



WORLD WIDE WEAVE

Golden metal fabric from GKD for world-class concert acoustics

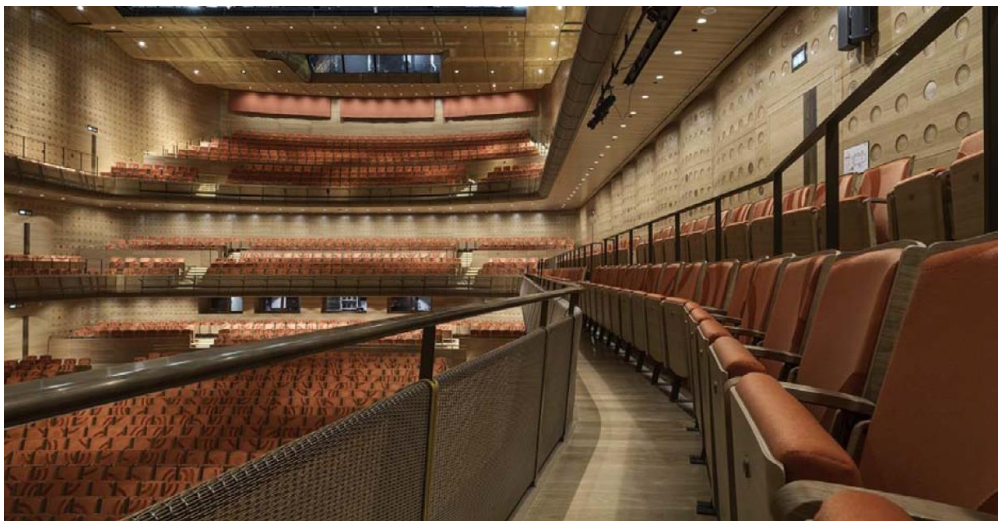
Renowned American acoustician Larry Kirkegaard employed metal fabric from GKD – Gebr. Kufferath AG over a large area in his redesign of the Koningin Elisabethzaal in Antwerp. Beside acoustic neutrality, its exclusive appearance, flexibility, installation versatility, and robustness are what spoke in favor of the woven texture. Golden fabric on the ceiling, rear wall of the stage, and parapets makes a key contribution to the uniquely immersive and spatial sound experience of the 2,000 square meter concert hall. Some 1,600 square meters of the powder-coated Alu 6010 fabric type were used to clad the moving reflectors, suspended from the ceiling, as well as 204 partially wave-shaped frames. Together with the movable reflectors on the rear wall of the stage, which are clad in the same fabric, these allow the sound to spread throughout the entire hall. On the ceiling, the semi-transparent membranes also conceal the technology above. The metallic fabric experts from GKD were also responsible for fitting the 4 meter long and 2.5 meter wide panels to the frame provided by the customer, as well as for precise production of the numerous cutouts in the ceiling panels for lamps and sprinklers. To guarantee the requisite homogeneous color, GKD coated the fully fitted frame in the desired golden tone as a complete construction.

The parapets of the two galleries are clad with a total of 400 square meters of Omega 1520 stainless steel mesh on both the front and back. The golden-coated weft wire of the cable mesh makes the textile cladding of the two angled balustrades a shimmering counterpart to the stage and ceiling. It molds to fit the shape and, as it is mounted in the direction of the wire, is also insensitive to knocks and jolts. Slightly conical panel trimming allows the cladding to follow the elements of the curved parapet precisely. With his



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redesign of the Koningin Elisabethzaal, Kirkegaard created a visually fascinating concert hall with truly world-class acoustics.



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As a privately owned technical weaver, GKD - Gebr. Kufferath AG is the world market leader in metal, synthetic and spiral mesh solutions. Four independent business divisions bundle their expertise under one roof: Industrial Mesh (woven metal mesh and filter solutions), Process Belts (belts made of mesh and spirals), Architectural meshes (façades, safety and interior design made of metal fabrics) and Mediamesh® (Transparent media façades). With its headquarter in Germany and five other facilities in the US, South Africa, China, India and Chile – as well as its branches in France,



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Spain, Dubai and worldwide representatives, GKD is close to markets anywhere in the world.

For more information:

GKD – GEBR. KUFFERATH AG
Metallweberstraße 46
D-52353 Düren
Tel.: +49 (0) 2421 / 803-0
Fax: +49 (0) 2421 / 803-211
E-Mail: metalfabrics@gkd.de
www.gkd.de

Please send a reprint to:

impetus.PR
Ursula Herrling-Tusch
Charlottenburger Allee 27-29
D-52068 Aachen
Tel.: +49 (0) 241 / 189 25-10
Fax: +49 (0) 241 / 189 25-29
E-Mail: herrling-tusch@impetus-pr.de