

Space Frame Canopy Redefines The Entrance To The MGN Five Star Theater In Glendale, California



Architect

Alajajian-Marcoosi Architects

Date

Completed in 2013

Project Highlights

After being purchased by MGN Five Star Cinemas, the former Mann Theater in Glendale, California went through a complete remodel that turned the complex into the anchor of the city's arts and entertainment district. One of the most dramatic renovations was the conversion of the domed entry into an open, curvy entrance canopy reminiscent of a film reel. To achieve the airy feel, the structure was built from steel space frames, which naturally lend themselves to organic shapes and curvilinear lines thanks to their nearly unlimited span capability. The new, lightweight space frame canopy wraps around existing brick buildings while covering a paseo that links the atrium with the neighboring theaters and restaurant. Both the paseo and adjacent circular courtyard have outdoor seating for guests so protection from the elements is key. Space frames work well with most cladding—in this case, glass to offer both shelter and shade. As a finishing touch, spherical chandeliers hang from the space frame canopy above the courtyard to accent the curved lines found throughout.



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