

the light lab

company profile

the light lab
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company profile

Established in 2002, The Light Lab has spent the past decade bringing together combined experience in lighting design, new lighting technology and project management to deliver high-end architectural lighting installations.

Based in London, The Light Lab has worked on many of the capital's landmark buildings, and has a strong national and increasingly international presence.

Directors Phil Riley and Marcus Cave; friends for the past 20 years, join together their wealth of knowledge in the industry and passion for lighting, to build The Light Lab to the successful business it is today.



It has always been the philosophy of The Light Lab not to oversell ourselves. The key has been to grow slowly, collecting knowledge and expertise over time rather than claim to have the answer to everything overnight. This has led to the development of an experienced network of designers and manufacturing partners – who all have an excellent level of product knowledge.

Marcus Cave, Director



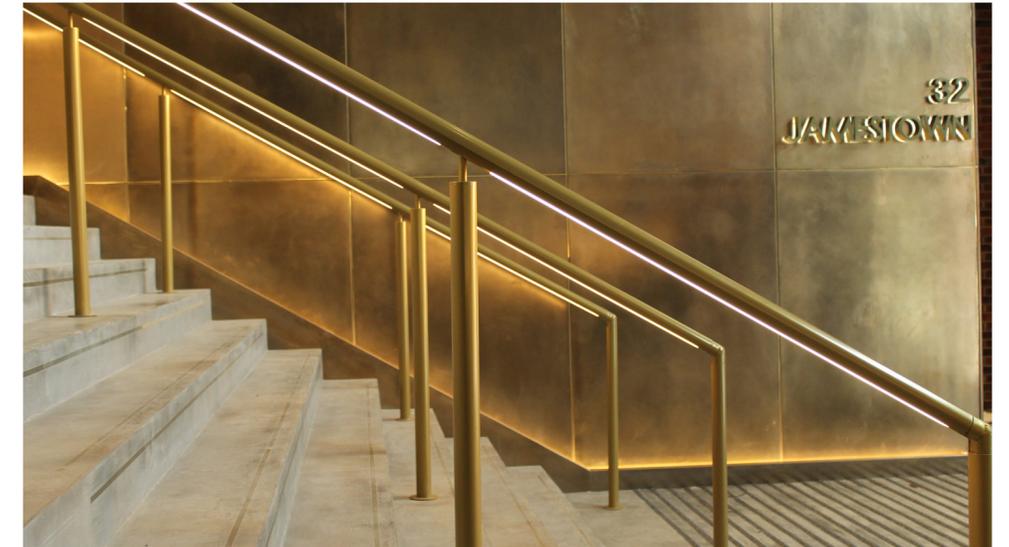
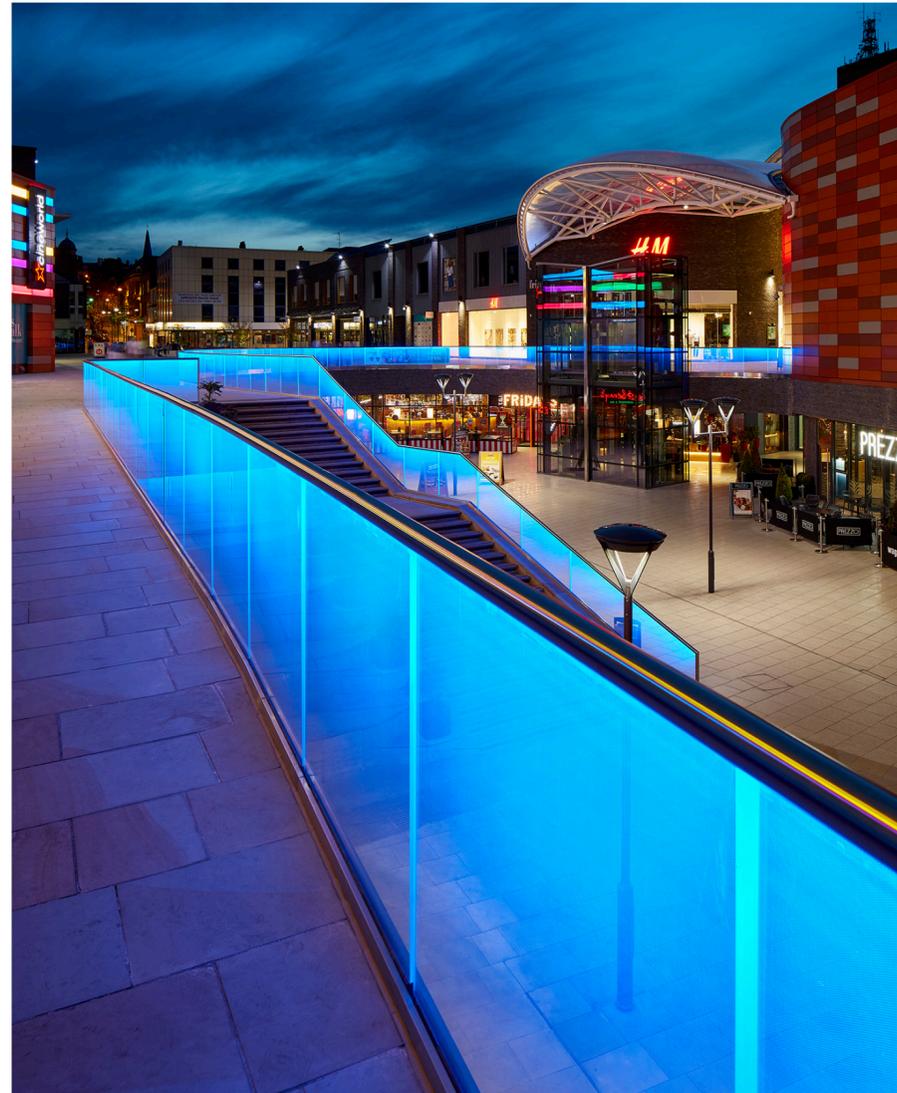


