

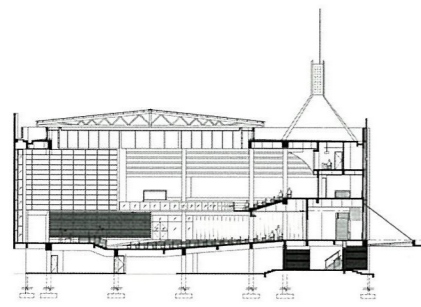


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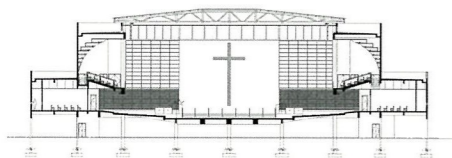
essays by Philip Goad and Ngiam
photography by Patrick Bingham-Hall

ching kwong methodist church

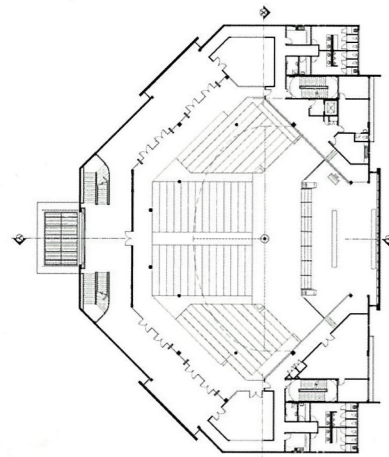
Design Network Architects



Section



Section



First floor plan



The church committee's original brief had been for a traditional steepled structure, as if located in an ideal landscape of rolling fields, but the completed exterior of this church is crisp and austere, a modernist composition designed to be seen as unremarkable in an industrial area of Kuching. However, the prosaic external shell conceals a sensitive and crafted 14.3 metre high auditorium for a congregation of 1500, with timber seating and a mezzanine gallery fanning out from the central stage. The warm and comfortable ambience of the auditorium is established by indirect natural lighting and by the use of timber and plywood, with a touch of craft hinted at in the 'woven' appearance of the walls and wooden strips abutting the stage. The focal point, at the rear of the stage, is a massively scaled backlit Cross of Christ incised through the wall.

Left above: West elevation
Left below: Mezzanine gallery
Below: View to stage and cross

