

# DANSEHALLERNE

EMEA

COPENHAGEN / DENMARK



A major industrial building in Copenhagen is transformed into an international centre for dance, with cutting-edge infrastructure at its heart.

---

Photo: Adam Mork



Nestled in the Carlsberg Byen district of Copenhagen, Dansehallerne represents a cutting-edge fusion of advanced technology and architectural preservation.

This unique venue, dedicated to contemporary dance and choreography, has been designed to cater to a wide variety of artistic needs, from intimate performances to large-scale productions.

Central to the venue's success is its flexible and adaptive technical infrastructure, which includes an innovative chain hoist system, MOVEKET cranes, and a sophisticated Elion load cell system.

These systems, alongside state-of-the-art lighting and sound setups, ensure that Dansehallerne can accommodate the diverse and evolving demands of contemporary performing arts.

Transforming the historic former boiler house, which was built in 1928, into a state-of-the-art performance space came with a set of unique challenges. The building's status as a listed industrial site meant that any modifications to the structure had to be carefully considered to preserve its architectural integrity. One of the major challenges was the weight-bearing limitations of the venue's ceiling, which made traditional chain hoist systems unsuitable. The solution came in the form of MOVEKET lifting devices, lightweight and highly efficient chain hoists that allow for flexible rigging setups without compromising the building's structure. Dansehallerne's technical team, led by local consultant and integration company Stouenborg, collaborated closely with engineers and architects to ensure that the chain hoist system not only met the venue's technical requirements but also worked in harmony with the historical building. The integration of MOVEKET hoists was key to meeting the building's strict load-bearing requirements, ensuring that performances could be staged with the flexibility and efficiency required by modern productions. **MOVEKET Hoists and Elion Load Cell Systems: Precision and Flexibility** The MOVEKET hoists installed at Dansehallerne are key to the venue's ability to quickly and seamlessly adapt to a range of performance configurations. The lightweight systems are designed to provide exceptional flexibility, enabling the reconfiguration of stage layouts for various types of performances – from large theatrical productions to more intimate, experimental dance pieces.

#### **Safety and Operational Efficiency**

The capacity to adjust rigging and equipment dynamically is essential for the venue's functionality, particularly in a world where artistic needs are ever-evolving. At the heart of this flexibility lies the Elion load cell system, which plays a critical role in ensuring both safety and operational efficiency. This system continuously monitors the weight load on each of the MOVEKET hoists, providing real-time feedback to the technical team. With this data, the team can ensure that the weight limits of the building's ceiling are never exceeded, which is essential for preserving the integrity of the historic structure. A key advantage of the Elion load cell system is its precision, enabling the technical team to make well-informed decisions about how to rig and operate the hoists safely during complex performances. The system's ability to monitor and control the weight distribution of the cranes in real time is especially crucial at Dansehallerne, where the staging often requires the movement of heavy equipment, lights, and other technical elements.

Furthermore, the use of MOVEKET hoists and Elion load cells at Dansehallerne is fully compliant with the European standard EN17206, which governs the safety and performance requirements of lifting equipment in entertainment applications.

This standard ensures that all systems are safe, reliable, and suitable for the dynamic environment of performance venues. By adhering to EN17206, Dansehallerne not only guarantees the safety of its artists and audiences, but also sets a benchmark for contemporary performing arts venues that integrate cutting-edge technology with strict safety standards. Incorporating MOVEKET hoists and the Elion load cell system allows Dansehallerne to be a model for future performance spaces that balance technological innovation with the preservation of architectural heritage.



This combination of precision, flexibility, and compliance with industry standards makes Dansehallerne a standout example of how modern theatres can evolve without compromising safety or historical value. While the MOVEKET hoists and Elion load cell system provide the structural flexibility required for Dansehallerne's performance space, the venue's lighting and sound systems complement these technologies, ensuring a seamless experience for both artists and audiences.

#### Audio, Video & Lighting

Dansehallerne's AVL system is highly versatile, supporting a wide range of artistic expressions and performance styles.

The venue's lighting system, which includes over 120 fixtures from Astera, Robe, and Prolights, is designed for precision and flexibility, and is controlled via an MA Lighting grandMA3 system so the lighting can be adjusted in real time to create a unique atmosphere for each performance. In tandem with the lighting, the venue's sound system, powered by Meyer Sound's Spacemap Go technology, offers spatial sound configurations that can be customised for any performance.