our approach

We believe that lighting should be an integral part of the building design and we therefore encourage creating bespoke project-specific solutions rather than compromising around existing lighting products.

This allows lighting elements to be as discrete as possible whilst maximizing their impact in achieving the designer's ambitions for the space and environment. As our features are usually the last element to install on site, we tend to be the stressful end of construction projects, so our aim is to deliver projects on time, to the highest standard, and always with a smile on our face.

We focus our lighting solutions on specialist lighting installation, bespoke lighting installation and specialist lighting design. Alongside this we offer a wide range of lighting products, designing and manufacturing our own fittings and providing the highest level of quality and performance in our final installation.



The growth of The Light Lab has brought with it new opportunities for us to take on larger global projects; resulting in projects across the Middle East, China, Africa and Australia. Meanwhile we continue to work with such a well of talented designers and architects from the UK, meaning the basis of our work is incredibly enjoyable and we look forward to the next decade of The Light Lab and its continued growth.



Project Process

Design

We offer innovative design ideas and schemes to the retail, property developing and residential market, producing CAD design and lighting schedules whilst managing supply of products to ensure design integrity is met. We work with the top lighting manufacturers to ensure use of the most energy efficient and quality performance lighting. We also design and manufacture our own fittings and undertake rigorous testing of new products and suppliers as they hit the market, to establish which products to use, to ensure lifetime reliability.

