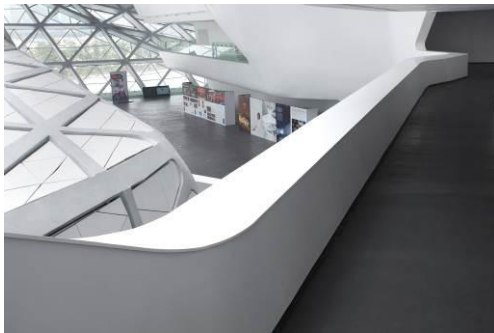


PRESS RELEASE**Designed by Zaha Hadid, built with HI-MACS®:****Opera house by Zaha Hadid in China**

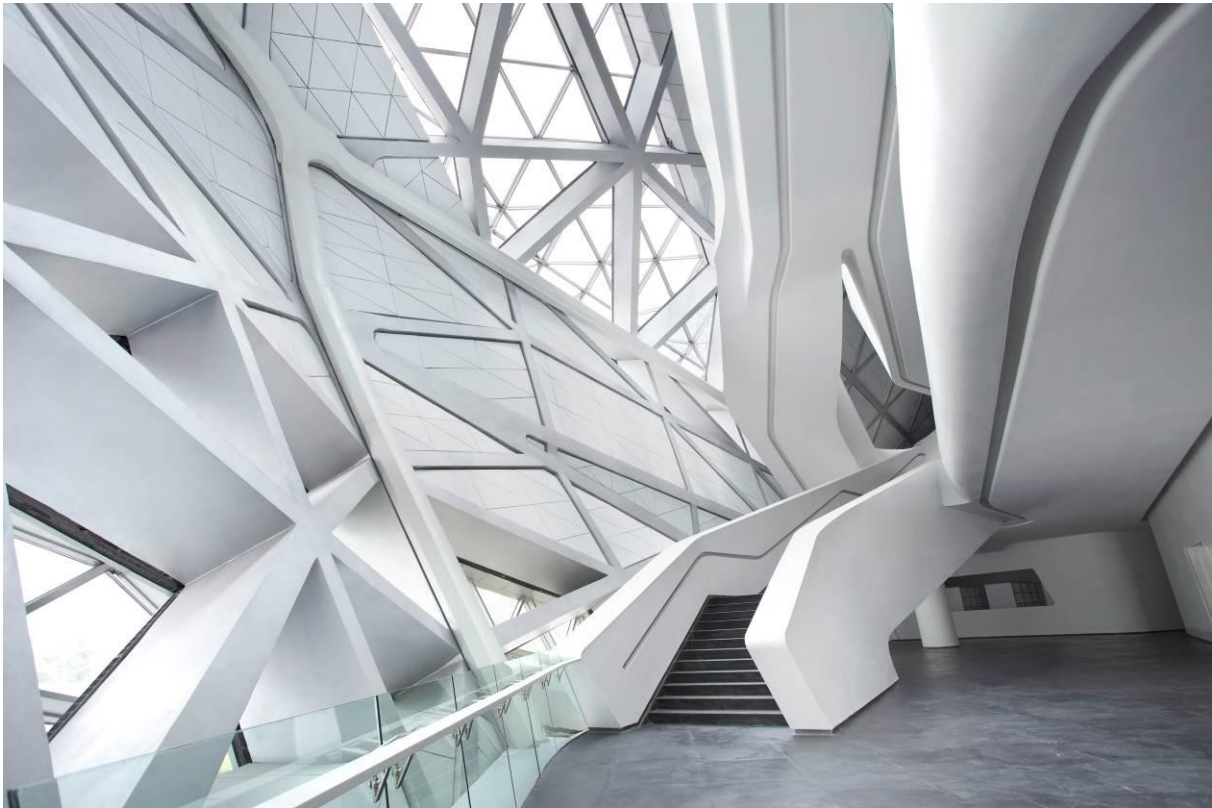
Alongside the concert hall with seating for 1,800 people, the new 70,000 sqm building comprises a reception area with lobby and lounge, a second, smaller multifunctional hall, as well as offices and support premises. Unmistakeably, the opera house bears the signature of star architect Zaha Hadid: It has no right angles, the walls and ceilings slant, and the audience passageways are shaped so as to flow into each other. The dramatic effects of the interior design is spectacular. Recesses in the walls and lines of sight within the entrance area, and the way the building opens up are intended to play with the visitor's perception of space.



“Designing is pure play”, says the star architect. “We are working on the idea of a flowing landscape. A few years ago, we already engaged with stripping away shape. This allows the light to penetrate deep into the space. That led us to involve ourselves more with geology, archaeology and topography. Our projects are therefore greatly influenced by landscapes and by the way in which erosion changes them.”



