



Rose Main Reading Room

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, NEW YORK, NY

Perhaps the greatest masterpiece of Beaux-Arts style architecture in the United States, the New York Public Library was designed by Carrere & Hastings, and opened in 1911. It is one of the largest public library systems in the United States and one of the largest research library systems in the world. The Rose Reading Room is the key symbolic space of the library, about the size of a football field and comparable to the great European libraries.

Having first completed restoration work at the New York Public Library's Rose Reading Room in 1999, EverGreene was honored to return to the Carrere & Hastings-designed building for another restoration project at the Rose Reading Room in 2014.

EverGreene's most recent work was instigated by a rosette falling in the middle of the night. Following this incident, the New York Public Library decided it was time to fully assess the historic room. EverGreene was asked to provide a historic finishes investigation and report, repairing the ceiling facades, repairing all decorative plaster elements and securing the iconic plaster rosettes. The Rose Reading Room reopened in October 2016.

The full scope of EverGreene's work included:

- Replication of ceiling sky murals on canvas, in situ and in EverGreene's Mural Studio
- Conservation and restoration of ornate plaster ceiling, including consolidation and replication of missing and damaged ornament
- Conservation cleaning of decorative painting, gilding and glazing, and replication of areas of loss
- *Faux bois* of beamed ceiling
- Cleaning and restoration of Caen stone walls

MORE INFORMATION:

<https://evergreene.com/projects/new-york-public-library-rose-main-reading-room/>

SERVICES PERFORMED

Conservation Treatments
Decorative Finishes Analysis
Decorative Painting & Finishes
Faux Bois—Draft
Gilding
Glazing—Draft
Murals
Ornamental & Decorative Plaster Restoration
Plaster Conservation
Plaster Fabrication
Surveys & Condition Assessments

PROJECT DETAILS

Architect

Davis Brody Bond LLP

Preservation Agency

New York City Landmarks Preservation
Commission

Historical Architect

Carrere & Hastings