The system is designed to support the fluid movement of both performers and the audience, allowing for perfectly synchronised sound that follows the action as it unfolds across the venue.

Whether the performance takes place in the large White Box or the more intimate Black Box, the sound system ensures that the audio experience remains immersive and engaging, providing the audience with a cohesive and dynamic experience.

Dansehallerne features two main performance spaces that each serve a distinct purpose. The White Box is the larger of the two, with its high ceilings and open space providing a dramatic backdrop for large performances. Its industrial architecture is a defining feature of the venue, with original arches and windows adding a unique character. The White Box's flexible configuration makes it ideal for grand performances, exhibitions, and large-scale events, allowing for the free movement of sound and light across the space. In contrast, the Black Box offers a more intimate setting, with its enclosed space designed to foster experimental performances and smaller productions. The Black Box's ceiling acts as a mezzanine for viewing the White Box from a height, creating a layered and visually dynamic space. The versatility of the Black Box allows for different seating and stage configurations, making it an ideal space for rehearsals, workshops, and smaller performances that demand a more intimate connection between the performers and the audience.

#### Adaptability

The adaptability of both spaces is enhanced by the MOVEKET hoist system and the Elion load cell monitoring technology. These systems allow the venue's technical team to easily switch between different configurations, whether for a traditional seated performance or an immersive experience where the audience is surrounded by the action.

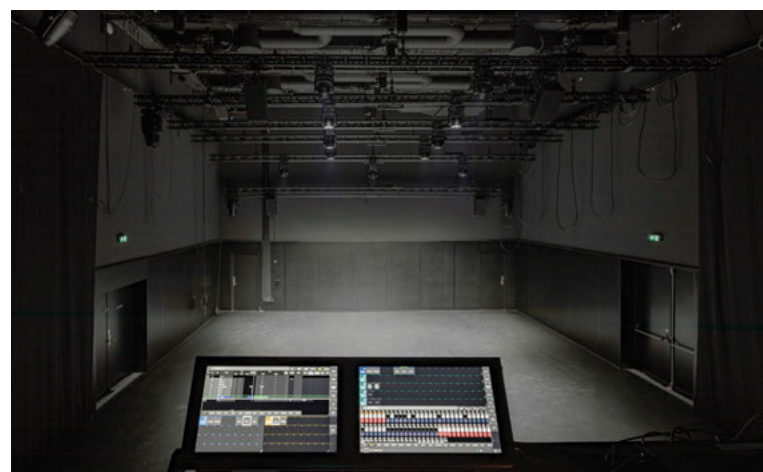
The ability to reconfigure seating, rigging, and lighting quickly ensures that Dansehallerne can support a wide range of artistic activities, making it a dynamic and versatile venue for contemporary dance productions. Dansehallerne stands as a prime example of how modern technology can enhance the flexibility and creativity of performance spaces, all while preserving the integrity of historic architecture.

The MOVEKET hoists, along with the precision of the Elion load cell system, are at the heart of Dansehallerne's flexibility, ensuring that the venue can reconfigure spaces rapidly and safely to meet the needs of each production. The venue's innovative use of technology in a historic building sets a new standard for theatres and performance spaces worldwide, offering a model for how cutting-edge technical systems can blend seamlessly with the artistry of dance and theatre, providing an adaptable and dynamic environment for both performers and audiences.

"Dansehallerne is a dream come true, and so many people have worked hard to make it possible," said Dansehallern Director Danjel Andersson. "It used to be a factory, and now it is a fully functional theatre, and it took so much hard work and planning. The technical team from the theatre side, with Stouenborg as leader, has made this dream possible, and this modern house is a testament to their commitment and hard work." ■

[www.dansehallerne.dk](http://www.dansehallerne.dk) / [www.stouenborg.dk](http://www.stouenborg.dk)

“DANSEHALLERNE IS A DREAM COME TRUE, AND SO MANY PEOPLE HAVE WORKED HARD TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE. IT USED TO BE A FACTORY, AND NOW IT IS A FULLY FUNCTIONAL THEATRE, AND IT TOOK SO MUCH HARD WORK AND PLANNING”.



**Above top:** MOVEKET hoists and Elion load cell system provide the structural flexibility required for Dansehallerne's main performance space.

**Above:** The smaller Black Box theatre inside Dansehallerne. Photos: Nalle Magnusson.