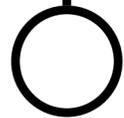
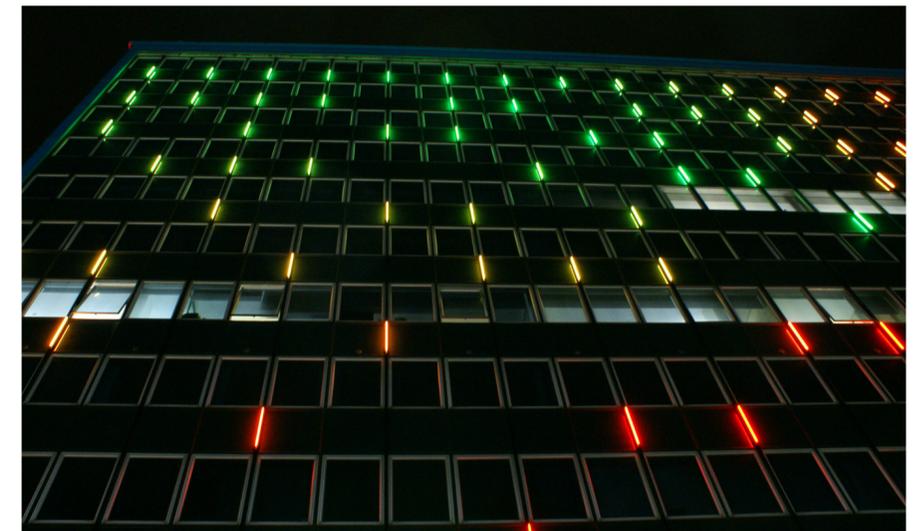


Manufacture

The Light Lab provide a comprehensive design & build service, producing full lighting schematic, detailing product specification and layout, also including cabling specs. We offer a full design service from initial concept through to signed off CAD design details of all project elements. We also supply and manage all elements of the project, ensuring design integrity is upheld.

Installation

We provide a full team of trained installers for glass, metal and electrical elements, offering project management support throughout the project process. This enables us to ensure that the lighting design is adhered to the exact requirements and that our bespoke fittings and products are installed to the highest possible quality. Our team has a unique range of experience, installing projects of all sizes, from small interior shop fittings, to large scale glass panel lighting on commercial premises. Our own engineers and project managers work alongside our trusted network of installers to provide you with a smooth running process and ultimately a project that stays true to the initial design.





Case Studies



Penn Station, New York

bespoke spectraglass fins



Architect
Light Design
Products
Services

Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP (SOM)
The Light Lab / Light Art: miramandtom
Spectraglass
specialist lighting manufacture & installation

Skyscape is a bespoke light art installation, spanning the length of the ceiling at the new west end concourse of the Moynihan Train Hall, Penn Station, New York City. Designed by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP (SOM) for client Moynihan Station Development Corporation, with lighting design & manufacture by The Light Lab, in collaboration with artists miramandtom.

The project contractor Skanska & and electrical contractor Welsbach, commissioned bespoke lighting manufacturers The Light Lab to work on the design and build of this 'digital sky', using their bespoke edge lit glass product Spectraglass. The Light Lab designed & manufactured an easy-fit support structure and LED glass fins to fill the expanse of the 15'x300' ft ceiling. The brief included making all the services above the fins easily accessible, so the design mounted the fins on easy slide carriages on precision rails. The 2,000 pixels of RGBW LED light, softened through the glass, gives a gentle, calming sense of space in an otherwise confined and overcrowded space and has been very well received by the harassed commuters, as they wait for the full redevelopment of the station. They called on the services of Studio miramandtom to create 'Skyscape', an animated and voluminous sky scene that drifts across the ceiling, whose deft touch gives the piece its true class.



Penn Station

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Light is what sets our body clock and determines our daily existence”, says Tom Sloan from miriamandtom. “The sky is the symbol of the daily occurrence which lends itself to create an atmospheric contrast to routine and subterranean context of the station. It provides a tranquil space for escapism and daydreaming.

