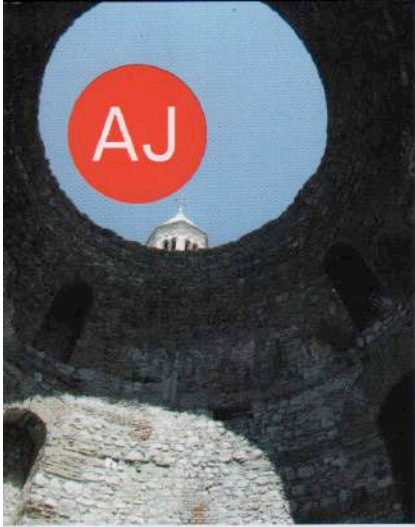


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Competitions

New leads

Manchester City Council is seeking an architect for its new £110 million flexible art space – The Factory.

Scheduled to complete in 2019, the venue will be constructed on the former Granada Studios site (pictured) within the city centre.

The winning team will work with the council and Allied London – its development partner for the television centre regeneration – to develop the scheme.

The arena is expected to become the new home of the Manchester International Festival and will have a capacity of 2,200 seated or 5,000 standing.

It is named after Factory Records, which started in Manchester in 1978 and was home to influential bands such as Joy Division, New Order and Happy Mondays.

Council leader Richard Leese said: 'This will be a high-profile, challenging project for an ultra-flexible arts space in a building unique to the UK.'

'We are looking for architects with the experience and expertise to meet a demanding technical brief and manage a full design team.'

The winner of the £9.5 million design contract is expected to be announced in mid-November. A planning application will

be submitted by May next year with construction expected to commence in January 2017. [The deadline for requests to participate is 26 August]

Chelmsford City Council is on the hunt for an architect to redevelop its 1960s Riverside Ice and Leisure Centre. The £25 million project will create a new pool, training area, fitness suite and multistorey car park on the prominent Victoria Road site. Up to six teams will be shortlisted for the estimated £1.6 million design contract with bids evaluated 50 per cent on price and 50 per cent on quality. [The deadline for requests to participate is 4pm on 17 August]

The University of Cambridge is looking for an architect to design a new £8.5 million storage and retrieval centre for its university library. Planned for a business park outside Ely, the single-storey 4,800m² facility will feature a controlled environment, an electronic cataloguing and retrieval system and a racking structure to provide maximum density of storage. The winning teams will develop plans to RIBA Stage 3 before being novated to a contractor. [The deadline for requests to participate is 12 noon on 14 August]

Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh is on the lookout for an architect to design a range of regeneration schemes. The winning team will upgrade teaching facilities within the James Watt Centre, create a new 'Learning Commons' area inside the university's Elements Café and provide new study and catering facilities on the top floor of the Hugh Nisbet Building. The winner of the £330,000 contract will work alongside an already-appointed interior design team. [The deadline for requests to participate is 12 noon on 28 August]



Competitions

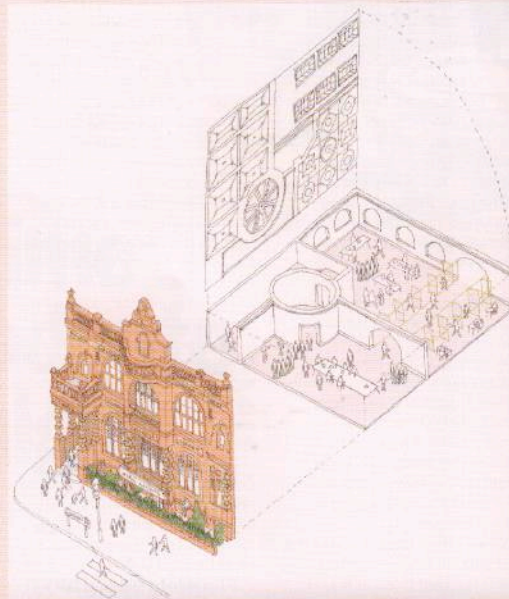
Recent wins

GRUPPE co-founder **Nicholas Lobo Brennan** and **Astrid Smitham** have been chosen to transform Newham's Grade II-listed Old Manor Park Library into a workshop space (concept drawing below) for artists and creative businesses. Also shortlisted were Delvendahl Martin Architects, The Decorators and Office S&M. The scheme is backed by Create, Bow Arts and Newham Council.

Reiach and Hall Architects has won a publicly tendered contract worth £750,000 for Forth Valley College's new £70 million campus in Falkirk. Planned to complete in 2018, the 6.4ha New Falkirk Headquarters Campus will replace the existing Forth Valley College Middlefield Campus, which was constructed in 1963.

BDP and **Rural Office for Architecture** have been selected to design a new headquarters for Welsh broadcaster S4C in Carmarthen. Huw Griffiths Architects with CB3 Consult, Boyes Rees Architects with Cambria and Lawray Architects were also finalists in the contest for the University of Wales Trinity St David-backed project.

ECD Architects has won a publicly tendered contract worth nearly £800,000 to overhaul Tipton House and Edgbaston House in Portsmouth. The £12 million project for Portsmouth City Council will boost thermal performance, reduce heat loss and provide a better living environment for residents inside the two 1960s towers. It is scheduled to complete in 2018.



Contact Merlin Fulcher with your competition news at: Merlin.Fulcher@emap.com or @merlinfulcher