The Canoga Theater was built in 1926 at a total cost of $50k which included the price of and installation of a Robert Morton pipe organ which accompanied the silent movies. In its later years it became a porn cinema, re-named as the Pussycat Theater. When the 1994 Northridge earthquake sparked eventual demolition, the new 440-seat Madrid Theatre replaced it and opened in 1999. The venue was developed by the Los Angeles Redevelopment Agency for $2.3M construction cost and is operated by the Valley Cultural Center and the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department.

The 11,000 sf building, constructed on a 50 x 140 ft. site, may be the nation's largest performing arts center on the smallest site. It serves symphony, dance and musical performances and can be sized down to 250 for more intimate dramatic plays. Moving pocketed drapes allow for variable acoustics. Side walls are scalloped with corrugated metal panels to prevent parallax. Light bridges, catwalks and a unistrut grid allow for full stage lighting flexibility and for spot flying of sets. The stage is configured as an orchestra shell that can also receive sets. Madrid offers a state-of-the-art performance facility for professional, community, and student productions; an expansive exhibit space for visual artists; and an arena for Madrid Theatre productions. MCH provided full-scope acoustical and audiovisual consulting services.

Reference: Arturo Yanez 323.255.4343
Visit: http://www.ci.la.ca.us/cad/madridtheatre/

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