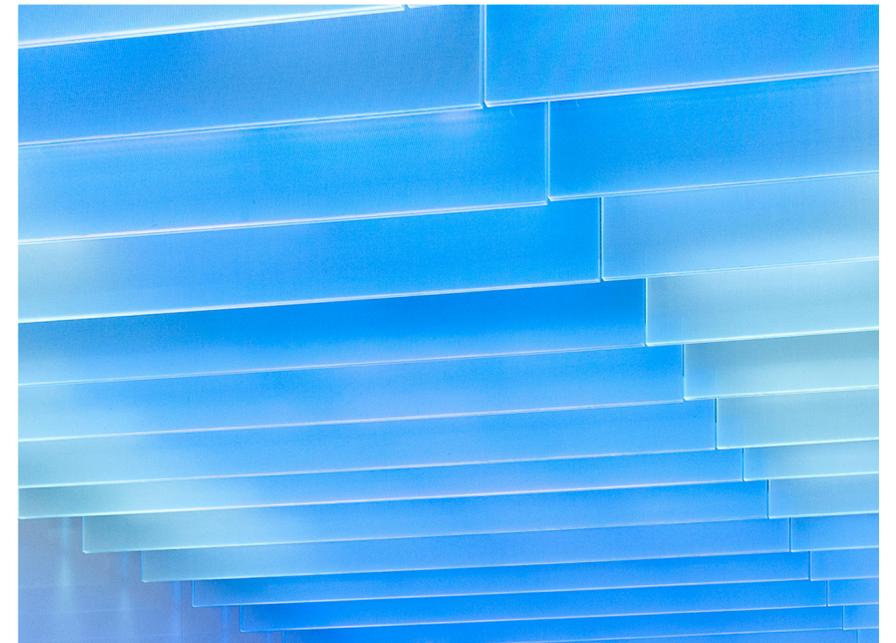
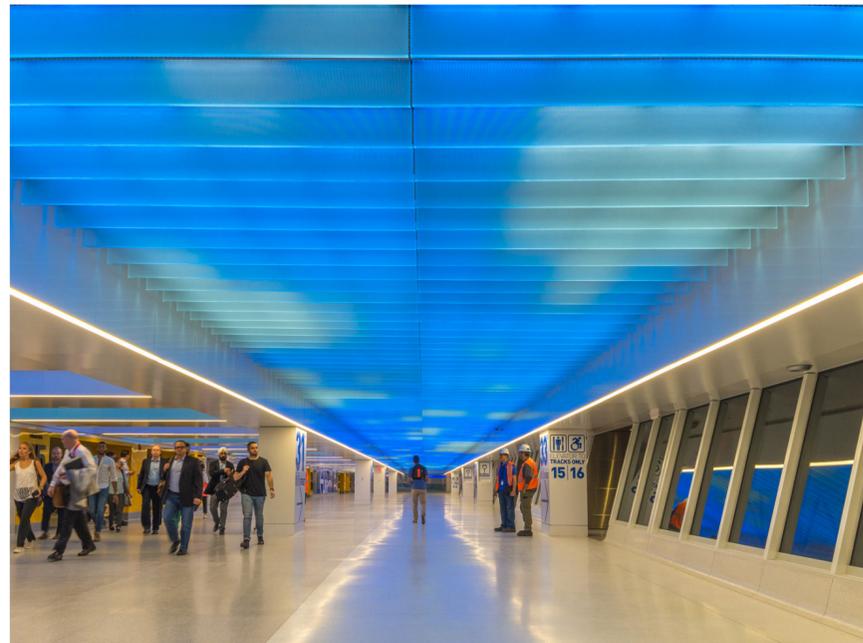
Tom Sloane, miriamandtom





“ Our initial proposal was to create a fully animated digital sky in a variety of different media with edge lit glass fins, back lit ceilings and digital media screens”. Effectively ‘bringing the sky’ and an “above ground quality” to the dark underground transit tunnel; “Filling an underground world with sky & light, to transform it into a habitable environment.”

