







THE FORD AMPHITHEATER SOUNDWALL WAS DESIGNED TO STAND AT THE NORTHWESTERN EDGE OF LIVE NATION'S EXISTING FORD AMPHITHEATER. THE SOUNDWALL IS 72 FEET TALL AT IS HIGHEST POINT AND STRETCHES MORE THAN 450 FEET IN LENGTH.

ACOUSTICAL OPTIMIZATION WAS THE STARTING POINT FOR DESIGN. THE SHAPE OF THE WALL WAS DESIGNED TO RESPOND TO A RIGOROUS ACOUSTICAL ANALYSIS CONDUCTED BY LIVE NATION'S SOUND ENGINEER, WHICH DICTATED A RANGE OF OPTIMAL WALL HEIGHTS, A VARIETY OF ANGLED SURFACES, AND A FUNCTIONAL 'BASS SOUND TRAP' WHICH WAS ACHIEVED BY PAIRING THE ANGLED BARRIER OF THE 'V'-SHAPED SECTION WITH ABSORPTIVE BLANKETS HANGING AT VARIED ANGLES. TIME, COST AND CONSTRUCTABILITY ADDED SIGNIFICANT LIMITS TO DESIGN OPTIONS. STEEL AND PANEL SUPPLIERS, ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS WERE ALL CONSULTED IN THE SCHEMATIC DESIGN PROCESS IN ORDER TO OPTIMIZE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SOUNDWALL. THE AVAILABILITY OF STEEL AND GALVANIZED METAL PANEL AND THE CONORSTRUCTABILITY OF THEIR CONNECTIONS WADET THESE WATERIAST HE WOST ECONOMICAL OPTION. THROUGH THE USE OF 3D COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY FOR TABRICATION, THE DESIGNERS WERE ABLE TO SPECIFY VARIED LENGTHS OF STEEL THAT CONNECT TO GREATE A DEVELOPABLE CURVE WHICH SUPPORTS A SUPPRISHINGLY ELEGANT SURFACE OF TWISTED CORRUGATED PANELS. THE INTERIOR SURFACE OF THE PANELS IS COATED WITH A DENSE LAYER OF SPECIALIZED ACOUSTICAL LATEX.

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THE POETIC FORM OF THE SOUNDWALL'S DESIGN IS AN EXPRESSION OF ITS LIMITS AND CONSTRAINTS. THE STEEL SECTIONS STAND, LIKE DANCERS IN A ROW, POISED IN REACTION TO THE WAVES OF MUSIC THAT THEIR TWISTING DRAPERY OF METAL PANEL WAS DESIGNED TO CONTAIN.



THE SOUNDWALL AT THE FORD AMPHITHEATER

**GouldEvans**