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Restoring America's Theatrical Past

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RYAN CAMERON

SENIOR INTEGRATIVE PROJECT:
INDEPENDENT STUDY

ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES
CONNECTICUT COLLEGE
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CONNECTICUT
COLLEGE

Restoring America's Theatrical Past

By Ryan Cameron

“ The arts don't take money, they *make* money” – Lisa Brownell



The Garde Arts Center

“ When people came together, spoke and acted in each other’s presence, and developed a capacity to act in concert, they created a power, a king of power that challenges the power of coercion”
– Jeffrey Goldfarb







The Capitol's Grand Opening...

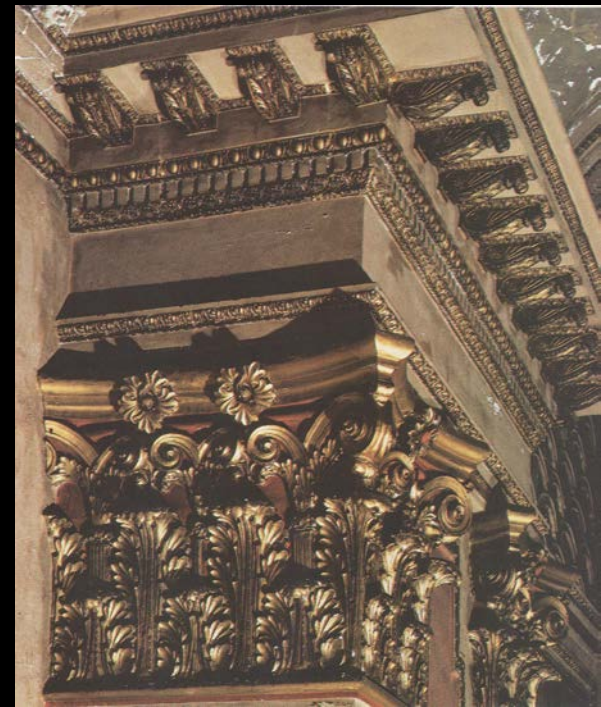


“Advance reports of the beauty of the new theatre have not been exaggerated one bit. In fact it is hard to do justice to the interior except to say that in beauty, comfort, equipment, construction and other ways, it equals, if it does not surpass any theatre of its size in the country... The base and floor of the lobby are of Venetian marble and the wainscoting and stairs are of light clouded marble. The ceiling is designed in a circle with eight inlaid panels from which is suspended a festooned dome of Bohemian cut glass which flitters and glistens and sparkles like a myriad of diamonds” -- New London Day, 1921



*At present, the question is not what the city can do for the Capitol
but what the Capitol can do for the city.*

“At present, the question is not what the city can do for the Capitol but what the Capitol can do for the city” – Lisa Brownell?



The Capitol Theater Today



“Pigeons have lived there for over 20 years” -- Vinnie



“The arts pages of our press fail to develop the understanding of audiences, fail to encourage excellence, in the practice of theater, and fail to hold its practitioners responsible for growth and standards of quality” – Charles Lyons

The Boston Opera House

In 1995 the Boston Opera House was placed on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 11 most Endangered Building's List



The Boston Opera House Renovation





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Interviews with "Vinnie" (Capitol) Maggie Doyle (BOH), and Alona Comito (Garde)