



## FOREWORD



### CONCERT HALL ACOUSTICS AND OPERA HOUSE ACOUSTICS

(Accepted 30 May 2002)

This special issue publishes selected papers of the structured sessions on “Concert Hall Acoustics” and “Opera House Acoustics” organized by the co-editors during the 17th International Conference on Acoustics (ICA) held in Rome from 3 to 8 September 2001.

The acoustics of concert halls and opera houses can be thought of as the dimension where science and art meet. To blend sound sources and sound fields, the rooms must be designed to maximize subjective qualities both for performers and for audience. Taking into account temporal and spatial factors of sound sources and sound fields, it is possible to select programs appropriate for a given hall or house, and maximize sound quality both for listeners and for performers.

This issue covers:

- (I) basic theory of primary and spatial sensations,
- (II) fundamental studies including magnetoencephalographic responses to subjective preference,
- (III) effects of scattered reflections,
- (IV) design studies,
- (V) acoustic measurements of existing theatres.

We hope that this special issue may contribute to great extent to better understand the acoustics for both concert hall and opera house, and to suggest each reader a suitable line for further research.

The editors wish to express their deep appreciation for reviewers of each paper of useful comments improving of the manuscript of the paper.

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