

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

LOOKING BACK 1921–1988

The State Theatre, which seats 2,181, opened in 1921 and was then considered the most technologically advanced and elaborate theatre in the United States. One Minneapolis newspaper columnist described it as "a gilded pleasure palace, dedicated to the Hollywood dreams that captured America's heart in the roaring '20s." It was designed by Chicago architect J.E.O. Pridmore in a free Italian Renaissance style and boasted the first well-driven air conditioning system in Minneapolis. The original stage floor was glass, which allowed direct lighting from beneath. The opening night program included a silent film, newsreel and travelogue. A Wurlitzer pipe organ was installed in 1925 and concerts were held every day for 25 cents. The State's neon marquee was installed in the '40s and runs the entire width of the theatre. Between 1921 and 1978, the State Theatre was used primarily as a movie house, but also hosted vaudeville acts including Nora Bayes and Victor Herbert, concerts and ballet. The movie screen was the largest one west of the Mississippi River at the time and designed so every person had a perfect view of the stage. *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* set a national record here in 1970 for the longest run in America (34 weeks). In 1978, the theatre was purchased by the Jesus People Church as a place of worship. They covered all the murals and sculpted figures with drapes and plaster shields, which were later removed.

RENOVATION 1989–PRESENT

The Minneapolis Community Development Agency purchased the LaSalle Plaza block in 1989 including the State as part of the LaSalle Plaza development. After nearly two years of renovation at a cost of \$8.8 million, the State Theatre re-opened in November of 1991 with the Minnesota Opera's production of *Carousel*. The restored proscenium spans almost the full width of the building and curves 100 feet above the stage. The six chandeliers in the house are original, as are the murals on the wall. Since the re-opening in 1991, the State has hosted live Broadway touring productions, concerts including Patti Smith and Gordon Lightfoot, the National Geographic Live! and Literary Legends Speakers Series and films including the world premiere of the Minnesota-based film, *Grumpy Old Men*. Hennepin Theatre Trust is now the owner and operator of this magnificent structure.

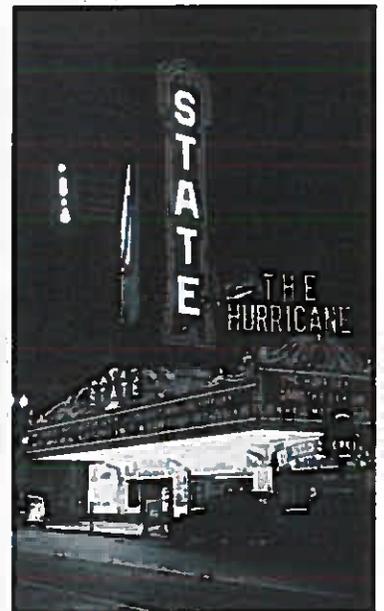


Photo: Minneapolis Public Library

EVERYONE HAS A THEATRE STORY. TELL US YOURS!

If you, or someone you know, has an interesting story or experience connected to the State, Orpheum, Pantages or Century Theatre, we would love to capture it for our archives. Please e-mail us at info@hennepintheatretrust.org.



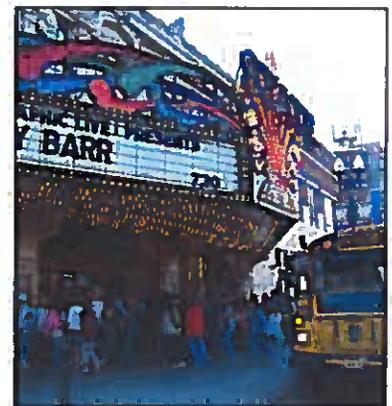
Hennepin Theatre Trust, owner of the historic Orpheum, State, Pantages and New Century Theatres, is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to arts-inspired community cultural development.
State Theatre • 805 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis • www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org • 612.455.9500





TOUR ALL OF THE TRUST'S THEATRES – TOURS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Take a walking tour of Hennepin Theatre Trust's State, Orpheum and Pantages Theatres! Experienced guides highlight architecture and historical facts and stories about the venues that anchored the region's "Theatre Row." Hour long tours are offered twice a month and begin at the State Theatre Box Office. Tickets are \$5 per person. Group tours are also available but must be arranged in advance. Discounted rates are available for educational organizations. For more information on these tours, please visit our website at www.hennepintheatretrust.org.



