Zumtobel helps create an inspirational setting for RIBA’s new Clore Learning Centre

Zumtobel Lighting have illuminated the prestigious, Grade II listed headquarters of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) building for the new Clore Learning Centre, which will open in October 2019. The Clore Learning Centre will be an inspirational setting for hands-on, creative activities for a range of audiences, from children and families to life-long learners so the illumination will play an important role in providing the perfect ambience in the spaces.

Situated at 66 Portland Place, London, the Royal Institute of British Architects is a global professional membership body driving excellence in architecture, supporting British architects and introducing new people to the world of architecture. RIBA’s new Clore Learning Centre aims to provide an inspiring destination for the public to engage with architecture as part of a creative learning programme. It includes a dedicated studio, study room, terrace and an interactive display area that will showcase the Centre's work, with hands-on, creative workshops and courses led by architects, artists and educators.
Zumtobel’s elegant ONDARIA with tunableWhite complements the interior architecture in the main teaching space and helps provide a flexible learning centre for the users. The timeless design of the ONDARIA luminaire perfectly adapts to a variety of different room concepts, its clear geometry enhances the architecture without detracting from the interior styling. ONDARIA’s circular shape means that it can be positioned at random and in any direction in a room, without compromising the constant quality of light. The addition of Zumtobel’s tunableWhite technology means that colour output can be tuned to virtually any perceivable colour, including any shade of white light. With the right light, people can immerse themselves fully in their respective tasks including activities at work and for studying, which can in turn help improve sleep patterns come the end of the day.

Zumtobel’s LITECOM lighting management system optimises the lighting solution of the entire Centre with regard to visual comfort and energy efficiency. LITECOM can be controlled via conventional switches, Zumtobel control units, smartphones, tablets or other computers. The system has the ability to dim the luminaires, save lighting scenes and control screens, windows and blinds. Other functions, such as daylight-based lighting management, are covered by optional apps, allowing for future changes and additions. If glare protection is also integrated into the LITECOM system via scene call or manual, independent adjustment of the blinds and slat positioning, visual comfort will be enhanced, as there will be no glare even when the sun is low.

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Zumtobel’s SUPERSYSTEM, fills the space with uniform styling, and is the feature lighting for the perimeter walls and to highlight the exhibits. The thin rail profile, combined with the highly diversified construction kit for easy to install lighting inserts, covers all demanding lighting tasks without sacrificing light quality. The spotlights mounted on the SUPERSYSTEM provide flexible illumination that can be moved and aimed at specific exhibits easily, without the need for an electrician.

Zumtobel’s DIAMO compact downlight has provided the perfect solution for the corridors and circulation spaces, providing a brilliant white, sparkling light. Thanks to concealed fixtures, hand-made reflectors and high-quality LED technology, DIAMO is ideal for accent lighting, boasts excellent light quality and is a real highlight when it comes to wanting maximum design freedom in the staging of architectural features. Flextape in the cabinets produces a complimentary, warm white light. Comfort for the user has been given great consideration in the toilet facilities where linear suspended SLOTLIGHT Infinity has been installed to guarantee a bright and welcoming space.

Karin Zumtobel, Head of Culture and Arts at Zumtobel Group commented “We are very excited to have supported RIBA’s Clore Learning Centre and helped them create a lighting solution within this inspirational space. Clore will provide continuous education for its members as well as supporting community work for children to experience the world of architecture in a playful way. Lighting is so important to how we feel in a space and we are delighted Zumtobel can be part of this educational journey”.

Andrew Nelson, Head of Learning at RIBA commented “The Clore Learning Centre is truly transformative for our public outreach and strengthens the RIBA’s position as a leading destination for architectural learning. As well as supporting capacity growth, our new Studio enables us to offer a much broader and immersive range of creative activities.”
“The highly sophisticated lighting installations demonstrate the key role of good lighting in learning space interiors and as well as giving us the capacity to optimise lighting conditions for workshops, presentations and displays, the highly sophisticated system allows us to use the lighting itself as a teaching tool, for instance exploring the impact of lighting temperature on the experience of a space”