



Te Ngākau
Recording Studios

COMING SOON!

**World class orchestral recording,
seamlessly delivered — where heritage
acoustics meet modern production**

Bringing together the NZSO, the acoustically celebrated Adam Auditorium, and cutting-edge recording facilities, NZSO's new recording studios will deliver seamless, end-to-end recording services for both symphonic and screen projects from the heart of Wellington.

Opening in February 2027, Te Ngākau Recording Studios comprises a Control Room, Isolation Room, Producers' Suite and all the facilities and technology required for complex recording projects.

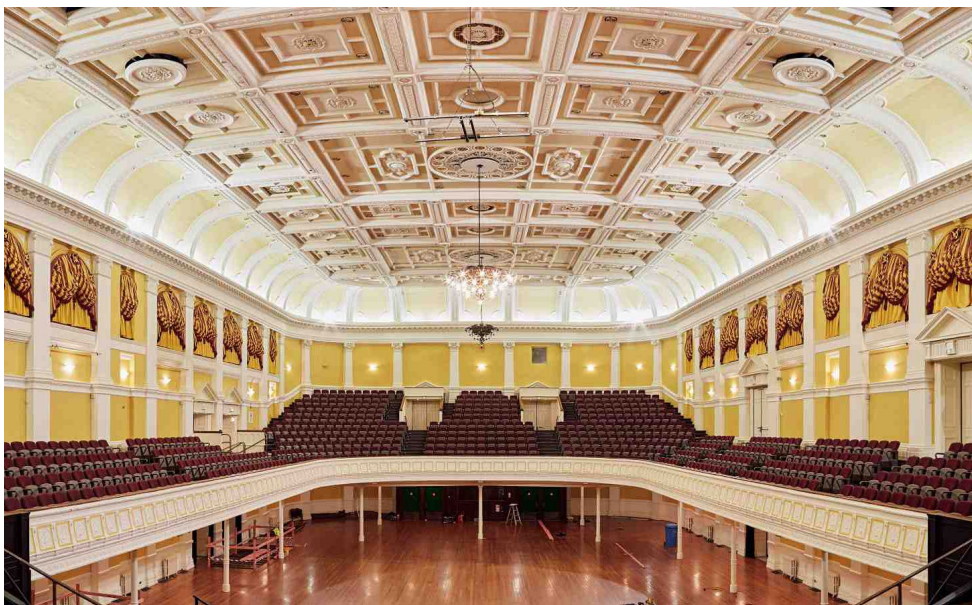
Abbey Road senior recordist, Matt Jones, was appointed Principal Audio Engineer in April 2026 and will take up his role in June. Matt has worked alongside many of the industry's leading engineers and composers on a wide range of orchestral film, television and game soundtracks, and contemporary recordings. Recent film projects include *Beetlejuice Beetlejuice* (composer Danny Elfman), *Frankenstein* (Alexandre Desplat), *In the Blink of an Eye* (Thomas Newman) and *Pinocchio* (Alan Silvestri). His game credits include Halo 5: Guardians, God of War: Ascension, Star Wars: Battlefront and Titanfall 2, which featured additional music recorded by the NZSO.

Matt has also worked on sessions with well-known artists including Ed Sheeran, Sam Smith, Ozzy Osbourne, Little Simz and Morgan Wallen, and premier ensembles such as the London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Manchester Collective.

Where experience, heritage acoustics & modern production meet

NZSO's state-of-the-art recording studios are situated beneath the acoustically renowned Adam Auditorium in the Wellington Town Hall – where early takes of Howard Shore's iconic *Lord of the Rings* and full scores for Hobbit films *The Desolation of Smaug* and *The Battle of the Five Armies* were recorded.

The studios are also connected to other spaces within the Town Hall complex, including Lloyd Morrison Theatre and the Concert Chamber, providing optimal flexibility for large and small projects or remote recording sessions.



Adam Auditorium: a historical restoration for the 21st century, including the 3189 pipe Organ -Norman & Beard, 1904

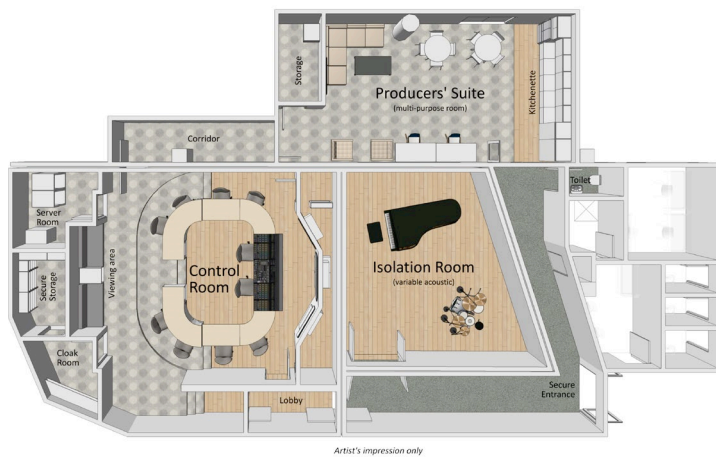


The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug, 2013

The spacious central Control Room is designed to comfortably accommodate large teams, with easy pathways linking to the auditorium, a secure entrance lobby, and a raised seating area overlooking the console and three large picture monitors.

The Isolation Room has tuneable panels allowing variable acoustic conditions from very dry to live, to suit the needs of any project. NZSO's Model D Steinway Piano is easily accessible, and the space is suitable for recording individuals, groups, bands or small ensembles.

The Producers' Suite is a flexible multi-purpose space that can be configured as needed: a private lounge area, office desking, catering, or for additional monitoring or engineering requirements.



The studios allow for remote & hybrid session capability including visual feed of orchestra in session



Rendering of Wellington Town Hall, opening Feb 2027

Sitting in the cultural heart of the city, Te Ngākau Recording Studios is an extraordinary new addition to New Zealand's film and music industry. As NZSO's recording home and a commercial destination for artists, ensembles, and production partners, the studios are a space for collaboration and creative solutions, positioning Wellington as a leading destination for orchestral recording.

We are honoured to be gifted the name Te Ngākau, which carries the meaning of "the heart" by Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika a Māui.

Te Ngākau Recording Studios – A Technical Snapshot

LAWO MC2 96 and MC2 56 Grand Production Consoles powered by 2 x UHD Cores providing 768 x 2 DSP channels, ATC 71.4 monitoring, 3 x Pro Tools Ultimate on Mac Pros, Integrated control system incorporating comms, vision control, lighting control, signage, Pro Tools timers, and recording status. Microphone stock of 100+ units, including AEA, Beyer, Coles, DPA, Neumann, Rode, Royer, Sanken, Schoeps, Sennheiser and Shure

Follow us!

Follow us on Facebook @TeNgakauStudios and on Instagram @tengakaustudios.

For further information, please email: [Claire Wackrow, clairew@nzso.co.nz](mailto:clairew@nzso.co.nz)

Te Ngākau Recording Studios (TNRS) is Crown owned and operated by the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra.



Rendering of Te Ngākau Recording Studios control room