Casals Hall, named after Pablo Casals, was opened in Tokyo in October 1987. The hall, with 511 seats, was planned and designed exclusively for chamber music and smaller ensembles.

The room shape is typical shoebox with side balconies and flat ground floor. The side walls of the main floor are of pre-cast concrete panels imitating draperies in order to scatter sound reflections. The upper part of the side walls and ceiling are finished with laminated gypsum boards of a minimum thickness of 24mm to avoid excess absorption at low frequencies.

Just after the opening of the hall, the excessive liveness of the stage space designed in consideration of the future installation of the organ was pointed out by a few music players and some members of the audience, especially in piano recitals. In March 1997, an organ with 41 stops was installed at the front part of the hall as part of the 10th anniversary festivities. This organ, designed by J. Ahrendt, is the first baroque style organ for 16th-17th century organ music in Japan. After the installation of the organ, the problem of excess liveness has been resolved.
CASALS HALL

LONGITUDINAL SECTION

TRANSVERS SECTION

PLAN

REVERBERATION TIME (OCCUPIED)
BEFORE / AFTER ORGAN INSTALLATION

SIDE WALL
(PRE-CAST CONCRETE PANEL)