



NSW DIVISION TECHNICAL MEETING

Modernizing the Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall, Singapore



Date: Wednesday, 19th October 2016

Venue: ARUP main office, Level 10 at 201 Kent Street Sydney
Note: Access after 6pm will require an Arup staff member to escort attendees from the Kent St lobby. Please note that they will need to call either reception on 9320 9320 or Glenn Wheatley (0400 897 565).

Time: NSW DIVISION AGM 5:30pm for 6:00pm start
TALK WILL FOLLOW THE NSW DIVISION AGM (2016)
Refreshments prior to AGM/talk

Speaker: Nick Boulter, Associate Principal, Acoustic and Theatre Consulting, ARUP

RSVP: Wednesday, 12th October 2016 to Angus Leslie by email
Angus.Leslie@aecom.com
AAS members (and guests) are welcome to attend the talk

The Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall are part of an arts complex in Singapore. Originally built in 1862, the venue has been the site of many of Singapore's historical events and is one of Singapore's National Monuments. In 2010 it closed for a major renovation which saw the theatre completely rebuilt to a modern design behind the existing façade, along with a full refurbishment of the adjoining historic concert hall. The theatre is now a receiving house for local arts groups and the concert hall is the home of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra.

Arup were the acoustic and theatre consultants for the project and Nick Boulter, who led the Arup team on the project, will describe the background to the acoustic design and the changes that were made to bring this grand old dame up to modern standards whilst still respecting the historical integrity of the building.



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Nick has been working in Acoustics since leaving university in 1978. He spent the early part of his career working in the oil industry, looking at noise and vibration issues on oil production platforms and drilling rigs in the North Sea.

He joined Arup in 1987, working initially in Hong Kong. This pre-handover time was characterised by a lot of infrastructure developments which kept acousticians busy. In Nick's case, this included the acoustic design of the new airport terminal and an overseeing role in the noise issues associated with the new railways built at that time. He also led the team doing the acoustic design for the two large convention centres that grace the waterfront in Hong Kong, a new University and what was then the tallest building in Asia, Central Plaza.

Nick moved back to the UK in 1994 and worked in Arup's office in Cambridge on a wide variety of projects in the UK and Europe. This included performing arts buildings, airports, hospitals and convention centres.

In 2009, Nick moved to Singapore with Arup to lead the acoustics and theatre design team. Local acoustic projects undertaken by Arup include School of the Arts, Marina Bay Sands, Victoria Theatre and Concert Hall and the new HQ for MediaCorp, and several University projects. Nick is also a lecturer for the Building and Construction Authority in Singapore, presenting a module on Acoustics as part of the Greenmark Professional qualification.

After spending 5 years in Singapore, Nick relocated to Arup's office in Melbourne and works on a variety of building design projects in Victoria and NSW, whilst still maintaining his connections back to Singapore.