

ArtsArchitecture

Architects and Interior Designers

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ArtsArchitecture is a new architectural practice specialising in arts and cultural buildings worldwide. Its Director, David Wright, has over 20 years' professional experience, gained almost exclusively in the arts sector. Before founding ArtsArchitecture, David was a Director of Renton Howard Wood Levin LLP, one of the UK's leading architectural practices, where he led the design team for projects such as the new Qatar International Convention Centre, Brighton Dome and Museum, London Coliseum and many others.

In addition to architectural design, we also provide consultancy services for feasibility studies, project development and brief-writing for all types of arts buildings. We are currently designing a new National Theatre, National Library and National Museum in Muscat, Oman; a 2250m² Visitor Centre for Hawes in Yorkshire; a 1000-seat flexible auditorium in Athens and the preparation of a Heritage Lottery bid for an extension to the Thackray Medical Museum in Leeds. We are also carrying out specialist auditorium consultancy for the executive architects of the 4000-seat show theatre in the Battersea Power Station development, and are Associate Interior Designers for Delfont Mackintosh Theatres, developing the interiors of the Albery, Wyndham's and Gielgud Theatres for Sir Cameron Mackintosh.

DAVID WRIGHT BA (Hons) Dip Arch RIBA FRSA

Director

David is a qualified architect with over 20 years' experience in the design and construction of arts and culture buildings. He joined RHWL (Renton Howard Wood Levin) Architects, one of the UK's leading practices, in 1983, becoming an Associate in 1996, a Partner in 2002 and a Director of RHWL LLP in 2004. He left RHWL in 2005 to found his own Arts practice, ArtsArchitecture. He is one of the UK's most experienced architects in the field. His work includes theatres, concert halls, museums, art galleries, conference and exhibition facilities. In addition to leading the Design Teams of major construction projects, David has also undertaken brief-writing, project initiation consultancy and feasibility studies both in UK and abroad.

David began his arts building career working as an Assistant Architect on the refurbishment of the Alhambra Theatre, Bradford. He subsequently qualified as an architect whilst producing the detail design of the public foyers and went on to become the site architect, a role which gave him invaluable practical experience. He was subsequently Project Architect for Newcastle Theatre Royal, the New Theatre Cardiff, and the Lyceum Theatre Sheffield. In 1992 he worked closely with the Cameron Macintosh organisation on the rejuvenation of the Art Deco Prince Edward Theatre in London.

He was Project Associate for Malvern Theatres and led the restoration of the grade I listed 1804 Brighton Dome Concert Hall with its 1930s Robert Atkinson interiors, and the adjacent Grade 2* listed Brighton Museum and Art Gallery. He also led the design team for the repair and restoration of the London Coliseum, which re-opened in March 2004. Both Brighton and the Coliseum received both Arts Council and Heritage Lottery funding, and the Coliseum recently won a Civic Trust Award.

Until April 2005 he was Design Director for the prestigious Qatar International Convention Centre, working in association with the Japanese architect Arata Isozaki. David was directly responsible for the design of all the interior spaces, including auditoria, convention and exhibition halls, meeting rooms, private function and VIP facilities and backstage support.

David has also carried out many feasibility and development studies, the most recent being for the Vaudeville Theatre, London and the Thackray Medical Museum, Leeds. In 2002 he joined the consultant team developing the master-plans for a new national museum, national library and national theatre for the Sultanate of Oman, working with UNESCO consultant Jasper Jacob.

David formed ArtsArchitecture in May 2005 with the express intention of building on his 22-year experience with the Arts whilst providing the level of personal service infrequently provided by larger practices.

Oman Cultural Foundation

We are currently developing the briefs and concept designs of a cultural complex on two sites for the Sultanate of Oman. The commission is being carried out in association with Museum Designer and UNESCO consultant Jasper Jacob and includes a 500-seat theatre space for drama and traditional folk dance in conjunction with a National Library, and a new National Museum to be sited in Old Muscat.



Contract Value: £40 million approx.
 Client: Government of Oman
 Completed: ongoing

Thackray Medical Museum, Leeds, UK



ArtsArchitecture is designing an extension and refurbishment of this nationally-important medical museum.