Peter Fajak, Associate Designer SOM







kings cross tunnel

kings cross tunnel led integrated art wall



Architect

Allies & Morrison

Light Design

Speirs & Major / miriamandtom (the artist)

Products

bespoke back list panels

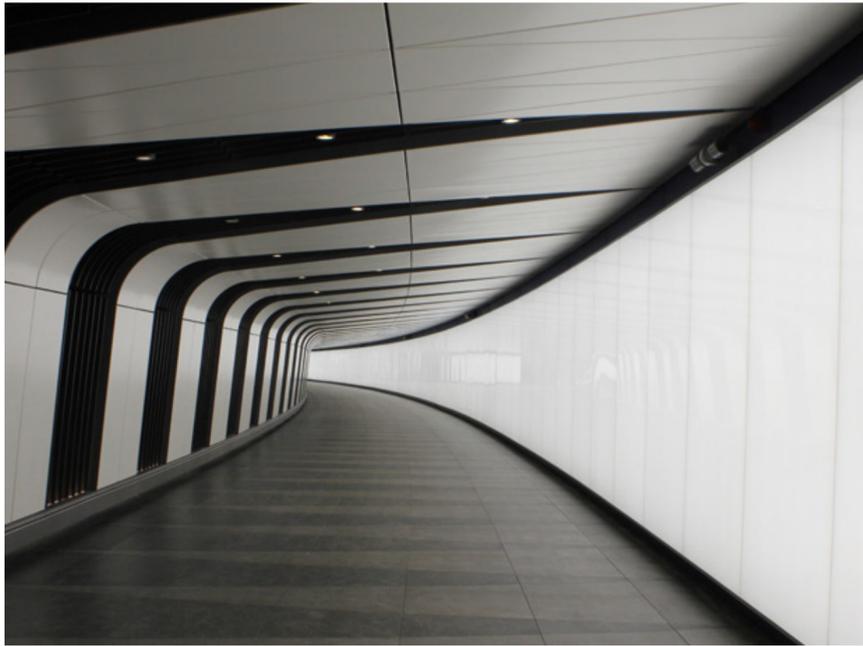
Services

specialist lighting design, manufacture & installation

The Kings Cross Tunnel has been designed & built by Allies & Morrison architects & BAM Construction, to form a link between Kings Cross & St Pancras stations; a route which 100,000 people take per day. The light wall is the main focus of the tunnel, located on the outside of the curve, measuring nearly 100m long.

The Light Lab designed, manufactured & installed the seamlessly jointed glass wall, back-lit with LEDs capable of emitting the full RGB spectrum & a white light spectrum from 3.0K to 6.0K. This provides a continuous curved appearance, with no shadow lines throughout.

The art wall concept was originally conceived by Speirs & Major, with the artwork created by miriamandtom. Creating lighting in stunning muted pastels, so that the feeling of walking through the tunnel is not a harsh, neon experience, but rather works very subtly alongside the pedestrian, to create a soothing, relaxing journey.







Hiscox, York

bespoke LED handrail with leather finish



Architect
Light Design
Products
Services

MAKE
Chapman BDSP
Glowrail
specialist lighting manufacture & installation

The new office build for Hiscox, York features a centerpiece comprised of three cast concrete stairways that flow elegantly through the heart of the triple-height atrium. Designed by Make Architects, these helical style stairways hover effortlessly high above the ground floor as workers are able to drift leisurely beneath.

A room awash with tonnes of natural light and contemporary architecture, The Light Lab were tasked with providing bespoke LED handrails using Glowrail product. A distinctive building externally, with bold curving corners and rounded glass windows, the handrail is a stunning addition to this already rich architectural design.



