

Category B: Performing Arts Groups for Xiqu Centre

1. Please give examples of theatres that, in your opinion, are well-suited to Xiqu and are superior from the viewpoint of a) sightlines, b) acoustics c) overall experience, and d) operational efficiency. Please give any additional comments you may have on these venues.
2. In your experience of similar existing venues in Hong Kong or elsewhere, what are the good design features that you would like to see adopted in the design of the venue in question in the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) including facilities that would enhance audience's convenience and comfort?
3. What are the ideal seating capacities you would suggest for the performance venue and the small theatre of the Xiqu Centre?
4. Currently Xiqu is mostly performed on a proscenium stage, do you have any views on other stage formats to be provided, such as thrust stage? Would you suggest that a traditional stage format be restored in one or more of the Xiqu Centre theatres?
5. In the Xiqu Centre, what do you look for in acoustics quality and distance of the audience to the artists?
6. How would you describe the ideal audience environment for Xiqu? For example, how should audience seating be arranged – one or two tiers, with or without balconies, balcony seating at the rear only, on the sides only, or both at the rear and on the sides of the venue?

7. What secondary performance stages, either indoor or outdoor, would you suggest to ensure the Xiqu Centre's impact? How should the overall environment of the Centre be shaped to best promote the art form?
8. What number of scenery and lighting bars, types of riggings, rigging capacity do you require for this venue?
9. Any specific requirements for the venue's sound and lighting equipment?
10. Do you have any suggestions on other special ancillary facilities that should be provided in the Xiqu Centre?
11. What specific spatial needs do you have for this venue, both onstage and backstage?
12. Would you suggest the inclusion of an orchestra pit? If so, how many musicians are you intending to put there?
13. What specific requirements do you have for a subtitle viewing system to be installed?
14. Do you have any specific requirements regarding the loading / unloading and temporary storage facilities for the Xiqu Centre?

15. Do you have any specific views on the need, preferred locations and characteristics of the key technical space in the venue? For example, lighting and sound control room, props room, scenery and props workshop, running wardrobe, dressing room, rehearsal room, artist lounge, other essential backstage facilities and press/VIP space etc. Please provide your comments if any of the above spaces is not needed or if you see a need for any spaces not listed above.
16. Which of the facilities in Question 15 above should be located on the same level and what is the maximum level difference if they are located on different levels? What vertical circulation (open staircase, personnel and freight lifts) should be taken into consideration?
17. Would it be appropriate that the Xiqu Centre has one or more resident companies associated with it? If no, please explain. If so, do you think that a full residency which would provide for integrated rehearsal/practice facilities is the most appropriate solution? Or could a performance residency where the ancillary facilities are elsewhere be more appropriate? Under what conditions? Should a combination of full and performance residencies be considered?
18. What kind of activities can be organized at the Xiqu Centre to attract people flow during non-performance hours, and what facilities should be provided to cater for such activities?
19. Would you be interested in using any of the piazzas for performances? What requirements would you have for this to be possible?