Untangling one of the busiest Underground stations

Tottenham Court Road Station
London
National Rail Award 2017
Major Project of the Year

British Construction Industry Award 2017
Major Civil Engineering Project of the Year

RICS Award 2016
Infrastructure (highly commended)

AJ100 Award 2016
Architectural Collaboration of the Year (shortlisted)
Delivering a world class station for the 21st century

Tottenham Court Road is a crucial connecting point on a sensitive site at the heart of London, sitting underneath the Grade II listed Centrepoint Tower.

Since it first opened at the beginning of the 20th century Tottenham Court Road Station has undergone various improvements on a piecemeal ad-hoc basis. The concept for the station upgrade was to provide efficient and fully accessible connections between the different underground lines, connect the station with the new Crossrail station and ensure that both stations will continue to function as one seamless transport interchange after Crossrail opens.

Our challenge was to ensure the new station complied with London Underground requirements for station lifespan, capacity, fire safety, space planning and step-free access, while working with the existing station. This is a 24 hour station with peak flows across the day and night; designing an environment which suited all passenger experiences was key. Keeping the station operational whilst modernising the intricate existing tunnels and cross passages required a lot of thought by the design team.

The urban realm is part of the larger ‘St Giles Circus’ scheme which stretches from Tottenham Court Road Station to Soho and Covent Garden beyond. With the arrival of Crossrail, the new public plazas at the foot of Centre Point tower will establish a new gathering space to accommodate the anticipated 200,000 daily pedestrian movements. These works and the station upgrade are part of a £1 billion redevelopment and makeover of the area.

We have been involved on the project for over 20 years. Our understanding of this complex site and brief has led to further work, including the Crossrail Western Ticket Hall and the OSD residential development at Dean Street, Crossrail platforms and Eastern Ticket Hall connection to TCRSU.

Harinder Birdi Partner

Bringing a moment of joy to everyday travel
The ticket hall at Tottenham Court Road Station or London’s most visited art space? Collaborating with artists, including minimalist Daniel Buren, is one way that infrastructure can enhance users’ experience.
An artist’s perspective

Project: Tottenham Court Road Station
Location: London, UK
Client: Transport for London
Service: Architecture, working with artists
Scope: New build, regeneration, refurbishment
Contractor: Taylor Woodrow, BAM Nuttall
Engineer: CH2M Hill
Value: £600m
Status: Complete

Working in collaboration with Art on the Underground, Hawkins\Brown were keen to build on the legacy of Eduardo Paolozzi’s mosaics within the existing station by working with contemporary artists to develop new permanent artwork installations. Our ambition was to set the benchmark for London’s stations, creating a quality public environment with maximum impact and a unique identity for Tottenham Court Road Station.

Daniel Buren
Renowned minimalist French artist Daniel Buren was selected in 2008 to create a new permanent installation for Tottenham Court Road Station. His artwork has become a major feature of the two new entrances from Oxford Street and Charing Cross Road, and the new ticket hall interior.

Buren’s designs play with simple concepts; shapes, colours and his trademark 87mm stripes. Fixed to the station’s internal glass walls, he has created a high impact series of large 2.4m diameter repeating colourful diamonds and circles set against black and white stripes. A cabinet containing the 3D ‘parents’ of these two forms are housed in a vitrine inside the ticket hall.

Mark Wallinger
Mark Wallinger, one of the UK’s leading contemporary artists, has created a major new artwork for London Underground to celebrate its 150th anniversary. The result, commissioned by Art on the Underground, is a multi-part work on a huge scale that will be installed in every one of the 270 London Underground stations. Wallinger sees the commission as a unique opportunity to explore the potential of the Underground as a whole. At Tottenham Court Road Station his artwork is located inside the Oxford Street entrance adjacent to the Daniel Buren piece.

100,000 passengers a day
use Tottenham Court Road Station.
Eduardo Paolozzi
Eduardo Paolozzi’s mosaics at Tottenham Court Road are one of the most spectacular examples of public art in London. Completed in 1986, the glass mosaics cover 950sqm. The mosaics reflect Paolozzi’s interpretation of the local area and his wider interest in mechanisation, urbanisation, popular culture and everyday life. In total over 95% of the original mosaics have been retained in their original location, with a mixture of new and original tiles.

Creating clarity amongst the complexity
A cutaway of the station explaining the space, including the Soho entrance concourse.

Art on the Underground
Paolozzi’s mosaics feature prominently on the Northern and Central line platforms and interconnecting spaces.
Making the most of your site
Hawkins\Brown is a modern British architectural practice with an award-winning approach to design. We put our hearts and minds into realising your project’s potential. You’ll discover creativity, commitment and a desire to collaborate to reach the best solution.

To find out more about our practice or talk to us about your project, contact:

**Harbinder Singh Birdi**
HarbinderBirdi@hawkinsbrown.com
+44 (0)20 7336 8030

**London**
159 St John Street
EC1V 4QJ
+44 (0)20 7336 8030

**Manchester**
3C Tariff Street
M1 2FF
+44 (0)161 641 5522

**Edinburgh**
Spaces, 1 Locharn Sq
92 Fountainbridge
EH3 9QA
+44 (0)131 370 8820

**Los Angeles**
2128 Cotner Ave
CA 90025
+1 213 493 2001

hawkinsbrown.com  mail@hawkinsbrown.com