

## Case Study

# We Design the Way Art is Heard

Aspirations for the newly expanded MoMA was achieved through a marriage of science and art, with Trinity Cerami's acoustic engineers and audiovisual consultants making sure that things sound as good as they look. Upon entry you will notice the stunning Blade Stair, the signature circulation centerpiece connecting the old space to the new. Cerami performed a series of detailed acoustical analysis to determine the optimum amount of acoustical absorption that would satisfy design objectives, landing on floor-to-ceiling wood-paneled walls, speckled with millions of barely detectable micro-perforations that absorb sound like a sponge and keep noise from spilling out to the galleries – aligning the sound with the sleek beauty of the design.

**Signature Solution:** At the heart of the new space is the Marie-Josée and Henry Kravis Studio, the world's first dedicated space for performance, process and time-based art within a museum. Challenged with how to design the Studio to be impervious to NYC's bustling 53rd Street and ensure its adaptability for an expansive variety of uses, Cerami brought this design challenge into their Immersive Studio so that the MoMA creative team could experience the experience before it was built. Through virtual simulations and numerous iterations, Cerami's solution was a floating gallery with tilting walls, adjustable banners that can alter the acoustics, and an isolated secondary curtain wall engineered so guests will never know they are in midtown Manhattan. This silence is part of the gallery experience, art you can't touch, but you can sense; a blank canvas to be transformed with each installation.



### Challenge

Cerami was asked to address potential acoustical challenges from specific design requirements to create the opulent experience in one of the world's most prominent museums.



### Solution

Cerami performed a series of detailed acoustical analysis to determine the optimum amount of acoustical absorption needed in various areas of the gallery. The acoustical engineers also brought the design team into their Immersive Studio to experience the acoustical recommendations to ensure the right decisions were made.



### Result

The experience that the newly expanded MOMA offers its patrons was achieved with Cerami's solution that married science and art.