

FEATURE PROJECT

# KINGS THEATRE

Brooklyn, N





## **INTRO**

The Kings Theatre was built in the late 1920s under the guidance of the notable architectural firm Rapp & Rapp and interior designer Harold W. Rambusch. The original construction cost, \$1.3 million, would be over \$18 million today.

In 2015, EverGreene concluded an expansive restoration project encompassing a broad variety of services to return this Loews' Wonder Theater to its original splendor.

OUR THEATER PORTFOLIO



## **HISTORY**

The selected site of construction was the Brooklyn, New York neighborhood of Flatbush. At the time, it was home to a diverse immigrant population. Of the many large theaters in the area, the Kings stood out because of its capacity (bordering on nearly 3,700 seats) and its opulence, which combined multiple architectural and decorative styles

# **TIMELINE**

### <u>1928</u>

Construction begins.

### 1929

Opening day.

### 1977

The struggling Kings closes, attempts reopening, but closes again 4 months later.

## May 2013

Restoration begins.

# January 2015

Restoration concludes.

### September 2019

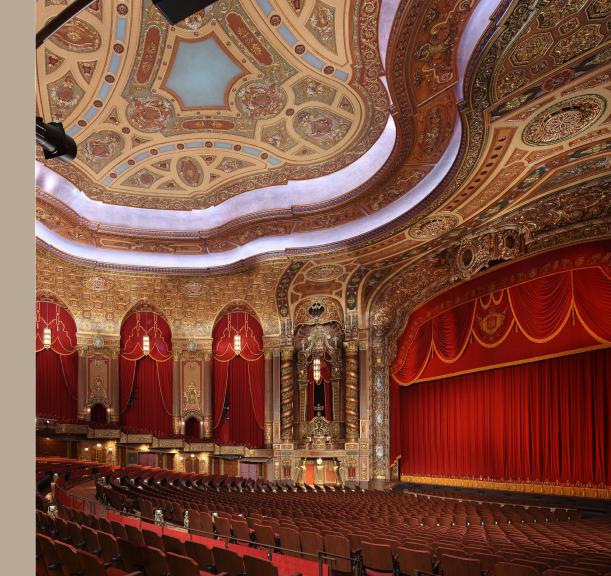
The Kings celebrates its 90th year!





# IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY

The monumental restoration of the Kings coincides with the revival of both the economy and arts scene in Flatbush. With over 40 years of experience renewing theaters, we know there are unquantifiable ways that they improve neighborhoods and strengthen communities. The Kings is one of many historic theaters we have renovated that shares this story. As the largest theater in Brooklyn, it is bound to impart continual economic and cultural improvements to the vicinity.





### **PLASTER**

Recreating and restoring over a third of the theater's plasterwork was a feat in itself. EverGreene craftsmen created custom molds from the remaining ornamental plaster, executed on-site casting, and completed installation. The process was unique to the Kings' extensive needs.

- PLASTER RESTORATION
- PLASTER CONSERVATION
- PLASTER FABRICATION







# DECORATIVE PAINTING & FINISHES

Repainting and refinishing the expansive interior began with a historic finishes investigation, which enabled us to discover the original color scheme and create a custom palette. The 50,000 square-foot ceiling alone was polychromed in 18 different colors and glazes. The new painted interior is a highly accurate reinterpretation of how the Kings looked in 1929.

