1670m²
- Facilities: Auditorium, dance and creative writing studios, outdoor stage, bar, restaurant
- Total Capacity: 425-550 people seated or 800 people standing, 600 people in the outdoor performance space
- Construction cost: £11m
- Funding: Public and Private Institutions: Arts Council England, National Lottery Heritage Fund, Sunderland City Council, the Garfield Weston Foundation, the Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust, the Foyle Foundation, the Wolfson Foundation, the Backstage Trust

Technical Specifications:

- Flexible staging, adapts to 6m, 9m or 12m depths using stage elevators
- Flexible wing space of 2.4m. wide x 8m. deep each side of stage to create entrances or space for monitor desks and stage management positions
- Stage height 1.3m.
- Raised front of house control area at rear of auditorium 4.5m. x 2.5m. Retractable seating wagon leaving flat floor for standing audiences
- Excellent acoustic for amplified music and unamplified speech and drama with some adjustability of dampening



Royal Danish Playhouse

The Royal Danish Playhouse is located at the edge of the city, towards the harbor between two of Copenhagen's finest, historic urban areas.

The playhouse acts as an anchor for the meeting of city and sea, reinforcing the existing urban spatial qualities. It has partly been constructed on piles in the harbor, been prepared for future increases of the water level.

ARCHITECTS	LOCATION	YEAR
Lundgaard & Tranberg Arkitekter	Copenhagen, Denmark	2008





The Playhouse consists of three compositional elements:

- The oak-clad promenade, a public walk giving access to the foyer with its panoramic views of the harbor and historic skyline.
- The scene building, containing the auditorium and three scenes, a main stage, a middle and a small one. The lobby of the theatre opens the building towards the harbor with direct access to the pier at ground level.
- The expansive and unifying roof level that contains personnel facilities and offering views in all directions through varying nuances of green glass.





The Royal Danish Playhouse is an excellent showcase of how to plan theatres for the future. Before, the Royal Danish Playhouse, this part of the harborfront of Copenhagen was without a larger public appeal, which created a sensation of abandonment and public neglect of the area.

Together with the Opera on the other side of the harbor, the Royal Danish Playhouse has played a vital role in reconnecting the public with the waterfront. The theater offers several public areas and cultural functions, inside and out, and several halls creating an open and multifunctionality to the building, making it an important part of the wider community, and is as active in the daytime as in the late hours. A project given by the state and enjoyed by the wider population of Copenhagen.



General Specifications

- Area: Total 21.000 m² 18.600 m² above ground
- Facilities: Auditoriums, restaurant, bar
- Total Capacity: 1000
- Construction cost: 104.65 Mio €
- Funding: Public funded by the state

Technical Specifications

Main stage

- 650 audience places. Stage 27m. (width) x 21m. (depth)
- Stage floor with elevators 16 x 16 m.
- Proscenium 7.9m. Height, adjustable width from 12.5m. to 16m.
- Orchestra pit can be arranged: 3 m. (depth) x 15 m (width)

Portal stage-Mezzanine

- 250 audience places
- Movable stage 15m. (width) x 10.5m. (depth)

Small stage

- 100 audience places
- Movable stage 13m. (width) x 7m. (depth)



Plassen Cultural Center

Located in the city center and overlooking both the fjord and the mountains, the Plassen cultural center is a flexible and robust building. It is used as a space open to the city and its life, providing a framework for cultural life inside, on top of it and around it.

It is a compact and well-functioning structure with highly usable and easily accessible areas, offering common premises for the city's local theatre and various festivals being held in the city.

ARCHITECTS
3XN

LOCATION
Molde, Norway

YEAR
2012





Almost all surfaces and spaces have more than one function. Together with the building's roof, an existing staircase next to the building constitutes a total of three outdoor amphitheaters that collectively accommodate several thousand spectators.

Around the concert hall, a library, café, exhibition space and performance areas are distributed. The warm color scheme of the interior combined with the solid hardwood floors and plenty of natural light result in a friendly and informal environment, which together with the many entrances make the building seem inviting and accessible to all.





Plassen is more than a theatre, it is a transformation of one of the most important public spaces of the Town of Molde. Plassen is a pure urban design and building hybrid, where the building design serves as an open stage/scene for the town and the wider community. Together with the interior functions as library, theater, café, performance, and exhibition spaces, the project is a catalyst for the whole town and the community. A generator for an active everyday life in Molde and the host for the yearly Jazz Festival that hosts 100.000 visitors in and around the building. A theater for everyone!



General Specifications

- Area: 5800 m²
- Facilities: Theater, performance areas, library, café, exhibition space
- Capacity: N/A
- Construction cost: 25 Mio €
- Funding: Public funded and constructed and managed by Molde Kulturbygg AS (a public-owned private company)

Technical Specifications

Theater

- Amphitheatre, including balcony: 207 audience seats (possible with extra rows)
- Standing audience, flat floor: 350 seats
- Banquet: 150 seats

Concert stage

- Flexible space well suited also for courses and lectures
- Capacity - cinema: 110, banquet: 80-100



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