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## THE ACOUSTIC DESIGN OF THE MOLINA OF SEGURA THEATER-AUDITORIA

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### ABSTRACT

In October of 2005 Molina-Segura's theater-auditoria was inaugurated in Murcia region. Although the format of the the room is not very big the acoustic design was quite complicated due to its complexity shape.

In this communication we will treat aspects of their design and we will establish the initial acoustic goal to get.

We will also expose the results calculated in project and those obtained at the end of the construction.

Now Molina of Segura's people are very happy of the excellent acoustics of this multifunctional hall.

**REMARKS:** This communication is dedicated to my friend Antonio Perez\_Lopez, President of our Spanish Acoustic Society, who was born in Murcia Region, in testimony of our deep friendship and in recognition of its personal effort in benefit of the best improvement of the acoustics in Spain, Europe and in the World.

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

In this report the study of acoustic behaviour of the hall is presented. We have approached the calculation topic from the perspective of several statistical theories and systems of computer simulation. Finally their behaviour is analyzed with relationship to what was desirable to get by acoustic criteria.



Figure 1.-Multifunctional Auditoria Molina of Segura 3D



Figure 2.-Multifunctional Auditoria Molina of Segura plan



Figure 3.-Multifunctional Auditoria Molina of Segura frontal

## 2. GEOMETRIC DATA, AREA OCCUPATION AND ACOUSTIC OBJECTIVES TO GET

# a) Theatre Configuration

Data of the hall:. Volume hall (without stage): V = 3200 m3 Seating capacity: N = 562 seats Audience surface:  $S_A = 393.4 \text{ m2}$ Relationship V/N = 5.69 m<sup>3</sup>/seat. Relationship V/S<sub>A</sub> = 8.13 m

| Parameter               | Criteria                         |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Reverberation Time RT   | 0.81 < T <sub>MID</sub> < 1.24 s |
| EDT                     | 0.73 < T <sub>MID</sub> < 1.12 s |
| Bass Ratio              | 1.1 < I <sub>warthm</sub> < 1.3  |
| Brilliance              | l <sub>brill</sub> > 0.8         |
| Intelligibility         | RASTI≥0,6                        |
| Definition              | D <sub>50</sub> > 60             |
| Clarity C <sub>80</sub> | C <sub>80</sub> > 4              |
| Lateral Efficiency      | LE > 20%                         |
| Impulse Response        | No undesirable reflections       |

#### b) Music Configuration: Chamber hall

Data of the hall: Volume hall (acoustic shell included): V = 3800 m3 (with acoustical shell included) Seating capacity: N = 562 seats Audience surface:  $S_A = 393.4 \text{ m2}$ Relationship V/N = 6.76 m<sup>3</sup>/seat. Relationship V/S<sub>A</sub> = 9.66 m

| Parameter               | Criteria                         |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Reverberation Time RT   | 1.27 < T <sub>MID</sub> < 1.53 s |
| EDT                     | 0.14 < T <sub>MID</sub> < 1.37 s |
| Bass Ratio              | 1.1 < I <sub>warthm</sub> < 1.3  |
| Brilliance              | I <sub>brill</sub> > 0.8         |
| Clarity C <sub>80</sub> | C <sub>80</sub> > 4              |
| Lateral Efficiency      | LE > 20%                         |
| Impulse Response        | No undesirable reflections       |
|                         |                                  |

#### 3. Tmid IN FUNCTION OF DIMENSIONED OF HALL FOR EACH USING

a) Theatre Configuration: Applying of the dimensioned theory of H.Arau [1] is derived that the reverberation time of the hall, for avereged central frequencies, due only to the absorption of the audience it is  $T_{MID}$  = 1.18 s. completes the requirements of reverberation imposed by the acoustic criteria for theater. To see the following graph.



Figure 4.-Tmid for theatre configuration

**b)** Chamber hall Configuration: Similary for Chamber hall configuration [1] is derived that the reverberation time of the hall, due only to the absorption of the audience it is  $T_{MID}$  = 1.31 s.



Figure 5.-Tmid for Chamber hall configuration

## 4. ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DETAILS

*Ceiling:* 12-mm to 25-mm plywood with airspace behind. *Side, front and rear walls:* 25-mm plywood fixed to wall with a hard and elastic filling up material. *Floor:* Oak parquet fixed over rigid floor. *Carpet:* none. *Stage floor:* 45-mm pine over plywood over deep airspace. *Stage height:* 0.85 m. *Added absorptive material: Seating:* Special designed, rigid seat back, front of seat back upholstered; top of the seat-bottom upholstered; underseat, wood linear perforated Helmholtz resonator.

