

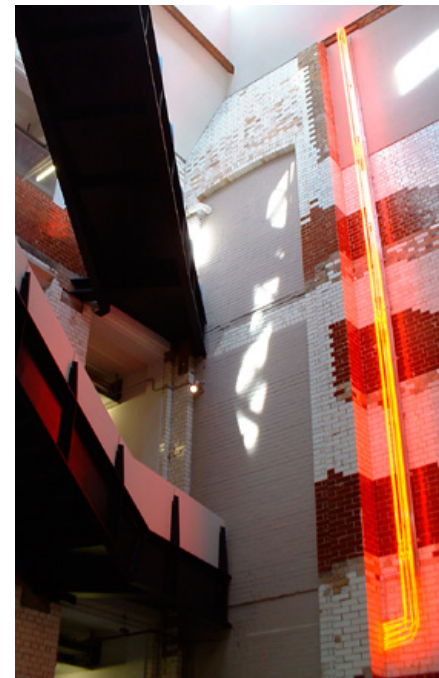


Centre for Lifelong Learning, City and Islington College

by WilkinsonEyre

Over recent years City and Islington College has been engaged in an extensive accommodation strategy, rationalising its activities into five centres on four, rather than ten, separate sites. The Centre for Lifelong Learning at Finsbury Park is one of the key projects in this programme of rationalisation, with a curriculum tending towards the older student and returning learners. Language and IT form a large part of the curriculum, but this is combined with a range of more vocational, practical courses which give a rich mixture of activities.

At the core of the scheme is an adapted Victorian school building. The new accommodation wraps around this to create a strong dynamic between new and old and a real sense of spatial diversity, all enhanced by several specially commissioned artworks. Unusually, the building also houses a public branch library, the intention being that library users will become inspired to enrol for a course at the College.



Details

Location: London, UK
Client: City and Islington College
Architect: WilkinsonEyre
Structural & Services Engineer: Arup
Area: 7,400m²
Value: £9.6m
Completed: October 2003

Awards

Civic Trust Award 2006
The Islington Society Architecture & Conservation Award 2005
Shortlisted for Prime Minister's Better Public Building Award 2004
Finalist for FX Award for Public Space 2006