



# Everyone has a right to good acoustics

**Seven years ago, Hz Acoustic ApS set out to develop high-quality acoustic systems that everyone could afford. Today, the company supplies systems for everything from ordinary homes to the Danish Parliament – including the Workers Museum in Copenhagen.**

Text by Frank Ulstrup

From 1879 onwards, battle songs were sung, and many stirring speeches were given at the old meeting house of the workers' movement – the present Workers' Museum in Rømersgade, Copenhagen.

However, it may not have sounded as good as it would today now that the central parts of the building have just been restored. In addition to fresh paint and a new lighting and indoor climate system, several of the rooms have also been fitted with acoustic ceilings that reduce reverberation by 70-80%.

## A SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION

"And that's far from unimportant when you're hosting a rabble-rousing speech - or, as is the case with the museum today, have lots of lively school kids visiting," says Helge Hansen of Frederikshavn-based Hz Acoustic ApS. It is his company that has provided the solution – and a solution was needed:



– "I can't imagine what the acoustics were like in there before, with all those big, hard surfaces," he smiles, explaining that the current solution, Hz Basic, consists of panels and plaster that the company developed itself:

– We have chosen an acoustic panel at the Workers' Museum consisting of a hard mineral wool sheet laminated with a custom-made 10 mm waterproof glass granulate sheet. In addition, the acoustic plaster is based on recycled cellulose fibres and has an extremely fine surface. Together, it's a solution that provides a completely smooth surface that's also very easy to repair in addition to the acoustic properties.

## 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Helge Hansen says that he has worked with acoustic solutions for 20 years, but that he only founded Hz Acoustic seven years ago. Since then, he and his team have worked to develop solutions that were even better – and cheaper – than those already on the market.

And looking at the company's reference list, there is every indication that it has achieved its goal. In any case, construction in e.g. Norway and Germany, in addition to a large number of buildings in Denmark, have been acoustically improved by using the various Hz systems.

## BETTER ACOUSTICS FOR EVERYONE

Helge Hansen himself points to a number of concrete factors when explaining his success:

– "Our goal has really been to make good acoustic solutions economically accessible to everyone, and with a price per square metre for a mounted panel of between DKK 400 and DKK 1000 + VAT, I think we've succeeded," he says and continues:

– "In addition, of course, it is a sustainable product that is cellulose-based and therefore does not pollute and damage the environment in the same way as, for example, the quartz-based alternatives. I think the latter is also one of the reasons why our products are in great demand when it comes to listed and preservation-worthy buildings," says Helge Hansen.