



Photo: Chris

ECO

FOR SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

EDUCATION

- LEARN FROM THE FOREST**
- STATE OF THE ART SCHOOL DESIGN**
- POLITICIANS FOCUS ON SOUND ENVIRONMENT**
- GROUND BREAKING ROOM ACOUSTIC RESEARCH**
- SUCCESSFUL INVESTMENT IN SCHOOL ACOUSTICS**

A WORK OF ACOUSTIC ART IN SOUTH AFRICA

The acoustics in the entrance to the Aula on the University of Pretoria's campus in South Africa needed improvement. The solution was a magnificent symbolic tree with leaves made of sound absorbent panels.

THE AULA IS THE CULTURAL HUB of the University of Pretoria's campus, one of South Africa's leading institutes of higher education. The university is proud to be able to achieve the country's best research results, and it offers more than 1,800 academic programmes.

The imposing tree reaches high up towards the roof above the entrance to the Aula. The trunk is a concrete column and the branches are decorated with free-hanging sound absorbers which are



When it's dark, images can be projected onto the sound absorbers. Cool, isn't it?

in different colours. An excellent example of how aesthetics and room acoustics can be combined.

A clever hanging system makes installation easy and spotlights or other installations can be added to the panels. There are endless possibilities for creating different solutions.

Effective sound absorption

Most importantly - the sound absorbers must have the ability to absorb the sound within a broad spectrum of frequencies. Around 200 absorbers combine to represent the leaves of the tree.

"Ecophon Solo is the ideal product for focal areas where there is a requirement for light, floating elements with an added acoustic attribute. I wish I had come to it across earlier in my career."



Madi van Wyk,
Director ARC
Architects.

Architect: ARC Architects

Acoustic systems from Ecophon:
Ecophon Solo™