



## Milbank Chapel

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK, NY

**After 100 years in service, a comprehensive restoration transformed the chapel into a 250-seat, ADA-compliant auditorium and performance venue.**

Columbia University's Milbank Chapel was designed by William Potter in 1897, with an intact, High Victorian style interior. The original decoration was influenced by the British Arts-and-Crafts Movement, and included rare surviving wall stenciling attributed to the Tiffany Glass & Decorating Company (1892-1902). The unsigned mural on the stage resembles tapestry design by William Morris, adding to its historical significance.

A wheel-chair lift and state-of-the-art technology, including video projection equipment, a high quality lighting and audio system, and an HVAC system were installed. EverGreene's engagement comprised of the protection and conservation of the historically important interior decoration, including plasterwork, stenciling, decorative painting, and a mural amidst the installation of modern technology and accessibility features.

EverGreene restoration specialists repaired and stabilized the water-damaged plaster substrate. Crumbling plaster was consolidated, cracks and voids were repaired, and loose elements were secured by mechanical means. Elaborate stenciling required touching up and replicating in areas that had suffered water damage or undergone plaster repair. Acrylic paints and glazes were specially created to match the colors and sheen of the stenciling...

MORE INFORMATION:

<https://evergreene.com/projects/columbia-university-milbank-chapel/>

### SERVICES PERFORMED

- Conservation Treatments
- Decorative Painting & Finishes
- Gilding
- Investigation, Testing & Analysis
- Mortar Identification & Analysis
- Murals & Mosaics
- Plasterwork

### PROJECT DETAILS

**Architect**

Mitchell-Giurgola Architects, LLP

**General Contractor**

R.C. Dolner, LLC

**Original Architect**

William Potter