### **5. ACOUSTIC RESULTS COMPUTED**

Keeping in mind the absorption of the materials of the room, being the black curtains on stage [6], and considering the absorption upholstered seats occupied [7], we have calculated the following values for theatre configuration

## a) Theatre configuration

| Frequency (Hz)            | 125  | 250                                   | 500                    | 1000   | 2                                     | 000                              | 4000 | T <sub>MID</sub>          | <b>T</b> LOW | T <sub>HIGH</sub> |  |
|---------------------------|------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--|
| RT_Sabine [2]             | 1.63 | 1.37                                  | 1.20                   | 0.98   | 1                                     | .02                              | 1.03 | 1.09                      | 1.50         | 1.02              |  |
| RT_Arau- Puchades [3]     | 1.67 | 1.35                                  | 1.27                   | 1.07   | 0                                     | .95                              | 0.99 | 1.17                      | 1.51         | 0.97              |  |
| RT_Vian [4], (Statist.)   | 1.60 | 1.34                                  | 1.14                   | 1.00   | 1                                     | .00                              | 1.03 | 0.96                      | 1.19         | 0.9               |  |
|                           |      |                                       |                        |        |                                       |                                  |      | <b>EDT</b> <sub>mid</sub> |              |                   |  |
| EDT Arau [3]              | 1.35 | 1.20                                  | 1.10                   | 0.93   | 0                                     | .90                              | 0.80 | 1.01                      |              |                   |  |
| Parameter                 |      | CÁL                                   | .CULAT                 | ED     |                                       |                                  |      | CRITERI                   | 4            |                   |  |
| Reverberation Time        |      | Sabine                                | : T <sub>MID</sub> = ` | 1,09 s |                                       | 0.91 c T c 1.24 c                |      |                           |              |                   |  |
|                           |      | Arau: T <sub>MID</sub> = 1.17 s       |                        |        |                                       | 0.01 ~ 1 <sub>MID</sub> ~ 1.24 S |      |                           |              |                   |  |
| EDT                       |      | Arau: EDT = 1.01                      |                        |        | 0.73 < T <sub>MID</sub> < 1.12 s      |                                  |      |                           |              |                   |  |
| Bass Ratio                |      | I <sub>warthm</sub> = 1.37 Sabine     |                        |        |                                       | 1,1 < I <sub>warthm</sub> ≤ 1.3  |      |                           |              |                   |  |
|                           |      | 1,29 Arau                             |                        |        |                                       |                                  |      |                           |              |                   |  |
| Brilliance                |      | I <sub>brilliance</sub> = 0,93 Sabine |                        |        |                                       | I <sub>brilliance</sub> > 0.8    |      |                           |              |                   |  |
|                           |      | 0.82 Arau                             |                        |        |                                       |                                  |      |                           |              |                   |  |
| Intelligibility [4], [5]  |      | RASTI > 0,65                          |                        |        | RASTI > 0,60                          |                                  |      |                           |              |                   |  |
| Definition [4], [5]       |      | D <sub>50</sub> = 63                  |                        |        | D <sub>50</sub> > 60                  |                                  |      |                           |              |                   |  |
| G Strength [5]            |      | G = 5                                 |                        |        | G> 0                                  |                                  |      |                           |              |                   |  |
| Lateral Eficiency[4], [5] |      | LE > 20%                              |                        |        | LE > 20%                              |                                  |      |                           |              |                   |  |
| Impulse response[4], [5]  |      | No undesirable reflections            |                        |        | s Don't exist undesirable reflections |                                  |      |                           | tions        |                   |  |

TABLE 1: Acoustic values computed for Theatre configuration with occupied audience

## a) Chamber hall configuration

| ADEL 2. Accusic values computed for chamber han comgutation with occupied addictice |      |      |      |      |      |      |                           |                  |                   |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Frequency (Hz)  | 125  | 250  | 500  | 1000 | 2000 | 4000 | T <sub>MID</sub>          | T <sub>LOW</sub> | T <sub>HIGH</sub> |
| RT_Sabine   | 1.52 | 1.41 | 1.35 | 1.20 | 1.10 | 1.07 | 1.27                      | 1.46             | 1.08              |
| RT_Arau- Puchades   | 1.71 | 1.44 | 1.39 | 1.25 | 1.20 | 1.15 | 1.32                      | 1.53             | 1.17              |
| RT_Vian (Statist.)  | 1.65 | 1.40 | 1.27 | 1.23 | 1.13 | 1.05 | 1.25                      | 1.52             | 1.09              |
|   |      |      |      |      |      |      | <b>EDT</b> <sub>mid</sub> |                  |                   |
| EDT Arau [3]  | 1.45 | 1.30 | 1.30 | 1.10 | 1.05 | 0.90 | 1.20                      |                  |                   |

