

PROJECT OF THE MONTH

With designs by Polshek Partnership Architects

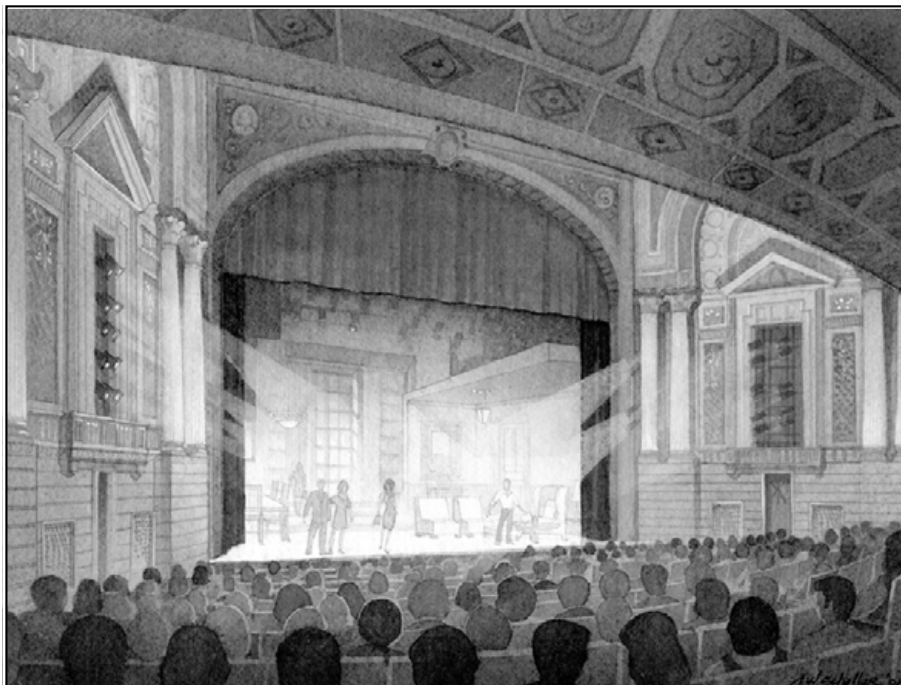
Sweet Construction begins \$35M renovation of historic Biltmore Theater

NEW YORK, NY—Looking to resurrect a 77 year-old Times Sq. landmark to its “Roaring 20s” heyday, the owners of the Biltmore Theater—Manhattan Theatre Club (MTC)—have called on the services of Polshek Partnership Architects and Sweet Construction (general contractor) to renovate the familiar W. 47th St. building.

First opened in 1925, the Biltmore Theater had seen many famous names hoisted up to its marquis over the years. Stars like Robert Redford, Diane Keating, Rex Harrison and Eddie Albert—were but some of the many that called the Biltmore stage ‘home’ at one time or another.

However, for the past 14 years, the doors to the Biltmore had been shut. Following an arson fire that destroyed much of the Broadway Theater District building in 1987, the structure was shuttered until the MTC decided to add the venue to its growing performing arts campus.

Now, under the architecturally-acclaimed works of the Polshek Partnership group, who in recent times have been lauded for projects, including the renovations of both Carnegie Hall and the New York Museum of Natural History: the New York-based firm endeavors to bring a one-time splendid symbol of the “Great White Way” back to life.

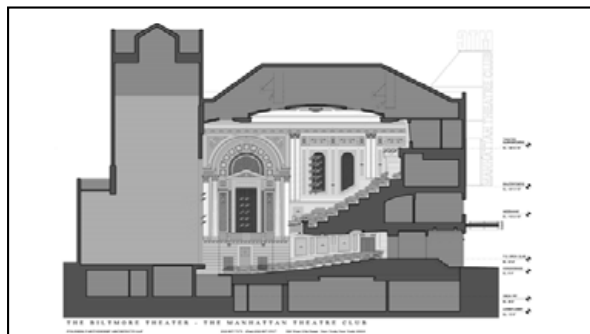


Explaining the rehabilitation that will take place, Polshek and Sweet Construction plans the task of advancing the Biltmore into the 21st Century...by keeping things moderately simple.

First and foremost, the rear wall of the playhouse will be brought forward, allowing for a newly-created, more user friendly facility space (patrons’ lounge, sufficient restrooms, upper and lower lobbies). The relocation will also allow the Biltmore to become a more ‘intimate’ setting, reducing the overall capacity from the original 1,000 to 650 seats.

Additionally, the Biltmore strategy calls for restoration of the auditorium and its ‘Adamesque’ historic finishes, as well as state-of-the-art improvements to the theater’s entire technical supports.

The grand re-opening of the Biltmore Theater is slated to open for the Fall 2003 season.



BILTMORE PROJECT TEAM

- Architect Polshek Partnership Architects
- Construction Manager Sweet Construction
- Structural Consultant Severud Associates
- MEP Consultant Flack & Kurtz
- Specifications Consultant Robert Schwartz & Associates
- Acoustics Consultant Jaffe Holden Acoustics
- Code Consultant Jerome S. Gillman Consulting Architect
- Elevator Consultant IROS Elevator Design Services
- Preservation Consultant Li/Saltzman Architects
- Preservation Consultant Jay Cardinal Consultants
- Architectural Lighting Brandston Partnership
- Theatrical Systems Fisher Dachs Associates
- Exterior Envelope James R. Gainfort
- Graphics/Signage Poulin & Morris
- Security Ducibella, Venter & Santore
- Geotechnical/Foundations Langan Engineering