

Verbruggen Hall - Technical Specifications

Named after the Conservatorium's founding Director, Henri Verbruggen, Verbruggen Hall is the largest venue in the Conservatorium complex and is the centrepiece of the restored Greenway stables building. With a seating capacity of 534, Verbruggen Hall is a concert venue only, with exceptional acoustics designed by Kirkegaard Associates of Chicago, USA. The concert platform has a fixed riser system and is most suitable for orchestral, chamber music and solo performances, and is not intended for staged or costumed productions. It is also not intended as a digital-quality recording venue. Verbruggen Hall is not available for hire as a rehearsal venue, except where such rehearsals relate to a performance for which it has been hired. The 1972 Pogson organ has been fully restored by the South Island Organ Company of New Zealand. **Limits on the number of performers may apply.**

Capacity

Total audience (excluding choir stalls)	491
Stalls	382
Gallery	109
Choir stalls	37
Wheelchair	Two positions in gallery. Two positions in stalls (two chairs must be removed for each stalls position).
Total capacity	530

Stage dimensions

Width	18.2m
Depth at sides	10.5m
Depth at centre	12.9m
Height above stalls	0.98m

Additional Information

Orchestral riser

A curved, four-tier orchestral riser system is located permanently on stage. The tiers are at the following heights from the stage (measurements in brackets give the depth):

- Level 1 – 185mm (1370mm deep)
- Level 2 – 370mm (1370mm deep)
- Level 3 – 555mm (1520mm deep)
- Level 4 – 740mm (2620mm deep)

Piano Lift

A piano lift that can be raised to any height above the stage up to Level 4, can be used as an extension to the riser system. Additional risers may be added to the fourth tier to make three levels suitable for a standing or seated choir while retaining the lowest three tiers for an orchestra. The heights of the choir risers above the stage are:

- Level 4 – remains the same at 740mm
- Level 5 – 925mm
- Level 6 – 1110mm

Choir Seating

If the choir is to be seated on standard orchestral chairs, 82 are the maximum number of choristers that can be accommodated on Levels 4, 5 & 6. The piano lift must be incorporated to achieve this number. An additional 37 seats are available in the choir stalls.

PowerStage

- 4 x double GPOs on upstage stage wall
- 2 x double GPOs on side walls
- 2 x double GPOs in choir stalls
- 1 x 40amp 3-phase located behind organ



Verbruggen Hall - Technical Specifications (cont.)

Stage access

Performers enter from downstage double doors PS and OP. Sound locks isolate the areas around the downstage stage doors to the length of the auditorium. Wide corridors (3.17m) take the place of wings. Entry to the choir stalls is either from the audience gallery, the stage, or single doors at the rear of stage PS & OP. Access to the organ is gained via the choir stalls.

Backstage

Rooms 2 x ensemble rooms (5m x 9.77m)
(these are separately hired where required and subject to availability)
2 x octagonal turret rooms (approximately 3.2m in diameter)

Acoustic banners

Acoustic banners can be set to reflect your use of the venue.

Toilets

Male and Female guest artist/conductor toilets (two toilets in each) are located at the rear of the stage.

Lighting & recording

House lighting is preset and operated from panels located in the lighting box, rear of stage OP and PS stalls door. Basic stage lighting can also be provided at an additional cost. The sound box is located above the audience gallery. Recording equipment is not supplied.

Patch points

6 x mic pairs on upstage stage wall
2 x mic pairs on downstage floor
5 x mic on fourth and fifth catwalk from the rear of the hall

Sound box

1 x double GPO
2 x single GPOs

The use of cloth, either as drapery or backdrop in Verbruggen Hall is prohibited. The Venue Manager must approve the hanging of banners in any venue.