When opened in 1990, the $17M, 50,000sf Barclay Theater offered a state-of-the-art, 750 seat multipurpose performing arts facility with variable acoustics for both speech and music. Although the structure includes a balcony, full fly loft, extensive stage trap system, and integrated orchestra enclosure, it maintains the intimate feel of a smaller venue. The project also features a backbox theater, scenery shop, support facilities and a rehearsal room. The theater was built to accommodate drama, dance, and music productions as well as a wide range of small ‘roadshow’ events. MCH provided full scope acoustical and audiovisual services to achieve a flexible and acoustically appropriate environment for the wide variety of performance events. While music requires reverberance in a hall, drama requires non-reverberance for speech intelligibility. To accommodate the diverse acoustical needs, MCH designed an acoustical chamber with moveable drapes above the false ceiling, and unique sidewall shaping was incorporated to carefully distribute unaided speech as well as unreinforced music from the stagehouse.

"After four years and nearly a thousand performances since opening in the fall of 1990, we continue to receive nothing less than glowing responses from performers, audiences and clients about the intimacy, production facilities, comfort and acoustic qualities of the venue."

Mr. Douglas Rankin, President - 1994

Ref: Mr. Douglas C. Rankin  949.854.4607
Visit: www.thebarclay.org

BARCLAY THEATER
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
IRVINE, CALIFORNIA