Setting the tone: The Grünewald concert hall uses Lutron’s GRAFIK 4000 lighting control technology to great effect.

Background:
From a distance, the architecturally striking Grünewald music school in southern Munich resembles a stylish country hotel, surrounded by extensive landscaping and broad paths, with full-height glass facades. It has been designed to be both an attractive place of learning for aspiring musicians and a high-quality venue for audiences.

The challenge:
To design a building that emphasises the importance of daylight was the overriding challenge faced by the team of architects from Biedermann. The highly imaginative architecture places the emphasis on transparency, with a maximum of natural light throughout the building. To achieve the delicate balance between artificial and natural light a sophisticated lighting control system was required.
The solution:

The music school is polygonal on the inside and circular on the outside and the rehearsal rooms and offices are arranged around the 300-seater concert hall. A continuous band of skylights around its circumference means that even the basement has natural light. To balance the artificial and natural light levels, Biedermann chose Lutron’s GRAFIK 4000 lighting control system, which enables a wide range of preset and stored lighting scenes to be recalled at the touch of a button.

Lutron’s GRAFIK 4000 can control most major light sources including incandescent, fluorescent and neon and cold cathode lighting. This was vital for the wide variety of lighting used throughout Grünwald school. The system also helped reduce lighting overheads to a minimum due to clever control.

The results:

From offices and the central foyer, to rehearsal rooms and the ampitheatre, all lighting eventualities are covered thanks to Lutron. The lighting in the rehearsal rooms and the amphitheatre has been created with drama in mind.

Equally suited to big bands or to soloists, a variety of lighting scenes in the two large rehearsal rooms can be chosen to suit individual needs, and the lighting can be dimmed depending on how many people are using the room and how much daylight there is.

The Grünwald Music School takes full advantage of the GRAFIK 4000’s preset scene selection, daylight harvesting (to achieve optimal light levels), time scheduling and theatrical integration functions whilst maintaining subtle changes in lighting levels for maximum impact.