



THE KIMMEL CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Home of The Philadelphia Orchestra

The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (KCPA) opened December 14 -16, 2001, as the new home of The Philadelphia Orchestra. The block-long performing arts complex in the heart of Philadelphia includes state-of-the-art performance spaces, backstage facilities, and audience amenities enclosed under a soaring glass-arched roof. Designed by architect Rafael Viñoly and acoustician Russell Johnson, the KCPA includes the 2500-seat Verizon Hall for orchestral concerts and the more intimate 650-seat Perelman Theater for chamber music presentations.

This cultural landmark is named in honor of Philadelphia businessman and philanthropist Sidney Kimmel, who gave the largest individual gift toward its construction.

- OPENED:** December 14-16, 2001
- LOCATION:** Broad and Spruce Streets (southwest corner) in Center City, Philadelphia
- SIZE:** 2.3 acres; 435,000 square feet; vaulted glass roof reaches 150 feet above ground
- COST:** \$265 million representing \$175 million in construction costs, plus design/architectural fees and start-up operations; \$85 million of the total was raised by The Philadelphia Orchestra Association; the remaining monies were raised by Kimmel Center, Inc.
- VERIZON HALL:** The concert hall designed specifically for the requirements of The Philadelphia Orchestra. The cello-shaped hall seats 2,500; the ceiling includes sophisticated machinery for refining the acoustic environment; the walls include acoustic doors that can be adjusted to extend the volume of the hall into the surrounding reverberation chambers; the audience enjoys close intimacy with the orchestra platform, within a main seating area and on multiple encircling balconies.
- PERELMAN THEATER:** A simple rectangular theater for chamber music, dance, and dramatics. This intimate hall seats 650. The stage is a large turntable with an acoustic shell on one side and a 40-foot deep stage with wingspace and flytower on the other side. An orchestra seating elevator allows the room to be reconfigured for arena staging, thrust stage, or flat floor cabaret-style layout.
- ARCHITECT:** Rafael Viñoly, Rafael Viñoly Architects (www.vinoly.com)
- ACOUSTICIAN:** Russell Johnson, Artec Consultants Inc. (www.artecconsultants.com)
- THEATER DESIGN:** Richard Pilbrow, Theatre Projects Consultants (www.tpcworld.com)