

Acoustic Consultant:	Nagata Acoustics
Architect:	Robert F. Mahoney and Associates
Owner:	Moshe Safdie / Safdie Architects
User:	Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
Construction Cost:	Kansas City Symphony
	\$ 413 Million (U.S.) including Muriel Kauffman Theatre

In September 2011, the Helzberg Hall in the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts opened to great fanfare as the new residence for the Kansas City Symphony.

The Moshe Safdie-designed concert hall seats 1,600 people in an arena configuration, placing the audience on all sides of the stage. The height of the room is one of the most impressive aspects of the space, since the tallest point of the room is approximately 100 feet above the stage.

This necessitated the insertion of the large orchestra reflector at a height of 50 feet above the stage, in order to provide good on-stage support for the musicians and to create the basis for pleasing acoustics for the whole audience. The extreme height is emphasized by a wall which reaches almost from the orchestra floor to the peak which is clad in an acoustically transparent metal mesh, which itself is washed by the natural light from the skylights at the peak of the room. Three tiers of balconies on the sides of the room add to the three-dimensionality of the audience configuration, further enhancing the intimacy of the medium-sized room, where the audience is divided into many sections which can easily see many other members of the audience, in addition to having a close visual and acoustical connection with the stage.

### BUILDING DETAILS AND ACOUSTIC DATA

Location	1601 Broadway Boulevard, Kansas City, MO 64108
Building Size	26,500 m <sup>2</sup>

#### Concert Hall:

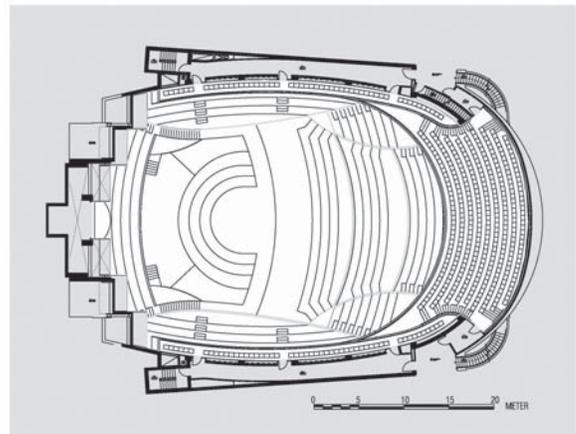
Seating Capacity	1,600
Room Volume	19,000 m <sup>3</sup>
Reverberation Time (Mid-Frequency)	
Unoccupied	2.3 sec
Occupied	2.1 sec

#### Finish Materials

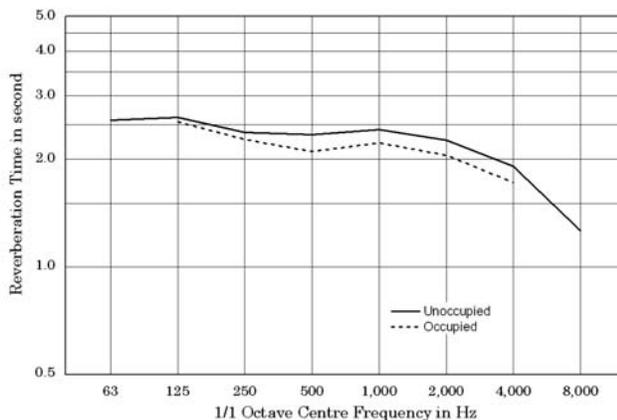
Ceiling	: Plaster with Sandblasting Finish
Walls	: Plaster
Aud. Floor	: Oak
Stage Floor	: Alaskan Yellow Cedar

Noise Level : NC - 15

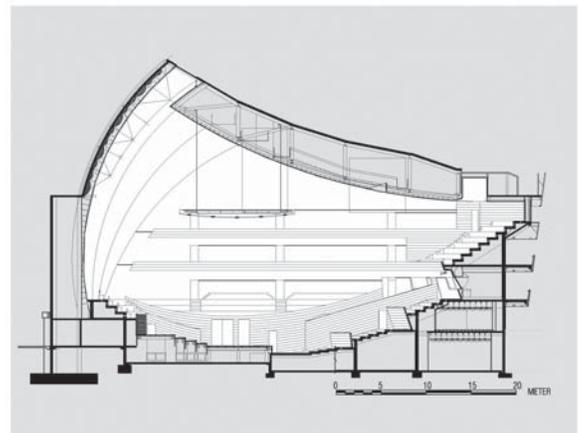
### PLAN



### REVERBERATION TIME



### LONGITUDINAL SECTION



# HELZBERG HALL

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, U.S.A.  
2011

NAGATA  
ACOUSTICS

