

# MILWAUKEE THEATRE

## PROJECT SNAPSHOT:

**Description:**  
Staircases, catwalks,  
platforms, specialty metal  
fabrication

**Owner:**  
Wisconsin Center District

**General Contractor:**  
GPD|Gilbane and Hunt

**Architect:**  
VOA Associates

**Engineer:**  
Nayyar & Nayyar  
Structural Engineers

**Completed:**  
November 2003



*The Milwaukee Theatre underwent an extensive two-year interior and exterior renovation, which was completed in November 2003.*

## RESTORING THEATRICAL MAGIC TO THE MILWAUKEE THEATRE

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

Grunau Metals fabricated and installed ornamental and industrial metal work at the Milwaukee Theatre during the historic building's restoration.

### SITUATION

Grunau Metals worked extensively on the two-year restoration of the historic Milwaukee Theatre. To enhance the building's half-round rotunda lobby, the metals team fabricated two grand multi-story staircases. The team also installed decorative plasma cut panels on handrails throughout the theatre that display the Milwaukee Theatre logo. In addition, Grunau Metals demonstrated its skills in industrial metalworking by fabricating the theatre catwalks, stage ladders and platforms. They also installed all of the handrails, seating stairs and light support bars located inside of the theatre. The metals team also fabricated and installed more than 18 other public and access stairways throughout the building.

On the exterior of the theatre, Grunau Metals installed hundreds of feet of stylized handrails and guardrails, and two functional but highly ornate, canopied entrances with radius plasma cut panels displaying the theatre's logo. Adding the final touches to the building, Grunau Metals laser cut multi-layered aluminum panels featuring artwork highlighting the city of Milwaukee. The artwork wraps around the top of the exterior walls of the theatre. Grunau Metals was also asked to perform last-minute tasks such as enhancing the front entrance.



*Grunau Metals fabricated and installed the intricate canopied entrances to the theatre.*



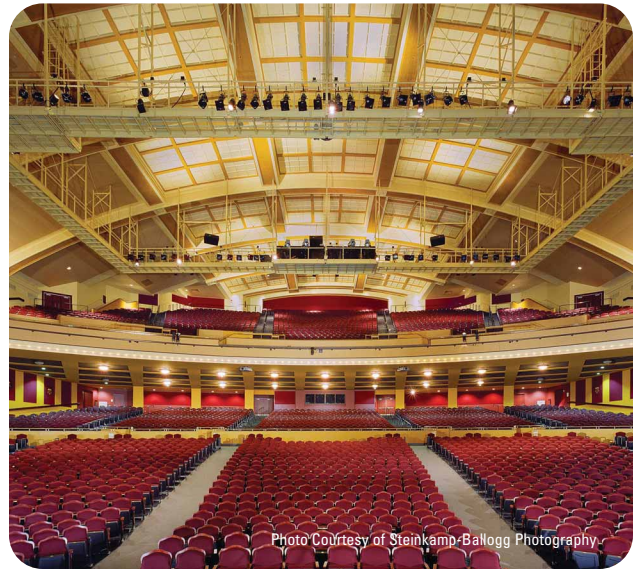
*Wisconsin Builder* magazine recognized the Milwaukee Theatre renovation project as one of Wisconsin's 20 best projects of 2003.

## GRUNAU METALS

## RESULTS

Grunau Metals was able to complete the entire job on schedule and in time for the theatre's grand opening, despite initial delays and increased scope of work.

*The Milwaukee Theatre can seat up to 4,000 spectators, or the space can be reduced to 2,500 seats for a more personal setting.*



## ABOUT GRUNAU METALS

Since 1977, the Grunau Metals team has been led by highly skilled professionals who specialize in metal fabrication. Our extremely versatile team prides itself on taking the time to understand your vision and bring your ideas to life. We put your interests first and offer complete service and cost-saving efficiencies.



*Grunau Metals exhibited its industrial metalworking skills by fabricating all of the theatre catwalks, stage ladders and platforms.*