Hiscox, York

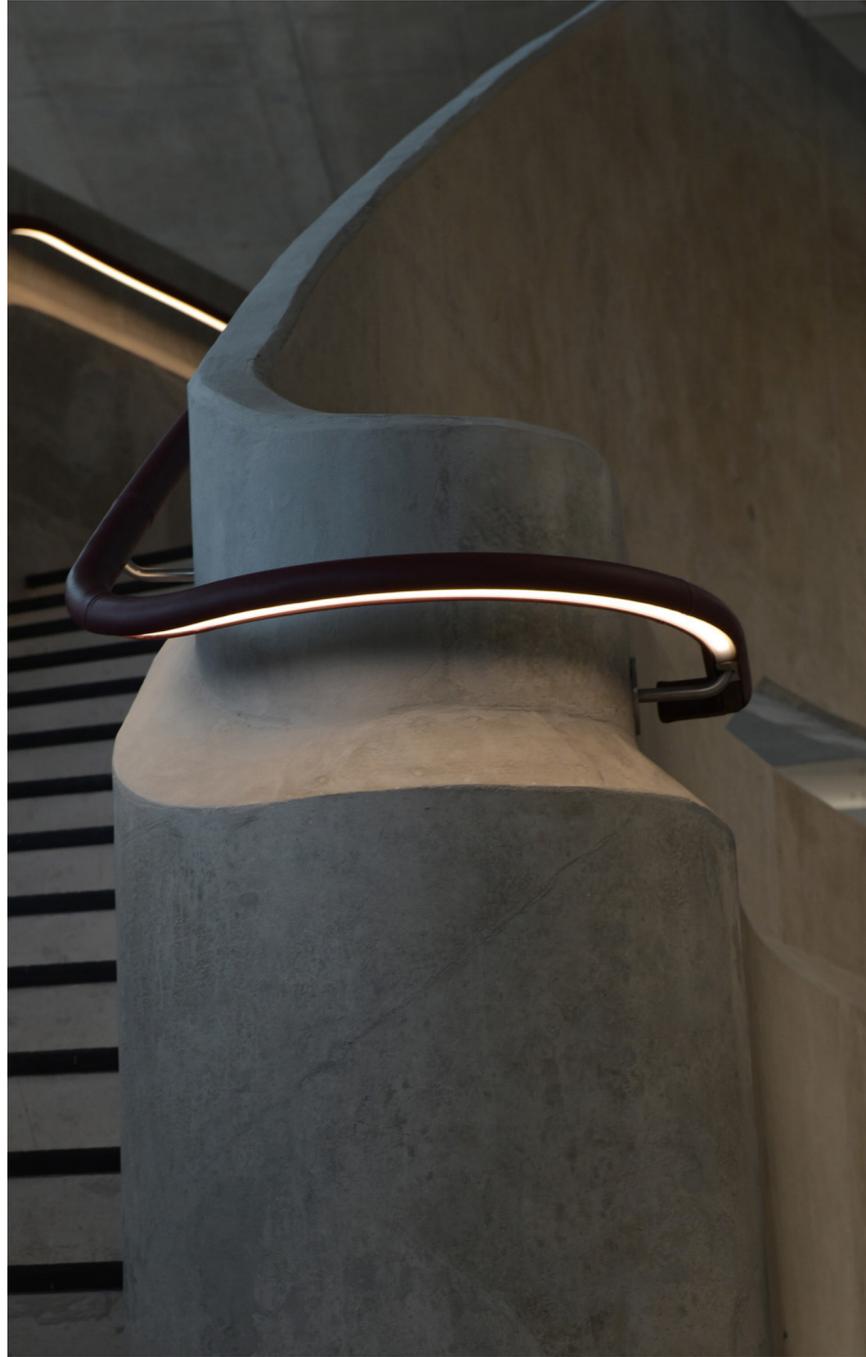
Harcourt London added the finishing touches, cladding the handrails in rich, high-quality leather. Close coordination and a shared creativity between the parties involved resulted in the creation of a show-stopping bespoke leather LED handrail for the client, who were delighted with the result. This polished place of work is set to be a landmark building and we are thrilled to have been part of this project.that drifts across the ceiling, whose deft touch gives the piece its true class.