Zaha Hadid’s dynamically expressive formal vocabulary (analogous with twin boulders) is also reflected in the architecture of the Chinese opera house. It is groundbreaking both in terms of architecture and theatre technology and was built by the London-based firm on the river bank of the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou (China’s third-largest city). The two-part structure, comprising the 1,800-seat Grand Theatre and the adjoining multifunctional hall with 400 seats, is intended to be a new cultural landmark on Haixinsha Tourist Park Island in the Pearl River Delta. The 42,000 sqm building designed by Hadid also aims to be a symbol of both Guangzhou’s new Zhu Jiang business district, and of China’s growing status in the new millennium.



Zaha Hadid was born in Baghdad in 1950 and in 2004 she was the first woman to receive the illustrious Pritzker Architecture Prize, architecture's equivalent of the Nobel Prize. She is now one of the world's best known and influential architects. LG Hausys had already started work on the opera house in 2005. Zaha Hadid's interior design proved to be extremely complicated. Each separate design called for customised product solutions. Since HI-MACS® is ideally suited to the futuristic concept due to its thermoplastic malleability, its environmental friendliness and its excellent stability, this solid surface material was the first choice. In addition, the star architect had already gained good experience with this material while working on the interior design of the Hotel Puerta América in Madrid. Around 5,000 sqm of HI-MACS® was used in the ballet, opera and concert rehearsal rooms, as well as in the VIP area and the restaurant. One special feature of the material is the way in which it can be seamlessly fitted, with no visible joins. In one of the rehearsal rooms, walls and ceiling flow into each other. All rows of seating and pillar structures are arranged horizontally with a 45° slant. A substantial quantity of HI-MACS® was also used for the hyperboloid structures.

Guangzhou Opera House by Zaha Hadid

Location: Huajiu Road, Tianhe District, Guangzhou city, Guangdong - China

Design: Zaha Hadid Architects

HI-MACS® Fabricator: Gooday International

Material: HI-MACS® Alpine White

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HI-MACS® Natural Acrylic Stone

HI-MACS® is the *New Generation* of solid surface. It is composed of 70% natural stone powder derived from bauxite, 25% high quality acrylic resin and 5% natural pigments. Designed and produced by **LG HAUSYS**, a world technology leader, it is distributed across Europe from **LG Hausys Europe** headquarters in Geneva.

It is a product of highest quality, and is inert and ecological. Its versatility allows users to mould and transform their ideas into reality with possibilities far beyond those offered by materials traditionally used in the world of architecture and design.

The most prestigious groups have adopted this product which adapts to the most demanding needs with its extraordinary characteristics; it is completely non-porous, has the highest level of durability and thus does not lose its colouring. It also has uniform thickness, allowing for perfectly imperceptible joints!

Easy to fabricate, **HI-MACS®**, with its excellent thermoformability properties, lets you adapt the material to the desired shapes and to create a range of designs that is nearly infinite.

HI-MACS® is used by the most prestigious companies, and many well known architects and designers such as **Zaha Hadid, Jean Nouvel, David Chipperfield, Ron Arad, Marc Newson, Elke Delugan Meissl** and **Joaquín Torres**. Some of the most notable projects made out of **HI-MACS®** include the **Prado Museum** and the **Hotel Puerta América** in Spain, **Leonardo Glass Cube** and the **Porsche Museum** in Germany and the **Zara** flagship store in the Westfield Shopping Complex in London, UK.

HI-MACS® is available in more than 100 colours, comprised of the following ranges: **Solids, Granite, Sand, Pearl & Quartz, Volcanics, Lucent, Galaxy, Marmo**, and the new recycled range of colours **HI-MACS® Eden**. Eden is **GREENGUARD** Certified for indoor air quality as a “**Low Emitting Product**” which can help your projects achieve **LEED® credits** in sustainable design, under the Green Building Rating System managed by the **U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)** – A clear benefit for constructing sustainable buildings.

HI-MACS® is manufactured in 3, 6, 9 and 12 mm thicknesses. Furthermore a wide range of sinks and bowls is available.

HI-MACS® is synonymous with the very best quality thanks to a production process that it is one of the world's most innovative, sourcing the finest materials that result in a harder, flatter more resistant product. Many international certifications backup the outstanding quality of **HI-MACS®** concerning environment, hygiene, fire resistance and processes as ISO 9001 and 14001, Greenguard, NSF, LGA and IMO MED (Module B and D), among others.

HI-MACS® is in a league of its own with its quality assistance, guaranteed by **Quality Club**, a network of expert and approved fabricators. Thanks to the quality of the material, we can offer the longest warranty package currently on the market: 10+5 years*.

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