

GATEWAY SCHEME, LIME STREET, LIVERPOOL ASH & LACY



The £40 million gateway scheme in Liverpool's Lime Street features spectacular artwork commissioned from local artist Anthony Brown, depicting some of the forgotten stories of one of the city's most famous streets across 11 giant panels displayed above shops and restaurants, featuring Ash & Lacy's Perforated Metal Façade system.

Designed by Broadway Malyan and forward funded by Curlew Capital, and delivered in a partnership between Liverpool City Council, ION Development and Sigma Inpartnership, the project saw the clearance of a series of run-down buildings and the development of new retail, leisure, hotel and student accommodation. Renovation work also encompassed the refurbishment of the listed former ABC Cinema which occupies a prominent location opposite Liverpool's mainline station.

Ash and Lacy worked closely with Anthony Brown to achieve his goal of creating a "Quantum Timeline", the artist having meticulously researched the area's history from Victorian times to the present day.

Themes covered in the murals include the story of how Lime Street got its name, the Beatles' song Maggie Mae, the famous old Guinness Clock and the ABC and Scala Super Cinemas. They are LED backlit at night to create an even more stunning effect



Specific project challenges:

- Achieving the artist's vision in three dimensions across 11 giant panels in a prominent city centre location.
- Absolutely no compromises to the integrity of the facade construction, while delivering the full artistic intent.

Solutions offered:

 One of the most creative ever utilisations of Ash & Lacy's perforated metal facade screens, on a VariAL CF2 concealed fix rainscreen cladding system attached to a steel frame system (SFS) via the AxiAL rainscreen support system.

- Specialist software was used to convert the artist's early concept sketches into detailed digital DXF files, ensuring the drawings could be replicated precisely as intended.
- The 3mm powder coated aluminium panels were perforated in two layers to the artist's design using high precision CNC punching. The end result is absolutely stunning and a fine demonstration of the extremely versatile capabilities of this solution.





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