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EL PLAZA CONDESA, MEXICO CITY

# Esrawe Studio and Antonio Muñozhiero

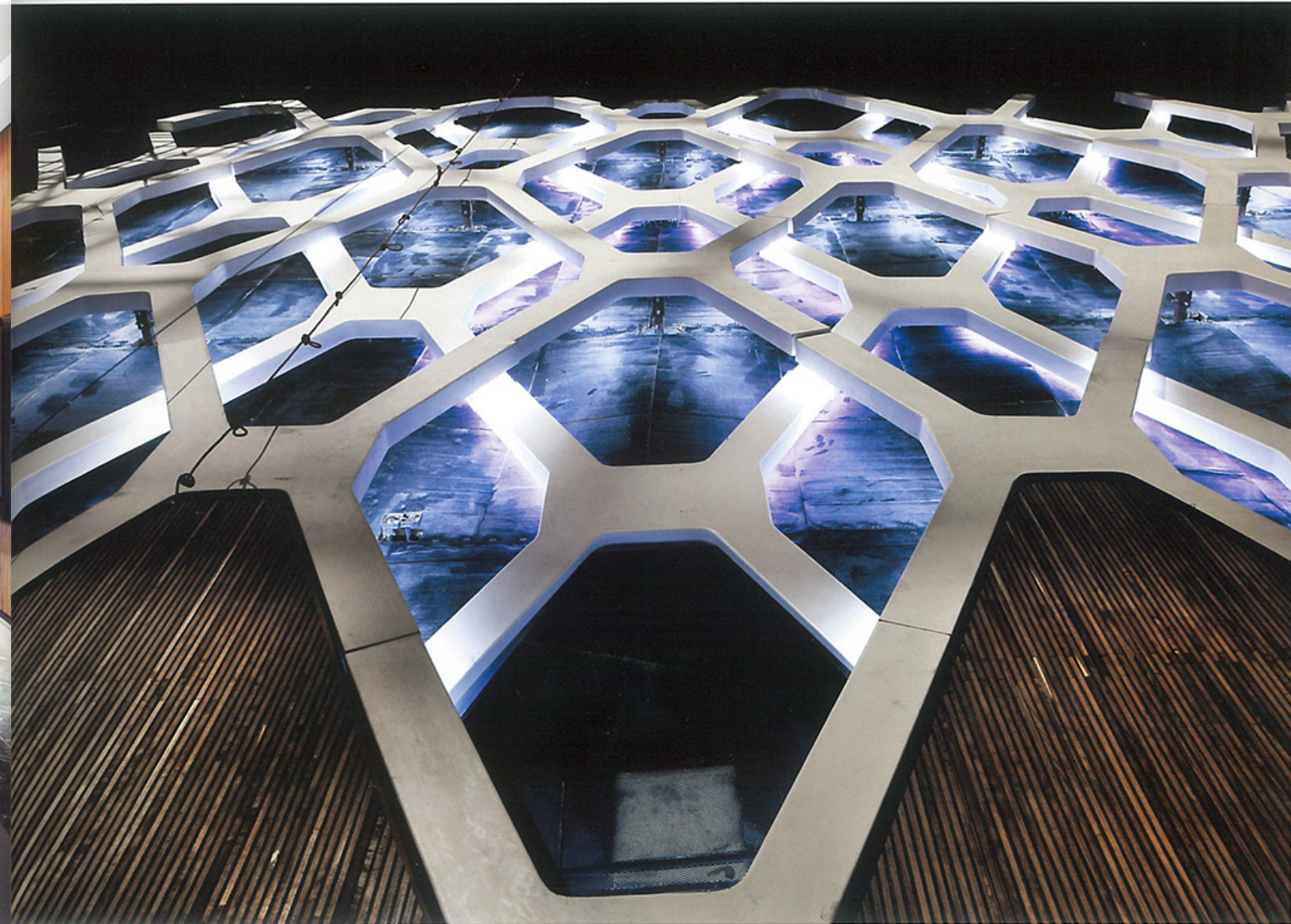


*Clockwise from far left: Esrawe Studio's renovation included a double-height lobby sheathed in Brazilian teak. The auditorium can hold 1,900 concertgoers. Fiberglass latticework is fitted with acoustic panels that can be backlit with RGB LED strips. Round lighting elements punctuate the gray-painted gypsum walls and ceiling. ➔*

This performing arts center, a six-level complex built in the 1950s, was due a 21st-century rehab. In an ironic twist, its reinvention—completed by multidisciplinary firm Esrawe Studio with an assist from acclaimed film/television designer Antonio Muñozhiero—ended up paying tribute to the structure's roots, echoing as it does the evolution of modernism over the decades.

The ground-floor entrance is flanked by art-display niches, one of which occasionally serves as a coat-check area. Backlit circular cutouts in the wall—a retro nod to

the building's midcentury roots—are replicated across the double-height lobby ceiling, the planetarium-like vibe gets mirrored in black marble flooring. Teak wainscoting cladding the exterior continues inside, too, wending past mosaic-tile concession counters and into the main concert hall. On both sides of the auditorium is fiberglass latticework fitted with acoustic panels—an artful solution to the challenge of sound management. Among the functional updates is improved lighting, expanded and modernized dressing rooms, and total access for the disabled.

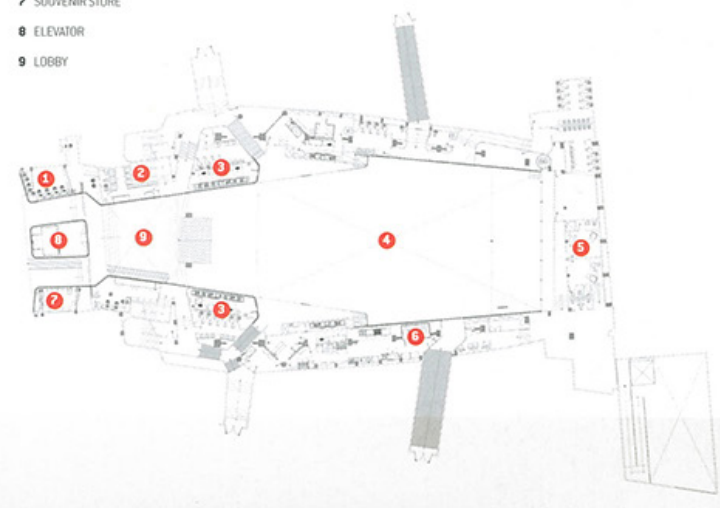






91,000 sf

- 1 BOX OFFICE
- 2 COAT CHECK
- 3 RESTROOM
- 4 CONCERT HALL
- 5 BACKSTAGE
- 6 REFRESHMENTS
- 7 SOUVENIR STORE
- 8 ELEVATOR
- 9 LOBBY



**PROJECT TEAM** HÉCTOR ESRAWE, ANTONIO MUÑOZHIERRRO, JOAQUÍN CEVALLOS, NANCY OCAMPO  
**PHOTOGRAPHY** PAÚL RIVERA/ARCHPHOTO  
[www.esrawe.com](http://www.esrawe.com)



*Clockwise from above: The six-story concert hall has hosted the likes of Rihanna. Circulation pathways are marble. Wainscoting from the exterior carries through to the inside. Another view of the concert hall. Niches in the lobby display sculptures and memorabilia.*

