

NIGHT ON  
**BROADWAY**  
JANUARY 30, 2016

*An evening of food, entertainment, culture and arts to celebrate the 8th anniversary of  
Councilmember José Huizar's Bringing Back Broadway.*  
[www.BringingBackBroadway.com](http://www.BringingBackBroadway.com)

## **The Palace Theatre**

630 S. Broadway

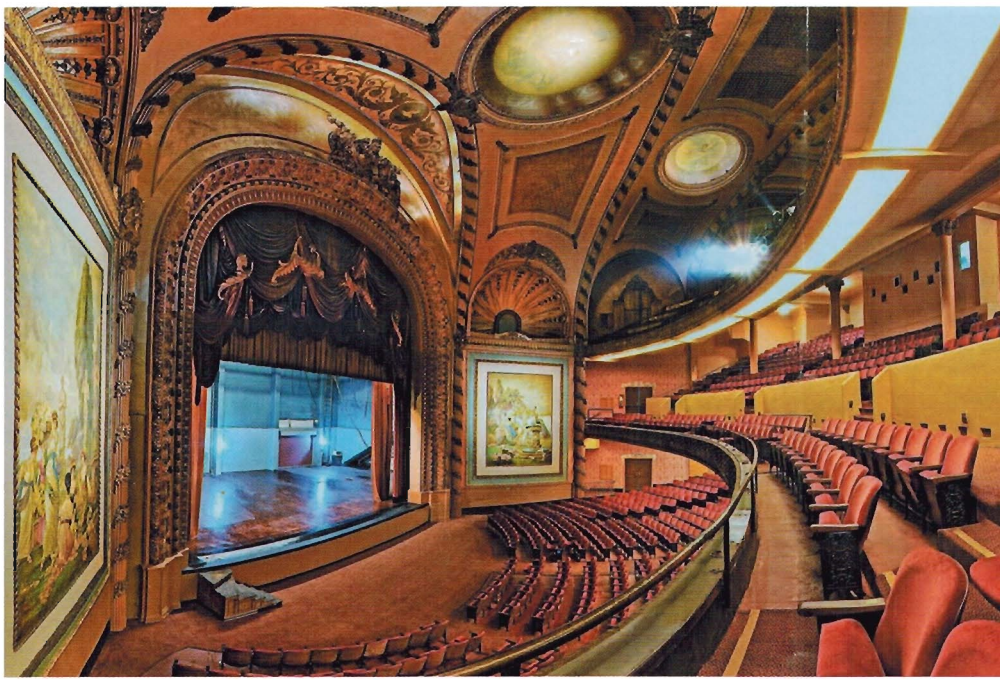
A Genuine "Theatre" Theatre



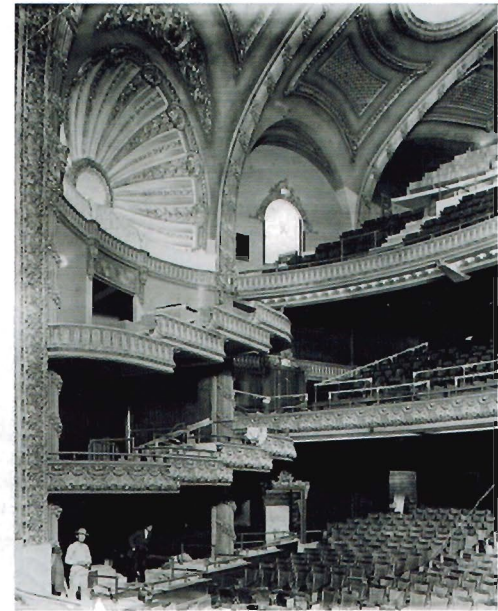
The Palace burst on the scene in 1911 as the Orpheum Theatre. It was the third of four downtown theatres, opening between 1894 and 1926, bearing the Orpheum name. It is not a movie palace, but a Vaudeville theatre suitable for drama and musicals. Construction cost of \$3 million includes the 5-story office building that fronts the theatre, which is covered in polychrome terra cotta.

Gold, ivory and old rose with Gendarme blue drapes keyed the theatre's interior décor. Eight opera boxes cascaded down the side walls where the Heinsbergen murals are now located. The boxes were chopped off in 1929, when the Palace was converted to a sound movie theatre. In 1926, the theatre is re-named the Broadway Palace and the Orpheum Vaudeville flag moves south to the current Orpheum. From 1939 thru 1947, newsreels unspooled on the big screen keeping a public desperate for news about the War informed. Movies came back in 1947 and filled the screen until the theatre closed in 2000. Owner/Operator Broadway Theatre Group undertook a \$1.1 million restoration/renovation in 2011, to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Palace as a Broadway landmark. The Palace was awarded Theatre of the Year for 2011 by LAHTF.

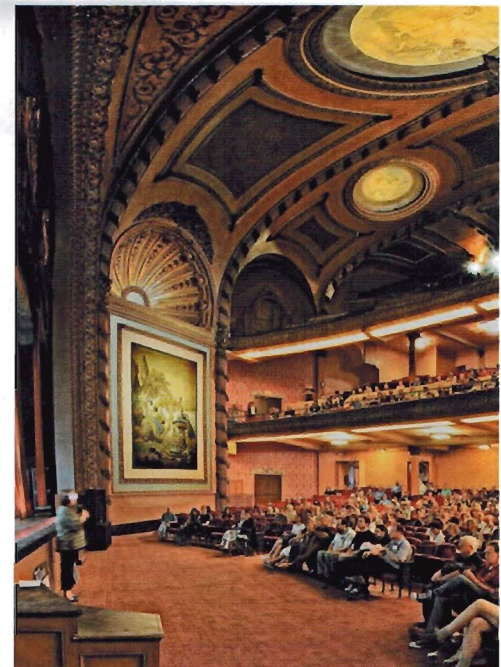




*The theater was built in 1911 with beautiful box seating along the sides of the auditorium. When the primary entertainment shifted to film, the box seats were removed because they had ridiculously bad sightlines for movie viewing. They were replaced with two beautiful murals done by Anthony Heinsbergen, a famous Los Angeles muralist.*



*Burns and Allen, Sarah Bernhardt, W. C. Fields, Jack Benny, and the Marx Brothers graced this stage.*



Architect: G. Albert Lansburgh

Capacity: 2200; Currently: 1050

Website: [www.palacedowntown.com](http://www.palacedowntown.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/downtownpalace](http://www.facebook.com/downtownpalace)

Historic-Cultural Monument #449 (LAHTF nomination 1989); National Register District Listing

Closed: 2000

**For more information please visit:**

**[www.LAHTF.org](http://www.LAHTF.org)**

*Thanks to Ed Kelsey of Historic Building Services and Bill Counter's blog Los Angeles Movie Palaces.*