The brief includes an extension housing a new education centre to cater for the large number of school parties using the Museum for National Curriculum studies. Commercial income will be generated from newly-expanded conference and catering facilities. The scheme also provides additional artefact storage, including a large object store, open access facilities and a new 'hands on' discovery centre. The project is currently the subject of a Heritage Lottery Fund bid.

Contract Value: £3 million approx.
 Client: Thackray Museum Trust
 Completed: ongoing

Hawes Auction Mart Visitor Centre, Wensleydale, UK

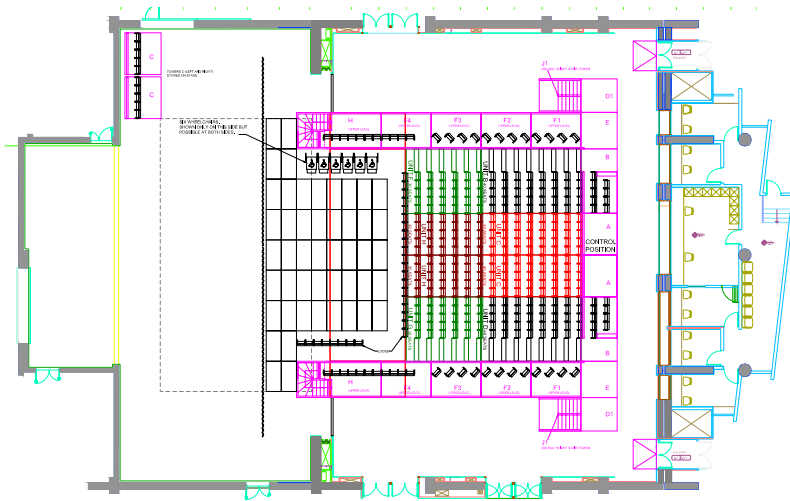


Again working in collaboration with Jasper Jacob Associates, ArtsArchitecture is currently preparing designs for a new visitor centre for Hawes in North Yorkshire. An application for Full Planning Permission is about to be submitted.

The Centre contains a permanent educational exhibition, to be designed by JJA, focussing on the local sheep farming industry, as well as craft-related retail units and managed workspaces, temporary exhibition space, and a 100-cover refectory coupled with a multi-purpose community space. The community space can be used separately for film shows, talks and exhibitions, or opened up with the refectory to provide a large space for private functions.

Contract Value: £4 million approx.
 Client: Rejuvenate Wensleydale
 Completed: ongoing

Hellenic Cosmos Theatre, Athens



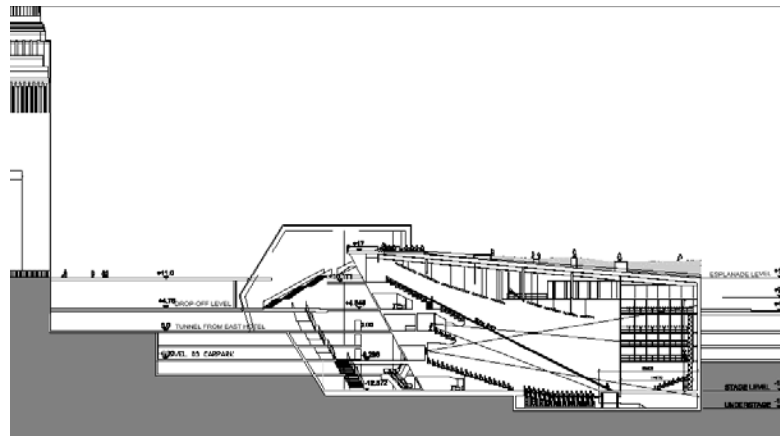
We were asked to produce an alternative design for a flexible 1000-seat auditorium for the Hellenic Cosmos project (currently on site). In conjunction with Theatreplan Consultants we produced a highly-adaptable 'kit of parts' enabling the space to be reconfigured to proscenium, courtyard and in-the-round forms utilising mobile seating towers, bleacher seats and wagons. A tension wire grid is proposed for high level technical access to the whole room. A rehearsal room facility has been designed for the basement beneath the auditorium.

Contract Value: £15 million (estimate)
 Client: Foundation of the Hellenic World
 Completed: ongoing

Battersea Show Theatre

We are currently consultants to the Executive Architects of a 4000-seat Show Theatre to be built as part of the new Battersea Power Station development. Our role is to provide expertise in the development of the concept design by Canadian theatre designers Sceno-Plus up to tender documentation.

