
Palais Theatre



B4722 Palais Theatre

Location

14 Lower Esplanade, ST KILDA VIC 3182 - Property No B4722

Municipality

PORT PHILLIP CITY

Level of significance

State

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0947

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 8, 2008

The Sydney Architect, Henry White, designed the Palais Pictures in 1926 and achieved the opening of the theatre in November, 1927. Then, as at the present, the Palais had the largest seating capacity in Australia, possessing over 3,000 seats.

From a simple Islamic flavoured exterior, the style of the Palais moves to a predominantly Spanish mode internally with multi-coloured steepled walls and applied plaster decoration in the Adam style.

Notable internal elements include a large Spanish-styled brass chandelier in the entrance lobby; four giant-order scaglioli columns which support the lounge gallery and richly coloured lighting coves, to the ceilings, which take full advantage of the surrounding textured finish.

An unusual aspect of the lounge lobby is the balustraded gallery which overlooks the stalls below; this has been closed in, as has the colonnade at the rear of the stalls.

Other alterations to the building include the enclosure of the balcony on the front of the building, removal of the stage organ, recarpeting and some repainting to ceilings.

Classified: 05/03/1981

Revised: 03/08/1998

2006 National Trust Victorian Heritage Icon Award (People's Choice)

Hermes Number 66626

Property Number

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>