

BRAMA iTown, Xidian, Beijing

A new cultural quarter in the heart of the old city



Located in the Xidian area of Beijing, iTown is a new cultural district by BRAMA.

Situated close to the the centre of the city between the Central Business District, the Film and Television Zone and the Communication University of China, iTown offers a hub for the creative industries, drawing them together around a series of urban spaces and public realm works.

The iTown site is surrounded by six railway lines which create a notional boundary and enhance the town-like feel of the development, at the heart of which is the iTown Arts Centre.

The Arts Centre is housed in a large commercial building and will accommodate music, drama and circus performances, community events, conferences and exhibitions and will be available for private hire.

Plann was appointed by BOP Consulting on behalf of BRAMA, to design the specialist technical systems fit-out for the Arts Centre, including the overhead rigging and suspension systems and the stagelighting and audiovisual infrastructure.

The technical systems for the Arts Centre are designed as an integrated, demountable, floor-standing system in response to the lightweight nature of the base-build structure, the lack of loading capacity to support from above and the requirement for total flexibility within the space.

Plann submitted tender level design information to the Client for direct procurement in China.

Client:	BOP on behalf of BRAMA
Client Referee:	Lucy Minyo lucym@bop.cu.uk
Budget:	Confidential
Technical Consultant:	Paul Crosbie, Plann



Sean Hollywood Arts Centre & Town Hall, Newry

The development of this prestigious and historic site will deliver a stunning cultural hub for this beautiful town



Newry is home to a thriving creative community of hobbyists, amateurs and semi-professional artists working across the visual and live arts. Situated centrally between Belfast and Dublin, Newry also offers an ideal stop-off point for professional artists touring the area.

Nestled in the heart of the town, the Town Hall and the Sean Hollywood Arts Centre together offer a range of spaces for exhibition and performance use, however the existing facilities are no longer able to meet the requirements of the developing cultural offer and as a result their commercial viability is in question.

Plann was appointed to assess the current facilities and prepare the brief for an international competition to engage an Architect-Lead Design Team to re-imagine the Sean Hollywood Arts Centre and the Town Hall sites with a view to creating a forward-looking, commercially sustainable creative centre.

Plann continues to provide specialist input throughout the competition and procurement stage of the process and thereafter will be retained for the duration of the project as Client Technical Advisor in a review and monitoring role.



Client:	Newry, Mourne & Down District Council
Client Referee:	Adrian Grimshaw
Contact:	adrian.grimshaw@nmadd.org
Client Advisor:	Paul Crosbie, Plann

Manchester Jewish Museum, Manchester

Promoting social cohesion and inter-cultural understanding



Manchester Jewish Museum is located in a former Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue which dates back to 1874 and is the oldest surviving building of its type in the city.

The Synagogue is a beautiful example of Moorish-style Victorian architecture and wherever possible has remained unchanged since it originally opened its doors.

The museum's collection of historic artefacts has grown significantly over the years, to the extent that it can no longer be adequately housed and displayed in the current premises and as a result a new museum, with the synagogue as its centrepiece, shall open in 2020.

Plann was appointed in 2018 to design the specialist systems required to facilitate live performance and special events in the main hall of the synagogue and multimedia art installations in the Ladies Gallery.

Plann also designed a network of specialist technical links throughout the new building to enable the movement of content between the spaces and facilitate flexible use.

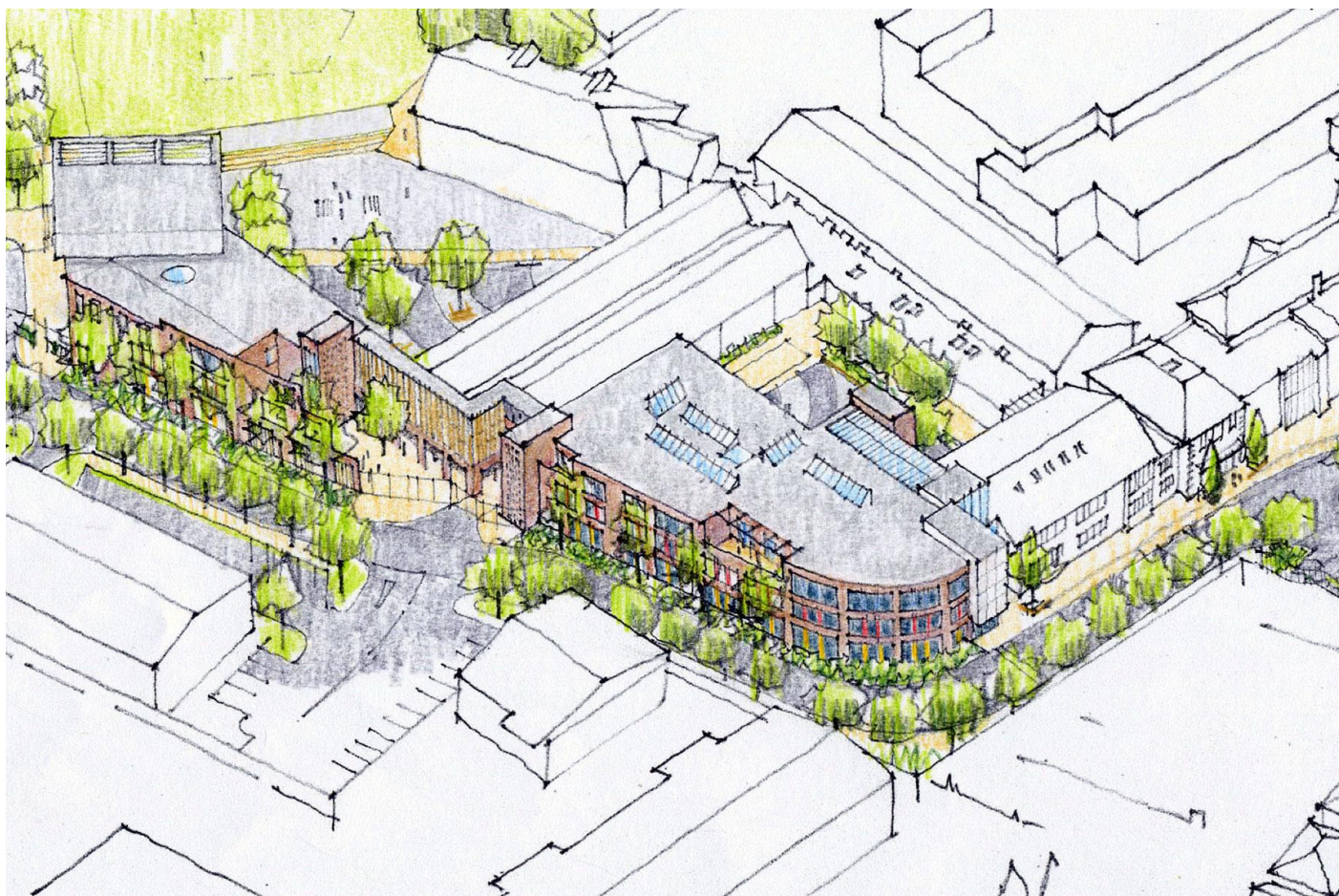
Working with *All Things Studio*, Plann designed the specialist infrastructure required to enable the discreet introduction of curated interpretive soundscapes into the synagogue to recreate the aural experience of visiting the synagogue at various historical points.

