

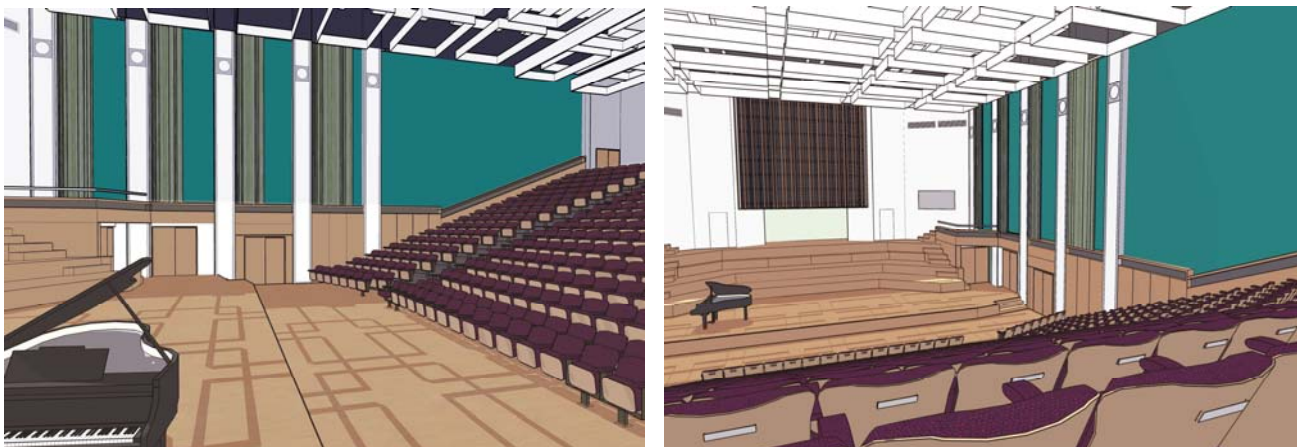
## Adrian Boulton Refurbishment Summary of Project

A feasibility study for the project was conducted in the spring of 2005 following the successful refurbishment of the Recital Hall at Birmingham Conservatoire during the summer of 2004.

Following confirmation of funding for the project in late 2005, work started in earnest in February 2006 on re-defining the scope of work to fit within the budget and provide best value for the project goals, and also to review what could reasonably be achieved in the very tight contract period – a mere 6 weeks – running up to completion on 1 September 2006.

UCE Birmingham appointed Arup to act as project manager, lead consultant and engineering/acoustic consultants, Robothams Architecture, for architecture and interior design, and Faithful and Gould, for cost control and procurement advice. The construction team was led by the contractors, Graybuild, supported by principle sub-contractors C A Sothers Ltd and Stage Electrics.

The project in total had a total budget of £700,000 and the focus was on improving the front of house / auditorium facilities for the users of the Hall.



Images provided by Robothams Architecture

### The detailed scope of the works included

- re-decoration throughout including all front of house and back stage areas
- replacement of carpet in the auditorium
- re-upholstering of the audience and choir seating and installation of new stewards seating positions
- replacement of curtains to side of stage and around stage extensions
- re-finishing of the stage and all other wooden surfaces including bulkheads, skirtings and wall panelling
- replacement of the organ canopy wall
- replacement of the auditorium house normal and emergency lighting and control systems
- replacement of the doors to the main auditorium and back stage area with acoustic rated doorsets
- replacement of the Control Room window with one of improved acoustic rating
- replacement of production sound and lighting systems in the auditorium and control room, including installation of a new removable control position at the rear of the auditorium
- renovation of the choir seating and stage extensions
- improvements to the technical gallery safety barriers
- installation of a new relay system to the back of house areas and a new call system for the foyer/bar area.
- installation of CCTV so that performances can be viewed outside the auditorium at the top and

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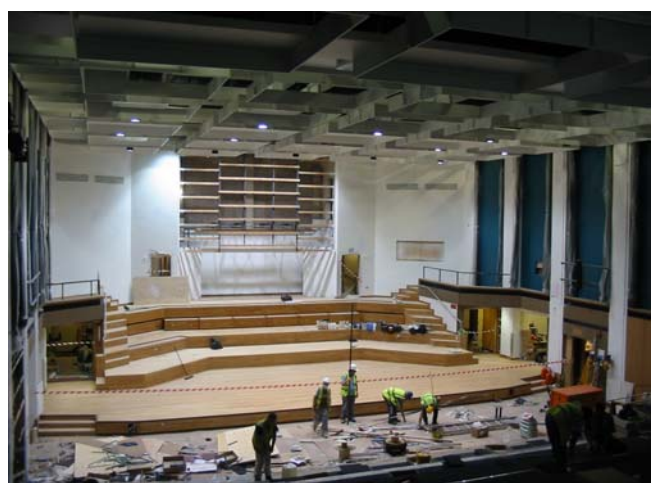
bottom entrance doors, in the concert office and from backstage.