We wanted to accentuate the already prominent presence of all three stairways, whilst ensuring they were in tune with the unmistakable ambience of the room. With style and substance in mind, our innovative LED Glowrail product was the lighting of choice for the project. The Glowrail produces high output continuous lines of light that are able to stretch along great distances, regardless of shape. The Glowrail was fitted along the entirety of each unique ribbon-like structure by our team, with the result being a series of striking, weaving streams of light. The project also benefited from the installation of emergency back-ups that will cover all three staircases



Marcus Cave Design Director, The Light Lab







Broadgate Quarter

bespoke atrium light feature



Architect

John Robertson Architects

Light Design

Cundall

Products

bespoke

Services

specialist lighting design, manufacture & installation

The Light Lab manufactured and installed this stunning bespoke atrium light feature at the commercial offices of Broadgate Quarter in the City. The installation took place over a 6 week period, using our specialist installers, working alongside a team of abseilers, to ensure that each bespoke halo structure was installed as designed. This is our largest atrium lighting project to date, with the installation reaching almost the full length of the 50 metre atrium.

Working to the detailed concept design of lighting designers Cundall & John Robertson Architects, we initially produced a full scale mock up (as we often do for large scale projects), comprising of one complete illuminated ring that we winched to the top of the atrium for the design team review.

When tackling the full project, the main design challenges involved the structure of the feature; particularly the balance of providing sufficient strength to each illuminated ring, whilst ensuring there was no visible shadowing. At the same time there was the requirement of a very light-weight structure to fix to the existing atrium support beams. The final design was approximately 750Kg per chandelier (including all cabling) which for a 45m long structure, was a considerable design challenge. The cabling alone was a sizeable task, requiring the running and managing of over 1km of cabling of sufficient size, to ensure all LED rings were consistently and evenly illuminated.



Broadgate Quarter

Project Manager Graeme Laurie on the installation challenges of this project: “When it came to the actual installation, the biggest challenge was how to install such a large piece within the confines of a (relatively) restricted area. With minimal access to the atrium area and a restrictive weight allowance, installation using even the smallest cranes wasn’t an option. Similarly, the access issue prevented us building the individual rings off site; we therefore set up shop in the atrium and the rings were assembled in situ. We then built the structures from the ground up, winching them gradually into place (via a lifting frame and manual winches), with the feature effectively growing from the atrium floor and slowly filling the space”

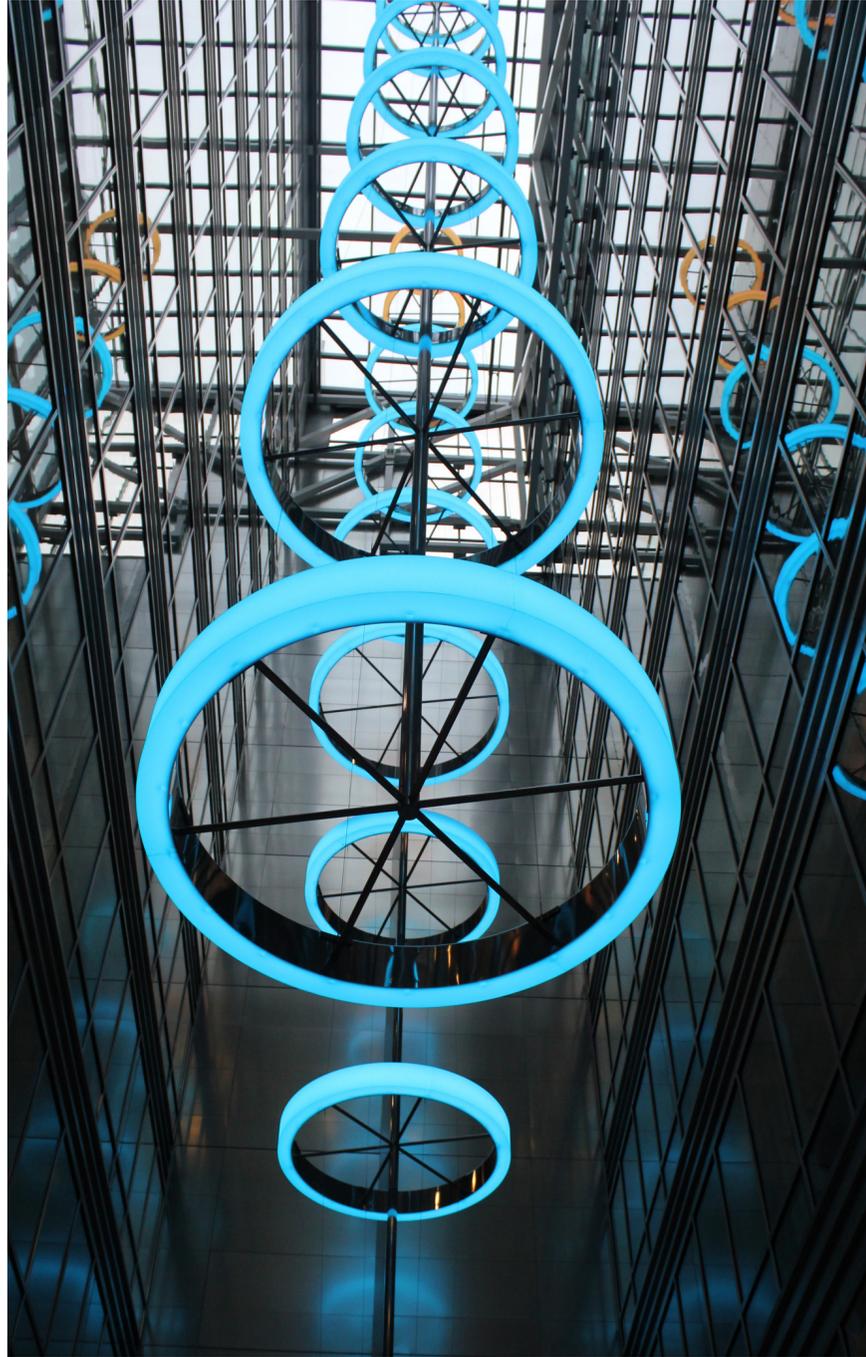
Andrew Bissell from Cundall, speaks of the close working relationship between the designers and the light lab, to ensure the installation ran smoothly and was completely true to the design.



