

Melbourne Recital Centre & MTC Theatre Project

Southbank Blvd, Melbourne, Victoria



Client

Victorian Government,
Major Projects Victoria

Value

\$A 99 million

Size:

Approximately 4,000 m²

Completion date:

December 2008

Bovis Lend Lease Role:

Managing Contractor with Design and Construction responsibilities including a novated design and design team.



Highlights

- The Melbourne Recital Centre and MTC Theatre are state of the art facilities incorporating the very latest in stage technology and performer amenities.
- The Victorian Government and Major Projects Victoria awarded Bovis Lend Lease the role of Managing Contractor in May 2006 to develop the new Melbourne Recital Centre / Melbourne Theatre Company (MTC) Theatre in Southbank. The project is seen by the Victorian Government as completing the missing link in Melbourne's renowned network of arts infrastructure.
- The Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Hall in the Melbourne Recital Centre has been completely isolated from the ground and surrounding building structure, being enclosed in a concrete box mounted on 38 sets of large steel springs that mitigate any ground vibrations.
- The project was delivered 3 months ahead of schedule, allowing the client and tenants more time to commission the buildings ahead of an intense 2009 performance program.

Project Scope

This project involved the construction of a new performance home to the Melbourne Theatre Company which includes a 500 seat theatre with full fly tower, rehearsal spaces and ancillary services, together with a facility for the newly formed Melbourne Recital Centre, including a 1,000 seat recital hall.

The challenge of this highly technical project involved managing the client's expectations with respect to project delivery and resolving extremely complex construction co-ordination challenges stemming from the intricate and artistic design demanded of such a world class venue.

Bovis Lend Lease's role as managing contractor included the novation of all design consultants.

Key areas of the project include:

- Acoustics detailing to achieve stringent performance measures
- Detailed and expressive façade elements
- Complicated structure and structural steel interface
- Detailed and non repetitive finishes
- Detailed commissioning and verification phase from Practical Completion to Commercial Acceptance

Leadership

Leadership in Construction

Bovis Lend Lease had the task of constructing this highly technical concept, pushing the design from an early stage to minimise cost e.g. use of precast in lieu of insitu concrete walls, and off site manufacture of 30m steel trusses in lieu of onsite manufacture.

The MRC Auditorium and Salon spaces are, in themselves, instruments. Acoustic banners have been installed which can be lowered during performances to alter room acoustics. The MTC building has a fully demountable stage floor, retractable Juliet balconies, an adjustable proscenium arch and 66 fully automated winches.

Leadership in Safety

Under the leadership of the Construction Manager, the site exemplified Bovis Lend Lease's philosophy of working Incident and Injury Free. The project received the Team Achievement in Safety and the Business Performance of the Year at the 2008 Victorian Bovis Lend Lease Business Excellence Awards.