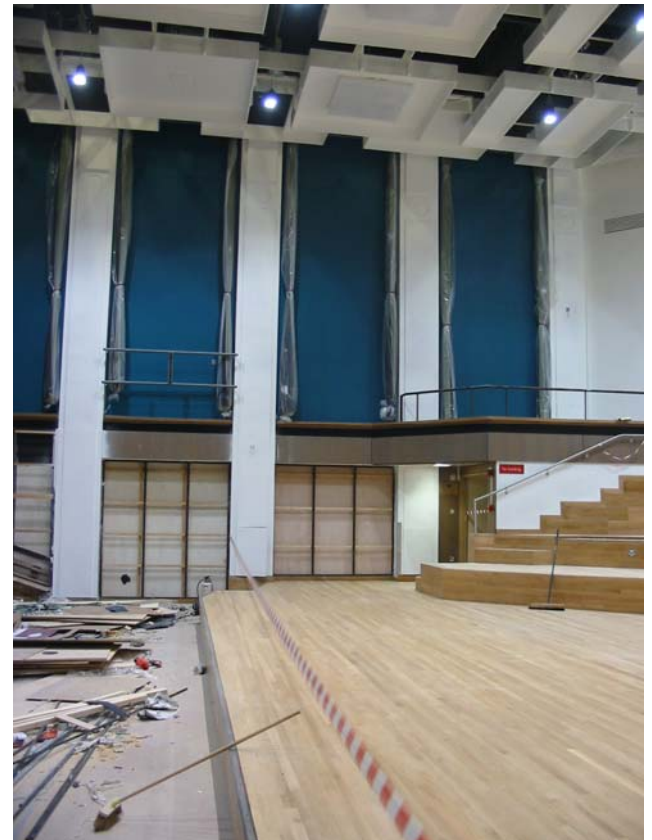
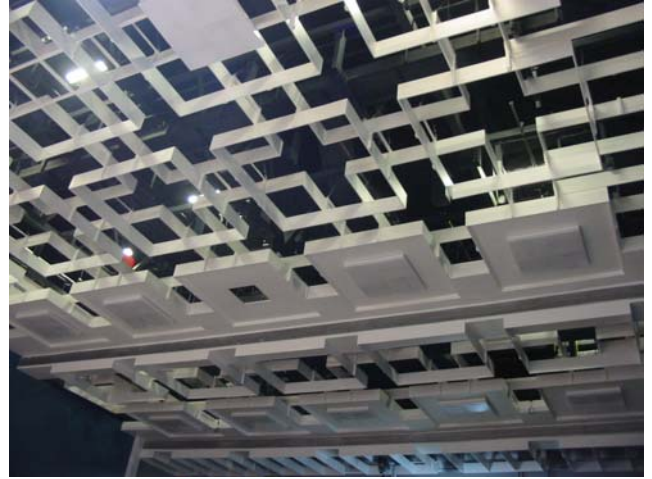
- a new conductors' podium !

As part of the work, a detailed study of the room acoustics was conducted. This drove the design of elements such as the replacement of the organ canopy wall, the selection of the seating foam and fabric, replacement of the side stage curtains to provide facility for adjusting the acoustic properties of the space, the specification of the replacement carpet, specification of new acoustic doors to the hall and even down to the cleaning of surfaces above the ceiling structure !

The work progressed well with the contractor working double shift 18 hour days, 7 days a week, to achieve the programme. With a little over a week to go to completion, the scaffold (which was erected across the entire Hall to ensure safety of working at high level) was removed, and work started on the installation of the carpet. The August bank holiday weekend saw rapid progress on the remaining joinery items and commencement of the reinstatement of the seating.

A number of 'before' and 'in-progress' images (taken on 24/08/06) are provided below, followed by a shot of the finished Hall.





The Adrian Boult Hall completed