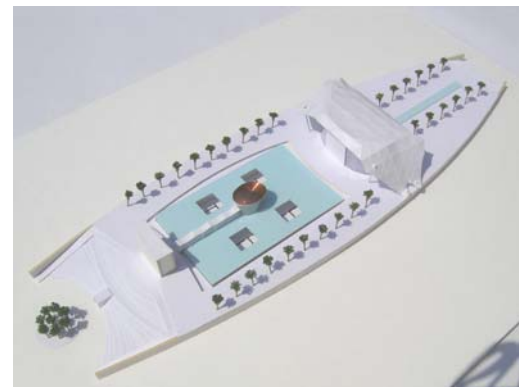
Contract Value: £40 million (est.)
 Client: Parkview Properties
 Completed: ongoing



Sheikh Zayed Memorial Museum, Abu Dhabi

ArtsArchitecture have developed a concept design for a new memorial museum to the late Sheikh Zayed of Abu Dhabi, founder of the United Arab Emirates, at the request of UNESCO. The project includes a series of galleries celebrating the Sheikh's life, a modern art gallery, displays about Abu Dhabi and the other Emirates, a Library and Archive centre, education and conference facilities and a restaurant, set in formal gardens with a reflecting pool.

Contract Value: £30 million (estimate)
 Client: Government of Abu Dhabi
 Completed: ongoing



JON SATOW BA Dip Arch RIBA Design Manager

Jon studied architecture at Cambridge University, qualifying in 1979. He began his career with Brian Thomas & Partners in Colchester, moving to Rock Townsend and Solon Housing Association in London. In 1989 he joined the Cazenove Architects' Co-operative, working on various health, education and community projects.

After a spell with Leslie Jones Architects on large inner-city commercial redevelopments, Jon joined RHWL's arts team in 1999, where he became Project Architect and Design Manager for the £30m Brighton Dome Concert Hall and Brighton Museum and Art Gallery, working with David Wright. Their collaboration resulted in a highly-satisfactory end product – an auditorium that has immediately earned a reputation for its high quality of acoustics and great flexibility, and a museum that has earned its place as one of the very best regional museums in UK. He was made an Associate at RHWL in 2001.

In 2002, Jon left to become a freelance consultant architect and project manager. He has provided project management for arts buildings in Didcot (£6.5m theatre), Cambridge (£4.5m arts centre) and Bath (£8m museum and art gallery) as well as consultancy, expert advice and teaching work in relation to architecture and design.

He joins ArtsArchitecture's team as Design Manager and will be responsible for the team's internal project management, including creating project databases and systems, monitoring progress of design and deliverables, liaising with other consultants and ensuring the smooth running of the project.

NICHOLAS MUMBY BA(Hons) Senior Architectural Designer

Nick studied architecture at Oxford Brookes University after taking a BTEC Diploma in Building Studies at West Kent College of Further Education. He then spent 2½ years working in Hong Kong with John Hui Associates before joining RHWL's arts team in 1996, where he was senior architectural designer for the £6m Dovecot Arts Centre, Stockton (now known as the ARC).

After a further spell abroad, working on high-quality residential projects in Singapore, Nick rejoined RHWL, working on the Brighton Dome and Museum project with David Wright and Jon Satow. Nick was responsible for the detailed design and working drawings of the Dome Concert Hall itself, designing many bespoke technical theatre elements as well as coordinating major structural, electrical and mechanical insertions into a Grade I listed building. He ran a team of 4 assistants in the production of working drawings, negotiated with planning committees and Heritage Societies. HE went on to become site architect, liaising with the main contractor, resolving site details, achieving the budget and intended deadline.

Nick left RHWL to join ArtLab, a Kent-based architectural design practice specialising in education and residential buildings, before setting up his own company, Design Quarter, in 2004. Nick has subsequently worked with ArtsArchitecture on the concept designs for the Oman National Museum, National Library and National Theatre since December 2005. In the ongoing phases he will be primarily responsible for the National Theatre, but will also have a co-ordinating role for the other elements.

As well as being a very capable designer, Nick's IT and CAD skills are well recognised by colleagues and clients alike and he brings considerable technical expertise to the team.