YOU CAN JOIN US IN PRESERVING OUR HISTORY!

Please join Hennepin Theatre Trust in preserving and maintaining these three magnificent theatres to keep them open, active and accessible! To find out how you can support this work, please contact Individual Giving Coordinator Kathryn Tjaden at kathryn.tjaden@hennepintheatretrust.org or 612.455.9516.

HENNEPIN THEATRE TRUST

ORPHEUM STATE PANTAGES NEW CENTURY

www.hennepintheatretrust.org

DID YOU KNOW?

OVERVIEW AND HISTORY

- Hennepin Theatre Trust, owner of the historic Orpheum, State, Pantages and New Century Theatres, is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to arts-inspired community cultural development. We achieve our mission by presenting a rich mix of live performances, creating inspiring arts education experiences and advancing a thriving Hennepin Avenue cultural district in downtown Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- More than 515,000 people annually attend close to 400 different events at the Trust's historic theatres. Together, these theatres can seat more than 5,800 patrons.
- The **Hennepin Theatre District** is a cultural and business area that runs from 5th to 10th Street on Hennepin Avenue in downtown Minneapolis with many theatres, restaurants and performing venues. Located within blocks of each other are the Trust's exquisitely restored State and Orpheum Theatres, which opened in 1921, and the intimate Pantages Theatre, which opened in 1916. These playhouses form the core of the region's famed "White Way" or "Theatre Row," the Upper Midwest's premier theatre area.
- The **Orpheum Theatre** in the 1920s was the premier vaudeville house of its time hosting such stars as the Marx Brothers, George Burns, Jack Bennie and Gracie Allen. The **State** was the largest and most elaborate presentation house between Chicago and the Pacific Coast. The **Pantages** is a vaudeville house that was originally part of Greek immigrant Alexander Pantages' string of 500 theatres nationwide. The **New Century** is named in homage to the Century Theatre, one of four historic theatres that used to operate near the site of what is now City Center.
- To preserve history at its finest and keep the theatres actively programmed and welcoming to audiences, Hennepin Theatre Trust has invested millions of dollars to implement improvements and maintain modern conveniences at the State, Orpheum and Pantages Theatres, most of it raised through donor and corporate contributions and sponsorships.

PROGRAMS, EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Hennepin Theatre Trust's performing arts programming encompasses the best live entertainment available—including award-winning touring Broadway productions, theatre, dance, music of all kinds, comedy and speakers. The Trust's Broadway seasons include a mix of popular classics such as the smash hit musicals *Wicked* and Disney's *The Lion King* to regional premieres of Tony Award-winning musicals such as *In the Heights* and *Billy Elliot*.

- Hennepin Theatre Trust's non-profit educational programming engages audiences of all ages through initiatives that make the productions and theatres accessible to all members of the community and help nurture audiences for the future.
- The **SpotLight Musical Theatre Program**, created to celebrate and support the work of musical theatre students, serves nearly 60 high schools and 5,000 students throughout Minnesota. More than 2,000 patrons attend the **SpotLight Showcase** to enjoy highlights from the schools' musicals and honor participants. To apply or support the program, visit our website at www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org.
- **SpotLight Critical Reviewer Program**, Hennepin Theatre Trust's high school student reviewer program, offers diverse students from urban high schools an opportunity to review each season's Broadway shows. The students learn from such experts as professional theatre critics and local directors and producers to gain critical writing and thinking skills as well as a solid introduction to the entertainment business.
- The **Teen Ushers Program** offers high school students the opportunity to acquire valuable work experience, interact with theatre professionals, learn about careers in arts and entertainment and see numerous productions. Students 16 years and older are eligible to apply to work as ushers.
- The Trust's **Access Program** annually distributes tickets to underserved members of our community who might not otherwise be able to attend theatre productions. **Access** partners include participants from among dozens of social service and educational providers.
- **Family Day** is Hennepin Theatre Trust's version of a national initiative that brings adults and children to select family friendly Broadway shows each year to help introduce young audiences and their caregivers to the magic of live theatre. Activities may include specially priced tickets (buy one adult ticket, get a complimentary kid's ticket), giveaways geared towards children, family scavenger hunts and special kid friendly menus at Hennepin Theatre Trust's restaurant partners.

