



Carnegie Hall, interior office renovation (©Jeff Goldberg/Esto)

LOCATION: NEW YORK

ARCHITECT: KEN LEVIEN, AB '74 (architecture), March '76, FAIA

Levien leads Levien & Company, a New York firm of 23, providing clients complex capital-projects management and owner's representative services.

DESCRIPTION:

"The Carnegie Hall renovation was extensive and exciting. The main concert hall, built in 1891, had been renovated in 1986, but the two towers — about 160,000 square feet, previously used as rental properties for musicians and others — had never been.

"Ten years ago, it was decided the buildings would be used to create rehearsal space and a school, as well as an education center, archives and new office space. We repurposed the roof to become a meeting place, and we completely reconfigured the back of the house, behind the stage, with new elevator systems. Serving as owner's reps and project manager, we oversaw design and construction.

"The concert venues put on more than 800 programs a year, plus rehearsals, so the building could not close during renovation. We had to create a safe environment for thousands of people and ensure no performances were missed. The hardest part was the logistics."



Ken Levien, AB '74 (architecture), March '76, FAIA, is founder of Levien and Company, a real estate project management and owner's representation firm. His company worked on the renovation project of Weill Terrace and Carnegie Hall Studio Towers, where the Judith and Burton Resnick Education Wing resides. (Jennifer Weisbord, BFA '92)