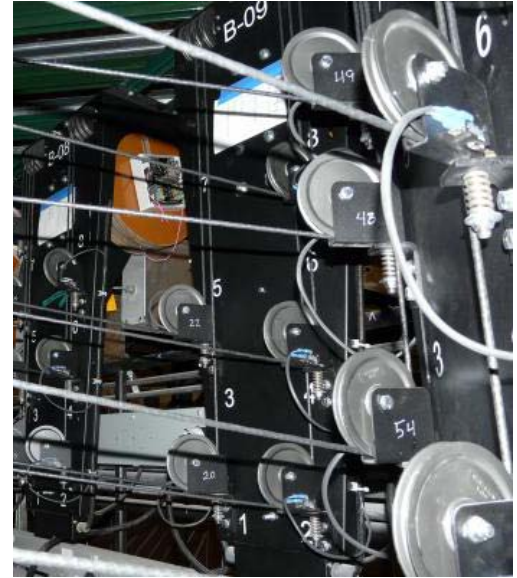


# Winspear Opera Chandelier



## Project Summary

Custom motorized chandelier in the Winspear Opera

## Location

Dallas, Texas

## Architect

Foster + Partners

## Lighting Consultant

Claude R. Engle

The “falling stars” chandelier is the centerpiece of the new Winspear Opera House. Light radiates from suspended internally lit acrylic rods – over 300 of them forming an airy array above the audience. With a diameter of 40’ and a height of the same, the randomly spaced rods do look like falling stars.

At the start of each performance the rods silently lift into the void above audience. KERA said “The large light-tube chandelier was a hit. It hovers over the audience, and when cranked up into the ceiling as the program is about to begin, it produces an effect like a star field.”

Each rod is a 6 ft long, 7/8" diameter, custom cast in acrylic. An LED illuminator is optically coupled to the top of the rod for maximum effect. The control system allows the rods to shimmer, making it “airy and downright magical.”

Above the ceiling is a void, where the rods retract into individual tubes. Another level higher is the machine room, housing 44 hoists mounted around the circumference of a ring. Each hoist lifts up to 8 rods, providing up to 60 feet of travel. The individual rods are suspended by a custom cable providing power, data, and suspension in a single 1/4" matte black cable.