DOWNTOWN PARTNERS

- Hennepin Theatre Trust has partnered with local and national organizations including the Minnesota Ballet, Theater Latté Da, Cantus, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, The Loft Literary Center, National Geographic, Minneapolis Musical Theatre and the Jungle Theatre to present a wide range of programs from local theatre collaborations to expert speakers knowledgeable in composing, science, photography and literature.
- The Trust partners with local restaurant and hotels in downtown Minneapolis. These downtown Minneapolis partners offer special benefits to Trust supporters, may host opening night festivities and feature delicious dining options for a theatre night on the town.



my
fair
lady

FACT SHEET

A fabulous new production, this legendary Lerner and Loewe musical premieres in the U.S. direct from its 50th Anniversary London engagement. Acclaimed British theatre actors Christopher Cazenove and Lisa O'Hare, who earned rave reviews for their dynamic performances as Professor Henry Higgins and Eliza Doolittle, recreate their starring roles for the new U.S. tour. A Cameron Mackintosh/National Theatre of Great Britain musical, this glorious experience features one of Broadway's most beloved scores including "The Rain in Spain," "I Could Have Danced All Night" and "Get Me to the Church on Time." It brings together the original U.K. artistic team with direction by four-time Tony Award-winner Trevor Nunn (*Les Misérables*), choreography and musical staging by two-time Tony Award-winning Matthew Bourne (*Mary Poppins*) and production design by Anthony Ward (*Gypsy*).

Venue:	Orpheum Theatre—910 Hennepin Avenue www.HennepinTheatreDistrict.org For information: 612-339-7007 For tickets: 612-673-0404
Performance Dates:	February 20—March 2, 2008
Performance Times:	Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Fridays at 8 p.m. Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sundays at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. * Additional performance on Thursday, Feb. 21 at 2 p.m.
Prices:	\$23 - \$78
Show Run Time:	2 hours, 55 minutes including one intermission
Book and Lyrics:	Alan Jay Lerner
Music:	Frederick Loewe
Director:	Trevor Nunn
Adapted From:	George Bernard Shaw's Play "Pygmalion"
Choreographer:	Matthew Bourne
Scenic Costume Designer:	Anthony Ward
Sound Designer:	Paul Groothuis
Lighting Designer:	David Hersey
Produced by:	NETworks Presentations, David Ian for Live Nation and Cameron Mackintosh

HENNEPIN THEATRE TRUST

ORPHEUM STATE PANTAGES NEW CENTURY

Fact Sheet

Hennepin Theatre Trust, owner of the historic Orpheum, State, Pantages and New Century Theatres, is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to arts-inspired community cultural development. We achieve our mission by presenting a rich mix of live performances, creating inspiring arts education experiences and advancing a thriving Hennepin Avenue cultural district in downtown Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Trust's activities include presenting Broadway touring productions and the related *Broadway Confidential* series, concerts, comedy, speakers and other variety entertainment plus educational initiatives including our *SpotLight Musical Theatre* and *SpotLight Critical Reviewer* programs for high schools, *Teen Ushers*, the *Access Program* and *Family Day* events.

Established:	2000
President/CEO:	Thomas L. Hoch
Venues:	<p>Orpheum Theatre Opened 1921, Renovated 1993 Seating Capacity 2,579 910 Hennepin Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55403</p> <p>State Theatre Opened 1921, Renovated 1991 Seating Capacity 2,181 805 Hennepin Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55402</p> <p>Pantages Theatre Opened 1916, Renovated 2002 Seating Capacity 1,014 710 Hennepin Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55403</p> <p>New Century Theatre Opened 2011 Seating Capacity Up To 300 615 Hennepin Avenue, Suite 145 Minneapolis, MN 55403</p>
Administrative Offices:	615 Hennepin Avenue, Suite 140 Minneapolis, MN 55403 612.455.9500 info@hennepintheatretrust.org
Website:	www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org
Ticket Information:	1.800.982.2787
Box Office Information:	612.339.7007