Having designed such a large lighting element to fill the atrium space, we needed to be sure the design intent was retained through the construction detail and installation process. The Light Lab understand the importance of even the smallest of details and how to manage and undertake an installation of this nature. As such the client has the lighting effect originally presented along with a high quality and low maintenance product and installation

Andrew Bissell Head of Lighting, Cundall









Here East, Stratford

exterior inground glowline



Architect	LDA
Light Design	Cundall Light4
Products	Glowline - inground
Services	bespoke lighting manufacture & installation

Sitting in the heart of the new Here East development in Stratford, we recently manufactured and installed a bespoke exterior lighting feature, using our inground glowline product.

Working to the initial concept by architects LDA Design & Cundall Light4, The Light Lab were appointed to transfer the designer's vision into an eye-catching yet practical and durable solution. The lighting scheme, comprising of interlocking circles and lines of light, sits recessed in a number of different exterior surfaces; including concrete, astro-turf and soil/shrubbery. The inground glowline solution seamlessly links the transitions between these varied surfaces, contributing to a well-balanced installation and a unified exterior public space.







101 Bishopsgate

bespoke office entrance portal



Architect

Gensler

Light Design

The Light Lab

Products

bespoke

Services

specialist lighting design, bespoke lighting manufacture & installation

The Light Lab designed and installed a 6.5m wide x 5.5m high glass entrance portal, both inside and out and a 5m high glass column within the reception foyer. We also designed and installed all of the entrance glazing – incorporating 3.8m high glass doors so as to continue the lines of the existing curtain wall glazing on the building.

The portal had to be fully self supporting and free standing, as no interface with the curtain walling and existing structure of the building was permitted. Each leaf of the portal is one piece of glass (the largest 7m x 1.4m), so as to give an uninterrupted even glow to the whole portal.

The column has minimal supporting metalwork, giving a seamless floor to ceiling shaft of light to complement the portal and punctuate the entrance foyer.

Interesting logistical challenges given the location on Bishopsgate and limited access and space to work in for installation, but we feel a clean and impressive result.





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Thank you