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Dexterity and Spirit: The Peter Kiewit Concert Hall at the
Holland Performing Arts Center

Dawn Schuette

Threshold Acoustics, 53 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1734, Chicago, IL 60604, USA

Bathed in natural light, the Peter Kiewit Concert Hall is the focal point of the architecturally innovative Holland Performing Arts Center. The space features cast plaster panels for acoustic diffusion, a tunable canopy over stage for acoustic support, and natural felt banners for reverberation and reflection control. The space transforms easily from an orchestral concert setting to an environment friendly to amplified sound, allowing orchestral music one night to seem as naturally suited to the room as amplified music the following evening. The world-class concert hall acoustics provided by this venue meld seamlessly with the amplified use as well resulting in a unique venue for the music community. This hall is an excellent starting point for a continued discussion about how to successfully incorporate variability in high quality acoustic venues. [Work completed while author was employed as a Principal Consultant at Kirkegaard Associates.]