TABLE 2: Acoustic values computed for Chamber hall configuration with occupied audience

| Parameter          | CÁLCULATED                            | CRITERIA                               |  |  |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Reverberation Time | Sabine: T <sub>MID</sub> = 1,27 s     | 1.27 < T <sub>MID</sub> < 1.53 s       |  |  |
|                    | Arau: I <sub>MID</sub> = 1.32 s       |  |  |  |
| EDT                | Arau: EDT = 1.20 s                    | 1.14 < T <sub>MID</sub> < 1.37 s       |  |  |
| Bass Ratio         | I <sub>warthm</sub> = 1.15 Sabine     | 1,10 < I <sub>warthm</sub> ≤ 1.20      |  |  |
|                    | 1,19 Arau                             |  |  |  |
| Brilliance         | I <sub>brilliance</sub> = 0,85 Sabine | I <sub>brilliance</sub> > 0.80         |  |  |
|                    | 0.88 Arau                             |  |  |  |
| Lateral Eficiency  | LE > 20%                              | LE > 20%                               |  |  |
| G strength         | G = 6                                 | G> 0                                   |  |  |
| Impulse response   | No undesirable reflections            | Don't exist undesirable<br>reflections |  |  |

## 6. ACOUSTIC MEASUREMENTS FOR THEATRE CONFIGURATION

**TABLE 3:** Acoustic values measured [8], for theatre configuration with occupied audience, when the hall was finished

|                 | 125  | 250  | 500  | 1000 | 2000 | 4000  | T <sub>mid</sub>          | Tlow | T <sub>high</sub> |
|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|---------------------------|------|-------------------|
| RT              | 1.57 | 1.51 | 1.29 | 1.07 | 0.94 | 0.86  | 1.18                      | 1.50 | 1.34              |
|                 |      |      |      |      |      |       | <b>EDT</b> <sub>mid</sub> |      |                   |
| EDT             | 1.07 | 0.89 | 0.90 | 0.99 | 0.92 | 0.80  | 0.95                      |      |                   |
| BASS RATIO      |      |      |      |      |      |       | 1.31                      |      |                   |
| BRILLIANCE      |      |      |      |      |      |       | 0.76                      |      |                   |
|                 |      |      |      |      |      |       | D <sub>50 mid</sub>       |      |                   |
| D <sub>50</sub> | 51   | 56   | 63   | 65   | 66   | 67    | 64                        |      |                   |
|                 |      |      |      |      |      |       | C <sub>80 mid</sub>       |      |                   |
| C <sub>80</sub> | 3.89 | 6.46 | 7.07 | 7.81 | 9.24 | 11.85 | 7.44                      |      |                   |
|                 |      |      |      |      |      |       | <b>G</b> <sub>mid</sub>   |      |                   |
| G               | 1.34 | 4.49 | 6.29 | 3.81 | 7.2  | 5.58  | 5.1                       |      |                   |
| RASTI           |      |      |      |      |      |       | 0.78                      |      |                   |

| Parameter               | MEASURED                       | Criteria                         |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Reverberation Time RT   | T <sub>MID</sub> = 1.18        | 0.81 < T <sub>MID</sub> < 1.24 s |
| EDT                     | EDT <sub>MID</sub> = 0.95      | 0.75 < T <sub>MID</sub> < 1.15 s |
| Bass Ratio              | I <sub>warthm</sub> = 1,31     | 0.9 < I <sub>warthm</sub> < 1.45 |
| Brilliance              | I <sub>brilliance</sub> = 0,78 | I <sub>brilliance</sub> > 0.8    |
| Intelligibility         | RASTI = 0.76                   | RASTI≥0,5                        |
| Definition              | D <sub>50 MID</sub> = 85.26    | D <sub>50</sub> > 60             |
| Clarity C <sub>80</sub> | C <sub>80</sub> = 7.44         | C <sub>80</sub> > 4              |
| G: Strenght dB          | G = 5.1                        | G > 0                            |
| Impulse response        | No undesirable<br>reflections  | No undesirable reflections       |



Figure 6.-Measurement points in hall

**7. FINAL CONCLUSION:** For all that indicated is demonstrated that Molina of Segura Auditoria completes very satisfactorily, with good acoustic quality, in theater configuration, the values of the attributes demanded by the acoustic criteria. Also apparent has a good quality to be used for music, especially when the acoustical shell projected be built, which is nonexistent now, by economic reasons.

#### References

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