The $35M Dodge Theater is a 5,500-seat flexible performance venue in downtown Phoenix completed in 2002 by NBBJ architects. The auditorium can support Broadway performances, dance, concerts of all sorts and even boxing matches. Equipped with full fly tower, a 90-foot stage and extensive service, electrical and backstage production facilities, the theatre has the capability to host the most technologically sophisticated productions including Broadway shows. The clearly sectioned auditorium allows portable walls and retractable seating to redefine the space as appropriate to each event’s requirements. The theatre’s fan-shaped seating plan is carefully designed to create a sense of intimacy that enables patrons to feel actively engaged in any live event experience. Different types of activity each demand particular seating configurations (including ‘dialing down’ to 1,900 seats) and sightline requirements to ensure the audience can fully appreciate and enjoy the event. The auditorium is made more intimate via portable walls to change the capacity for certain events. For example, for musicals when the full depth of the stage is used, the far right and left seating sections are sectioned off. For concerts, the whole auditorium is open, with a significant flat surface in front of the stage exposed providing a dance floor. Acoustical design challenges included ultra-low velocity air distribution with the project mechanical rooms situated immediately adjacent to the stage. The installed AV systems were selected separately by the owner. The theater is operated by Sports & Entertainment Services, which also runs Bank One Ballpark (home of the MLB Diamondbacks) and US Airways Arena.

Reference: Paul Gonzales (now w/ Cannon Design)  310.229.2700

Visit: www.dodgetheater.com

DODGE THEATER
PHOENIX, AZ