



Media Announcement

2011

For Immediate Release
September 7, 2011

Raise the Roof: A Sneak Peek at KC's Kauffman Center

Thursday, September 15, 2011 at 7:30pm, KCPT (19.1 HD)

Described as everything from a beacon on the hill and a bold statement of Kansas City's appreciation for the power of the arts, to "our version of the Sydney Opera House," the new Kauffman Center is one amazing structure.

As a prelude to its grand opening on September 16, KCPT's Randy Mason and Steph Suetos will host a special edition of KCPT's primetime public and cultural affairs program, *The Local Show*. They'll go "behind the scenes" to explore the innovative design details and creature comforts woven into this world-class venue. They'll talk with architect Moshe Safdie about his vision of "a musical instrument you literally step into," and demonstrate the acoustic excellence that Yasu Toyota has engineered into both Helzberg Hall and the Muriel Kauffman Theatre. They'll revel in the towering glass wall that gives the "front porch" such an astonishing view, watch the massive pipe organ being installed, and reveal some of the center's subterranean qualities too.

But because the arts are more than just a building, "Raise the Roof" also asks the Kauffman's three resident companies—ballet, symphony and opera—how they're planning to put their shiny new home to its most effective and dramatic use!

"We wanted to give our viewers an in-depth look at some of the features of the building and some of the design principles it embodies. Architect Moshe Safdie had never built a performing arts center before, so he swung for the fence on this one, and really seems to have connected.

We also wanted to explore how the groups that will use it the most—the symphony, opera and ballet, plan to put this great opportunity to immediate use." Randy Mason, Executive Producer of Cultural Affairs, KCPT

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1

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