



AUDITORIUM GIOVANNI ARVEDI

CREMONA, ITALY 2013



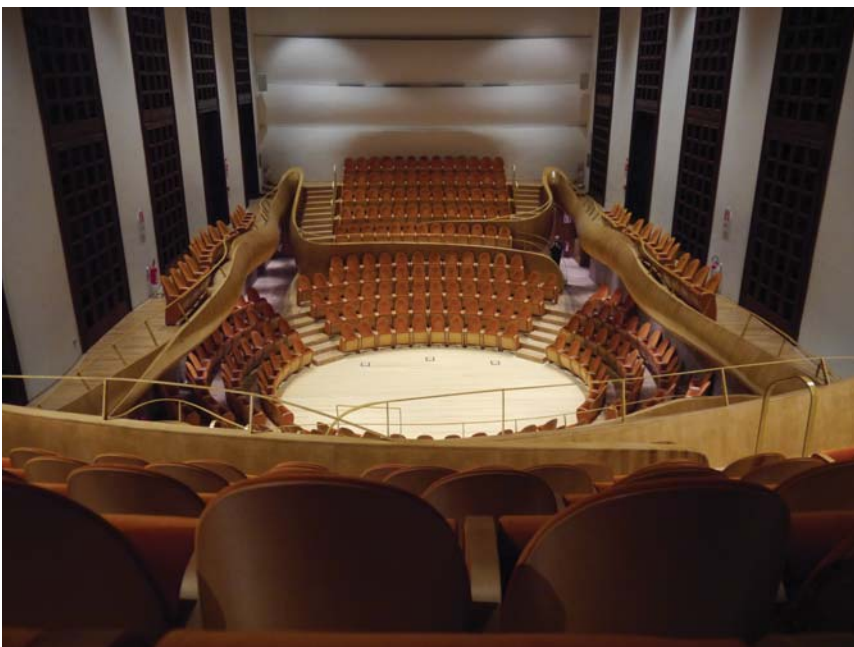
Owner: Museo del Violino
Commune di Cremona

Architect: ArkPaBi | Architetti Palú e Bianchi

Seating Capacity: 475
Room Volume: 5,300 m³

Cremona is the town in northern Italy where, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries the form of the violin was perfected by the local masters of the Amati family, the Guarneri family, and above all Antonio Stradivari. The city has long held a small collection of some of the most important instruments in the city hall, and there are two other collections in the city: the Fondazione Stauffer and the winning instruments of the Triennale di Cremona violin making competition.

To house and display the instruments, as well as the entire contents of Stradivari's workshop, the Palazzo della Arte, built in the 1930's by the Italian Rationalist architect Carlo Cocchia, was renovated through the generosity of the local entrepreneur Giovanni Arvedi. A performance hall was seen as a crucial component of that undertaking.



One room in the original building seemed to be well suited to the task of a performance hall, as it was 120 feet long, 46 feet wide and 33 feet tall. However, it was not tall enough, so the floor was excavated an additional 16 feet, and the stage was placed in the center of center of the room to most efficiently use the increased volume. Seats fully surround the stage, including one row of seats on a shallow balcony overlooking the stage from the original floor elevation. The white plaster and dark wood doors indicate the original features of the room, and the honey-colored wood are the new features.