



Following the successful provision of the Drama Studio, BH&M were asked by Monmouth School to carry out the remaining phases of the Master Plan to provide a modern Performing Arts Centre. This required the transformation of a dilapidated school hall built in the late 1950s. The building occupied a commanding position within one of the most significant areas of the Conservation Area.

The refurbished hall would be required to be extremely flexible. Its primary function was as a centre for the performing arts, with layout and acoustics suitable to both theatrical and orchestral performances. The Head of Drama was insistent that productions should not be locked into a proscenium arch format. In addition, the hall was required to accommodate the whole school (570) for short assemblies, and it would also be used for examinations and occasional dinners. A piano store and an organ loft were also incorporated, and new changing facilities were provided below stage.

Above: Auditorium  
Below: Lobby

Monmouth School  
Multi Use Theatre

Thanks to the confidence that the School had in the scheme, and the good offices of an excellent local contractor, BH&M were able to deliver a building which was completely **transformed and which answered the full range of the client's** ambitions. Furthermore, this was achieved while staying within a very modest budget.

The facility was formally opened by HRH Prince Edward. Sell-out performances followed, featuring artists such as Courtney Pine, Evelyn Glennie and the BBC Orchestra for Wales. It has since gone from strength to strength, with a new member of staff being taken on to man the box office.



Top left: External view - the gables are new  
Top right: New corridor link  
Above: Auditorium