Title:
Space Transformations: What does Venue Flexibility Look Like

Abstract/Description:
Performance spaces often need to accommodate multiple performance types (music, dance and theater) that have conflicting technical and acoustic requirements. As space and construction dollars are at a premium, more than ever institutions are looking to combine programs into one performance space, with utilizing minimal labor and time to change over the space from one program to another. This discussion looks at two project case studies on college campuses that incorporate easy to use technologies and systems to accommodate these different needs.

Steve Richardson, Puzak Family Director of the Arts, Carleton College
Steve was named Director of the Arts at Carleton College in 2007. Steve led the planning process for the interdisciplinary Weitz Center for Creativity, housing the college’s departments of Theatre and Dance, Cinema and Media Studies, and the Perlman Teaching Museum; as well as the Music and Performance Commons addition to the Weitz. At Carleton, he is charged with programming the Weitz Center and creating curricular collaborations between arts departments and between the arts and other disciplines. Previously, he was the long-time Producing Director of Theatre de la Jeune Lune, creating work in Minneapolis as well as in partnership with artistic institutions around the community and the country including the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, Minnesota Dance Theatre, and many regional theatres. Under his leadership, Theatre de la Jeune Lune won the 2005 Tony Award for Excellence in Regional Theatre.

Rebecca Krull Kraling, HGA Architects and Engineers
Rebecca is a Vice President with HGA Architects and Engineers in Minneapolis. She has focused solely on projects for the fine and performing arts for the last 20 years. She participates actively in all phases and elements of each of her projects from programming and design through construction. Her project work spans the country and includes projects at California State University-Northridge, Macalester College, Carleton College and the Ordway Center for Performing Arts. She also serves on the board of the Playwrights’ Center in Minneapolis.

Paul Whitaker, Schuler Shook
Paul’s diverse experience includes architectural lighting, theatre planning and theatrical lighting design for theatre, opera, and dance across the country. Paul continues to work as a theatrical lighting designer. Paul’s Off-broadway credits include work at the Public Theatre, playwright’s Horizon’s, Second Stage, and The Atlantic, among others. Paul’s regional credits include theatres such as The Guthrie, The Alley, South Coast Repertory, The Yale Repertory and Center Stage Baltimore. Paul has taught Theatrical Design at Amherst College and the California State Polytechnic Institute, Pomona.