Client:	Manchester Jewish Museum
Client Referee:	Max Dunbar Chief Executive Officer ceo@manchesterjewishmuseum.com
Architect:	Citizens Design Bureau
Budget:	£2.9m
Completed:	Ongoing
Theatre Consultant:	Paul Crosbie, Plann
Technical Consultant:	Jason Barnes, Plann



Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form, Surrey

A space for the creatives, performers and technicians of the future to begin their journey



At Tolworth Girls' School and Sixth Form the cultural enrichment of the student body is valued alongside their academic achievement, and the sustained success of the TGS Drama Group is testament to this.

The success of the school has resulted in the continued expansion of the campus and most recently a new studio theatre has been added to the estate.

Faced with significant funding challenges, Plann were engaged to work with the school and their Design Team to design and deliver a flexible, often temporary, cost-effective solution to the specialist technical fit-out of the studio theatre.

Plann took a light-touch approach to developing stagelighting and audiovisual systems able to accommodate school drama use, including GCSE Drama, school assemblies and events and private hires. The specialist audiovisual/ IT systems also support more typical academic teaching use of the space.

Plann tendered these specialist packages then worked alongside the selected specialist subcontractors to ensure the best possible long-term results for the school.



Client:

Client Referee:

Architect:

Theatre Consultant:

Technical Consultant:

Tolworth Girls' School

Andy Hetherington

andy.hetherington@tolworthgirlsschool.co.uk

Lytle Associates

Paul Crosbie, Plann

Jason Barnes, Plann

East London Dance, Talent House, London

A new home for dance and community engagement at the heart of East London's thriving cultural expansion



East London Dance is one of two cultural anchor tenants at Talent House, centrepiece to the Strand East development by Vastint. Situated on the periphery of the former London Olympics Park on Sugar Island, the new cultural site comprises both a refurbished and a new-build premises. East London Dance occupies a CLT structure inserted into a former warehouse and linked to a new extension by a glazed atrium that forms part of the public realm.

Plann was appointed to design and specify the fit-out of the dance studio spaces that house the East London Dance offer, and have specified rigging and suspension, stagelighting and audiovisual systems. The large of the studio spaces can accommodate up to 60 invited guests for open rehearsals or special events.

Plann also developed buildingwide technical systems including paging and links to the shared atrium and adjacent cultural building. A small number of spaces across the site are equipped for occasional shared use.

Client:	East London Dance
Client Referee:	Polly Risbridger Director polly.risbridger@eastlondondance.org
Architect:	Citizens Design Bureau
Budget:	Confidential
Completed:	Ongoing
Theatre Consultant:	Paul Crosbie, Plann
Technical Consultant:	Jason Barnes, Plann



Urban Development, Talent House, London

A new home for music development at the heart of East London's thriving cultural expansion



Urban Development is one of two cultural anchor tenants at Talent House, centrepiece to the Strand East development by Vastint. Situated on the periphery of the former London Olympics Park on Sugar Island, the new cultural site comprises both a refurbished and a new-build premises. Urban Development occupies the new building, which is of CLT construction and linked to existing premises by a glazed atrium that forms part of the public realm.

Plann was appointed to design and specify the fit-out of the music development spaces that sit at the heart of the Urban Development offer comprising two professional recording studios, a live room and two vocal booths, all intended for industry use, a further three recording studios for producers starting out on their professional journeys, a production teaching room and a number of writing spaces.

Plann also developed buildingwide technical systems including paging and links to the shared atrium and adjacent cultural building.

Client:	Urban Development
Client Referee:	Pamela McCormick, Founding Director pamela@urbandevelopment.co.uk
Architect:	Citizens Design Bureau
Budget:	Confidential
Completed:	Ongoing
Theatre Consultant:	Paul Crosbie, Plann
Technical Consultant:	Jason Barnes, Plann

