

KRISTOFFER-HALL

NAANTALI, FINLAND

The Kristoffer hall was first opened in 1989, and after two decades' service it underwent a complete makeover and a thorough renovation in 2009. The refurbished hall, seating 210, is suited for both musical and theatrical productions.

The necessity of having a multifunctional space was taken into account in the designing phase. The hall's ability to be converted per requirements allows it to be used for speeches and theatre events, as well as acoustical and amplified music concerts.

The acoustical designer **Anssi Ruusuvuori** found the Kristoffer hall to be a rather challenging project. "The physical dimensions and the shape of the ceiling set the limitations for the design. Acoustically speaking, everything possible was done to achieve the end result", Mr Ruusuvuori states. All the surfaces were completely re-done, the only remnant from the old hall is the cross-structured ceiling.

Despite the hall being a challenge from the outset, the final product was deemed a success. Kristoffer hall is no longer inadequate for performing classical music. The Cultural Secretary of Naantali, **Anu Anttila**, tells of a particular cellist who was utterly enthralled by the hall's ability to carry the played sounds.



Photo: Anu Anttila

Client	City of Naantali
Started	2008
Opened	2009
Project type	Renovation
Architect	Sigge Ltd, head architect Pekka Mäki
Services by Akukon	Acoustical design
Akukon's team	Principal consultant: Anssi Ruusuvuori
Total cost of project:	appr. € 0.8 million

Ms Anttila agrees that "the new hall is from a different world altogether. Delicate sounding instruments, such as the Finnish kantele or an acoustical guitar, can now be easily heard even in the back row. Same with speech, which in the old hall died in its tracks".

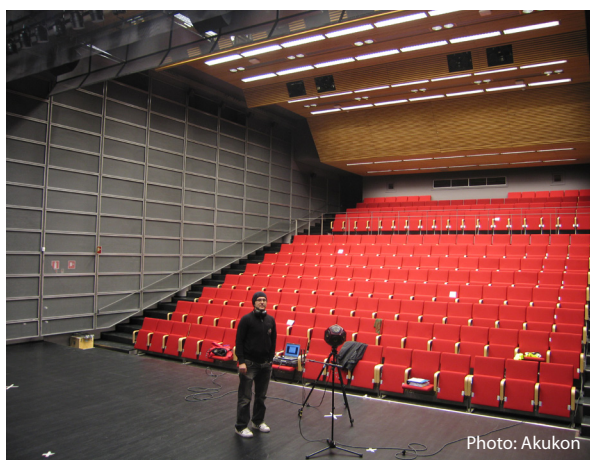


Photo: Akukon