

Paul Scarbrough, lead Concert Hall acoustician



Paul is currently leading the design for The New Concert Hall at Lincoln Center (Avery Fisher Hall renovation) in New York and the Jesse Eccles Center for Dance and Capitol Theatre Renovation in Salt Lake City, Utah. He is also directing the design of a new concert hall at the Ordway Center, which will become the principal performance venue of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. Prior to forming Akustiks in 2001 with his partners, Paul was a principal at Jaffe Holden Scarbrough Acoustics. During his 17 years with JHS, he was the principal designer for the renovations to Severance Hall for the Cleveland Orchestra, the Concert Hall at the Kennedy Center and the New Amsterdam and New Victory Theatres on Broadway. His other project credits include the Oklahoma City Civic Center Music Hall and the Whitaker Center for Arts and Sciences in Harrisburg,

Pennsylvania. Paul has developed effective working partnerships with a broad array of architects and theater planners. His formal training in architecture allows him to appreciate a diverse range of architectural styles and to engage in the design process in a constructive and collaborative fashion.

He is deeply interested in the process of making great architecture and believes that the very best projects result from a seamless integration of architecture and acoustics. Paul has focused attention on several specialized areas within acoustics, including extensive studies to better understand how musicians hear on stage. His work resulted in advances that were incorporated into the designs for Severance Hall and the Kennedy Center Concert Hall. He also designed new accommodations for the existing pipe organs in both of these venues. Most recently, he has extended this work by designing a new stage for the Indianapolis Symphony at the Hilbert Circle Theater.

Paul studied architecture at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He served on the faculties of the 1999 and 2010 Summer Institute of the Acoustical Society of America and has been a guest critic and lecturer at Yale University. He holds memberships in the Acoustical Society of America, Britain's Institute of Acoustics and the United States Institute of Theater Technology. When not on the road traveling to assignments, he volunteers at the Essex Steam Train and Riverboat and is an avid bicyclist.