Grove Auditorium

Magdalen Grove Auditorium, opened in 1999 and designed by architect Dr Demetri Porphyrios as part of a new quadrangle for Magdalen College, is of a ‘classico-vernacular’ design combining Greek Classical form and proportion but using other details and references to give it a timeless appearance.

The Auditorium itself is fully air-conditioned, with tiered seating for 160, and dedicated projection and sound rooms. Each seat is equipped with a pull-out writing ‘tablet’ to support note-taking. The proscenium arch style stage is on a level with the front row of seating. Considerable attention has been paid to the acoustic standards of the Auditorium and voice amplification is only needed for special circumstances, for example, to provide induction loop amplification for those equipped with an appropriate hearing aid. A Steinway B grand piano is located in a small wing to one side of the stage and is available for concerts. The projection room is equipped not only with the ubiquitous data projector, DVD player and sound system, but also 35mm and 16mm reel-to-reel cinema projectors, inherited from the Barbican Centre, offering a unique film experience.

Hire of the Grove Auditorium includes the services of an Audio-Visual Technician.
Grove Auditorium, cont’d

The Greek proportions have been maintained within the building, with an entrance Foyer or Gallery the full height of the building offering a space for registration, refreshments and receptions. Exhibitions can be held or material displayed on large panels suspended below a collection of tapestries designed by John Piper.

Adjoining the Foyer are a small cloakroom area and toilets. The Auditorium and Foyer are fully accessible by wheelchair, and WiFi Internet is available.

Magdalen Grove Auditorium can be hired for day meetings throughout the year and forms the focal pint for plenary sessions for residential conferences in the vacations.