DECORATIVE PAINTING & FINISHES

STENCILING & LETTERING





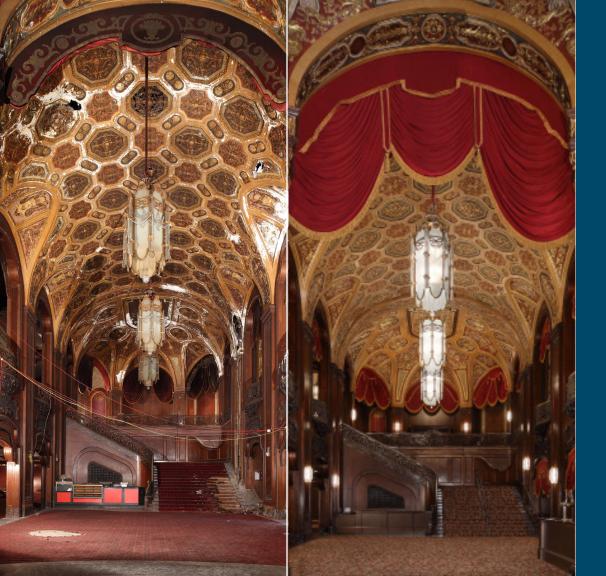
# ARCHITECTURAL TEXTILES

We're no stranger to stage curtains, painted drops, lambrequins, and hung tapestries. Besides recreating the main curtain and decorative draperies throughout the Kings, EverGreene also designed, digitally fabricated, and installed large areas of wallpaper based on the patterns original to the theatre.









### **LOBBY RESTORATION**

Many different types of traditional architectural decoration techniques were employed to make both the Grand Lobby and Inner Lobby a magical preamble to the auditorium. We reinstated the wood. recreated the metal railings, and restored, painted, gilded, and glazed the plaster, ensuring that the opulence astounds each visitor as soon as they open the doors. Adorning the lobbies are wood columns and panels, painted plaster, and large ornamental grills, inspired by the Palace of Versailles.

METAL CONSERVATION

GILDING







#### **PRESS**

- GIVING OLD LOEW'S THEATER
  IN BROOKLYN A SECOND
  CHANCE
- BEHOLD THE GORGEOUSLY
  RESTORED KINGS THEATRE IN
  BROOKLYN
- INSIDE AMERICA'S HISTORIC MOVIE THEATERS
- RESTORATION OF
  BROOKLYN'S HISTORIC KINGS
  THEATRE!
- UNVEILING BROOKLYN'S

  MAGNIFICENTLY RESTORED

  KINGS THEATRE
- WHAT IT TAKES TO RESTORE A 1929 BROOKLYN 'WONDER THEATER'

Special thanks to Matt Lambros for documenting the Kings' journey in his book Kings Theatre: The Rise, Fall and Rebirth of Brooklyn's Wonder Theatre. Visit afterthefinalcurtain.net for more of his historic theater photography.





### **AWARDS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

OUR TEAM

**Ace Theatrical Group** 

Venue Operations

The City of New York

Owner

**Gilbane Construction** 

General Contractor

**Martinez & Johnson Architects** 

**Restoration Architect** 

**Schuler Shook Theatre Planners** 

Lighting Design

**Whitney Cox** 

Professional Photographer

SELECTED AWARDS

2014

**New York Landmarks Conservancy** 

Lucy G. Moses Award

2015

**New York State Parks** 

New York State Historic Preservation Award

The SARA NY Council

Gold Award of Excellence

**Building Design+Construction Magazine** 

Platinum Reconstruction Award

The AGC of America

Building Renovation \$10-199M

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce

Brooklyn Building Award for Historic Preservation

2016

The Greater New York Construction User Council

Cultural Award



## **SAFETY**

Jobsite safety is a matter of human dignity, and at EverGreene, it's a top priority.

Our mission is to keep every project incident-free and return each employee home safe and sound. We are proud to be an industry leader in environmental health and safety in historicbuilt environments.







### **ABOUT US**

As stewards of the most treasured buildings, landmarks, monuments, and theaters, we devote every day to the inspiring integration of art and architecture. Employing a cross-disciplinary approach, we integrate the client's vision with conservation science, craftsmanship, advanced technology, art history, and specialty construction. Our artists, craftspeople, and conservators are among the most talented and highly trained in the country.

Described as "a modern-day renaissance studio" by The New York Times, EverGreene has provided award-winning design, historic conservation, and restoration services for theaters for over forty years.



We'd love to work with your community. Tell us about your project.





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