

Project Brief

## Historic Egyptian Theater Renovation



Los Angeles, CA, USA  
October 1997



The Egyptian Theatre, built by the legendary Sid Grauman and designed by architects Meyer and Holler, opened in 1922 as the first major movie theatre in Hollywood. Renovated in the late '50s, the theatre continued as a first-run venue into the '90s.

In 1994 the building suffered extensive damage during the Northridge earthquake and was forced to close. American Cinematheque undertook the effort to restore the theater to its former glory as well as to modernize the facility. Fibrwrap Construction, Inc. was the specialty contractor that installed the Tyfo® WEB System to stabilize the existing clay masonry walls.

The design concept of the Cinematheque renovation of the Egyptian complex includes a café, book and magazine kiosks, and a patio in the courtyard area off Hollywood Boulevard which is intended to welcome pedestrians and encourage audiences to stay after screenings to talk and mingle. The original entrance portico was restored with the ticket booths and four massive columns. The design for the main 650-seat auditorium encompasses a state-of-the-art theatre within a historic shell. The original ornate sunburst ceiling pattern was restored and a 1922 Wurlitzer theatre organ installed for silent film presentations. The project also includes a 75-seat theater, expanded lobby and board room.

The Tyfo® Fibrwrap® System provided the required seismic stabilization for the existing clay masonry walls while the historic fabric of the renowned national landmark was respected.

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