



Holtschneider Performance Center -DePaul University

IN THE MEANTIME, A REVOLUTION

Two years is not an extraordinarily long delay. But these particular two years made all the difference in the world at Chicago’s DePaul University. **John Jacobsen, Schuler Shook**, explains why:

“DePaul’s School of Music began planning and design for a new music performance facility early in 2012, and documentation was completed for GMP late in 2013. The project paused after completion of design documents to accommodate fundraising efforts. In late 2015 the design team—led by architect Antunovich Associates—resumed work. The waiting period of 2013 to 2015 was a particularly critical one from a lighting technology standpoint, in that it saw cost reductions and technology improvements. Due to cost limitations and concerns over dimming capability, the original



John Jacobsen

lighting designs primarily used fluorescent, metal halide and some halogen sources. LED was used for detailed accent lighting only.

“By 2015 the client had begun to favor LED lighting in all new buildings, and LED fixtures had begun to be more affordable; however, a one-for-one swap to LED would not meet the budget, so it was necessary to selectively delete some accent lighting in order to afford the upgrade. Halogen was retained for the general lighting of the three recital halls, due to acoustical performance concerns in these noise-critical spaces. The final result is extremely successful, in that no compromises were made in the form of illumination levels, color temperature or overall lighting quality.”