



## **bayfront center (individual experience of michael nelson)** st. petersburg, florida

The renovation of the Bayfront Center, a theater and arena complex originally constructed in 1965, was undertaken by the city of St. Petersburg as a centennial project to bring renewed activity to the downtown waterfront. The focus of the work was the complete reconfiguration and remodeling of the 2,000-seat theater. Three levels of box seating were added to the sides, transforming the existing cold and characterless fan-shaped hall into a dramatic and intimate venue. The new form of the theater provides dramatically improved acoustics and sightlines. A new stage pit lift, improved performance equipment, and support facilities including dressing rooms and loading areas update the hall to present day requirements. The support facilities of the arena were also expanded and reorganized. New storage space was created, loading facilities were expanded and the lobby and other public areas were reconfigured.

Mr. Nelson served as Project Coordinator working from both the Toronto and Florida offices of Arcop Architects during the project's development from initial design thru completion of detailed construction documents. He also served as full-time Site Representative during the project's 16-month construction period and has intimate knowledge of all aspects of the centers original construction and renovations/additions.

### **Project Information**

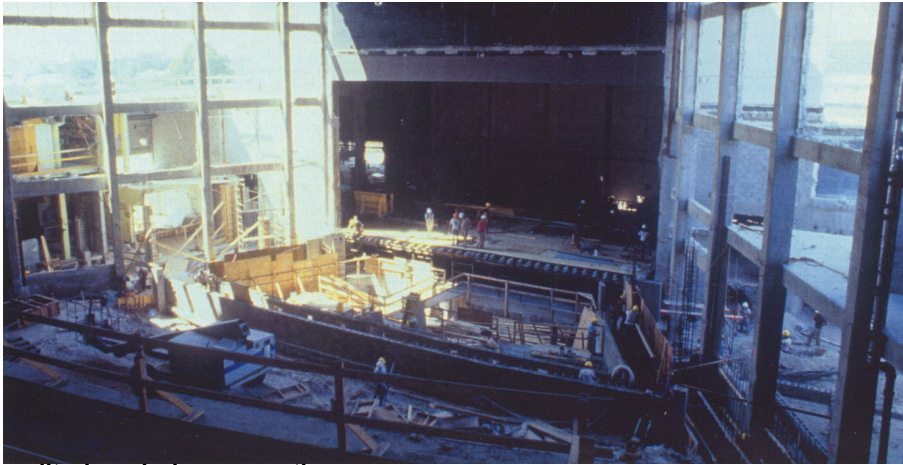
Area:	96,000 sq. ft.
Scope:	Renovation
Services:	Full Architectural Services
Completion Date:	September 1988
Client:	City of St. Petersburg
Contact:	Jeff Foreman 270.443.9932
Architect of Record:	ARCOP (Michael Nelson Project/ Site Architect)
Contractor:	Blount Construction
Delivery Method:	Bid
Construction Cost:	\$17.8 Million



auditorium before



lobby during renovation



auditorium during renovation



renovated lobby



renovated auditorium