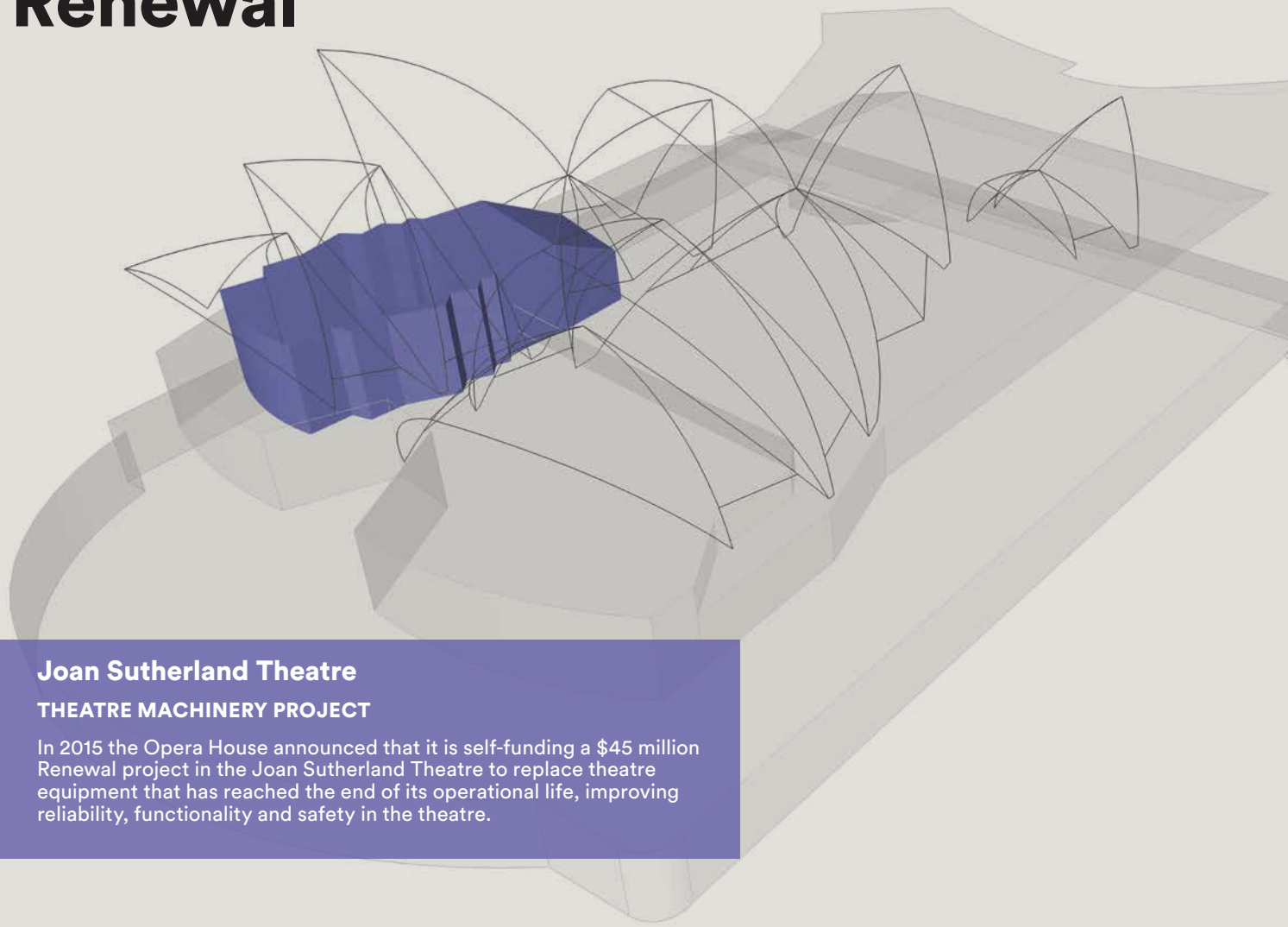
Sydney Opera House Renewal



Joan Sutherland Theatre

THEATRE MACHINERY PROJECT

In 2015 the Opera House announced that it is self-funding a $45 million Renewal project in the Joan Sutherland Theatre to replace theatre equipment that has reached the end of its operational life, improving reliability, functionality and safety in the theatre.

The Theatre Machinery Project will:

- Replace outdated electric hoists and manual, counter-weighted fly lines with lightweight, electric powered winches, which are quieter, safer and more reliable;
- Replace the floor of the grid deck as part of a new, more flexible system of hoists that will provide a clear and open work area;
- Replace the existing rear stage lifts for greater reliability and flexibility;
- Replace fixed lighting bars with a flexible, centrally controlled system, allowing temporary rigging of sound and projection equipment;
- Install a new lighting portal bridge; and
- Relocate fire sprinklers and replace lighting dimmers.

As announced last year, this project will take place between May and December 2017. The Opera House is also investigating additional improvements, including accessibility and acoustics upgrades, that could be completed while the Joan Sutherland Theatre is closed.