

Founded in 1987, Hare & Humphreys has evolved into one of Britain's leading specialists in the painting, gilding, conservation and decoration of historic and contemporary buildings. Working both nationally and internationally, our dedicated team of experienced painters, decorators, gilders and conservators offer an unparalleled range of restoration and decoration services based upon years of experience in both the private and public sectors.

Our company's core team of highly trained professionals combine extensive experience across the arts, decoration and conservation sectors with a shared ethos for delivering excellence. In 2001, we were honoured with the Royal Warrant as Decorators and Gilders by appointment to HM Queen Elizabeth II. The Royal Warrant was awarded for the work that H&H completed on the restoration and decoration of Windsor Castle

Since 2017, H&H has been allied to Atelier Première London and other sister companies that share the same values of craftmanship, heritage conservation and transmission of technical expertise.



HARE & HUMPHREYS



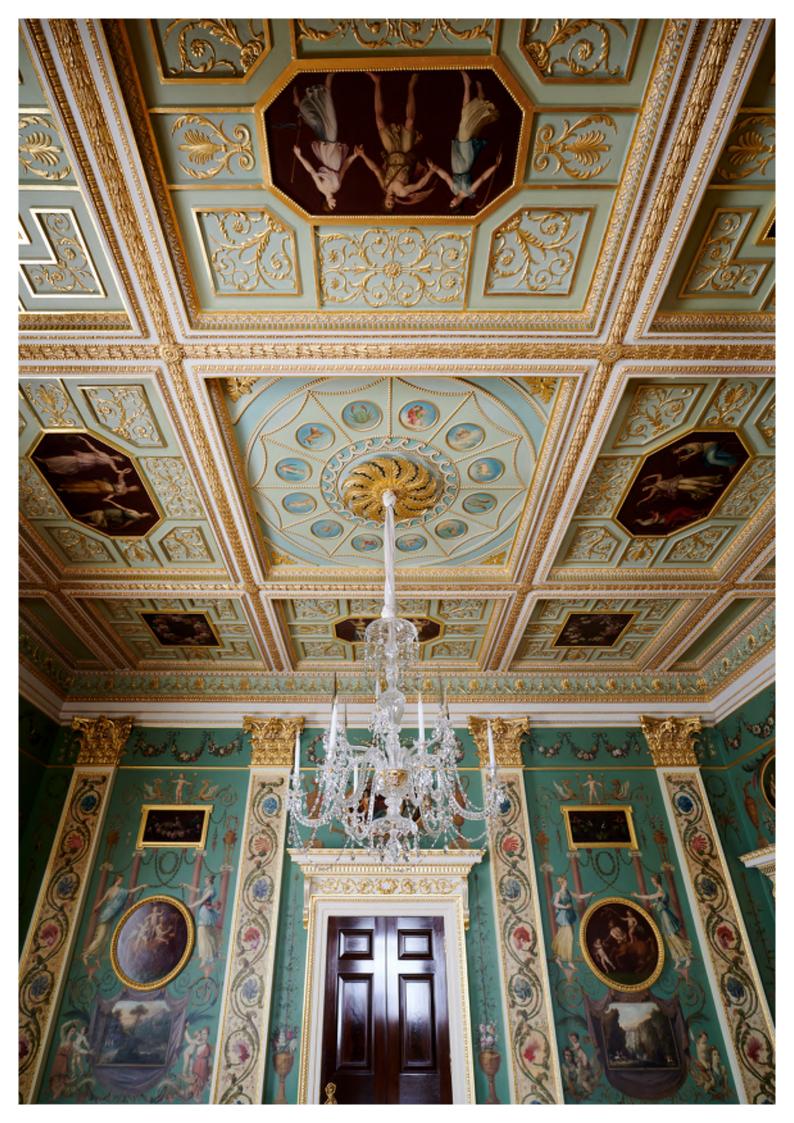




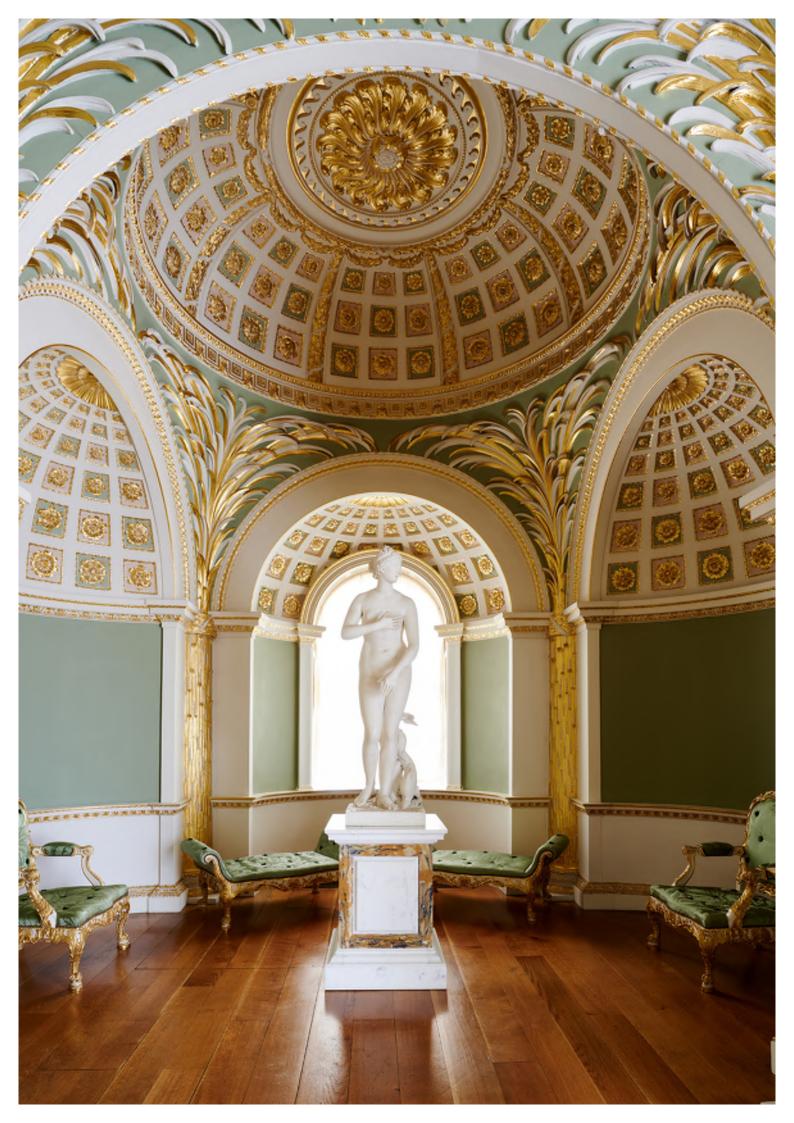












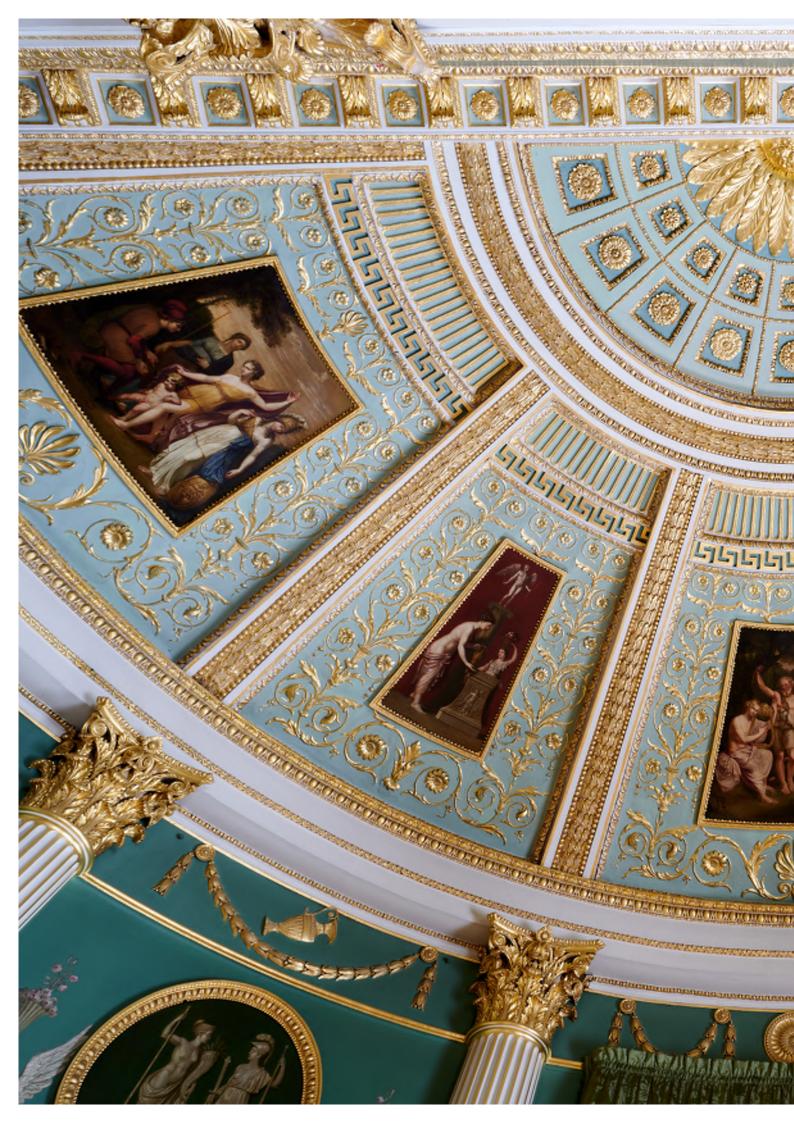
SPENCER HOUSE

ST JAMES'S - LONDON

In 1985 the Rothschild Foundation began the process of restoring Spencer House to its former glory. For many years the property was let to various tenants and consequently many of the state rooms had been subdivided, and in doing so many of the original features had been removed or covered over. The goal of the restoration was to re-instate these state rooms to their original layouts and decoration schemes.

Using architectural paint research, records and drawings from the Spencer Family archives Hare & Humphreys recreated the paint and gilding scheme of the 1790's under the direction of David Mlinaric. The restoration of these rooms has led to a lasting relationship between the Spencer House team and H&H that continues to today.

Designer: David Mlinaric











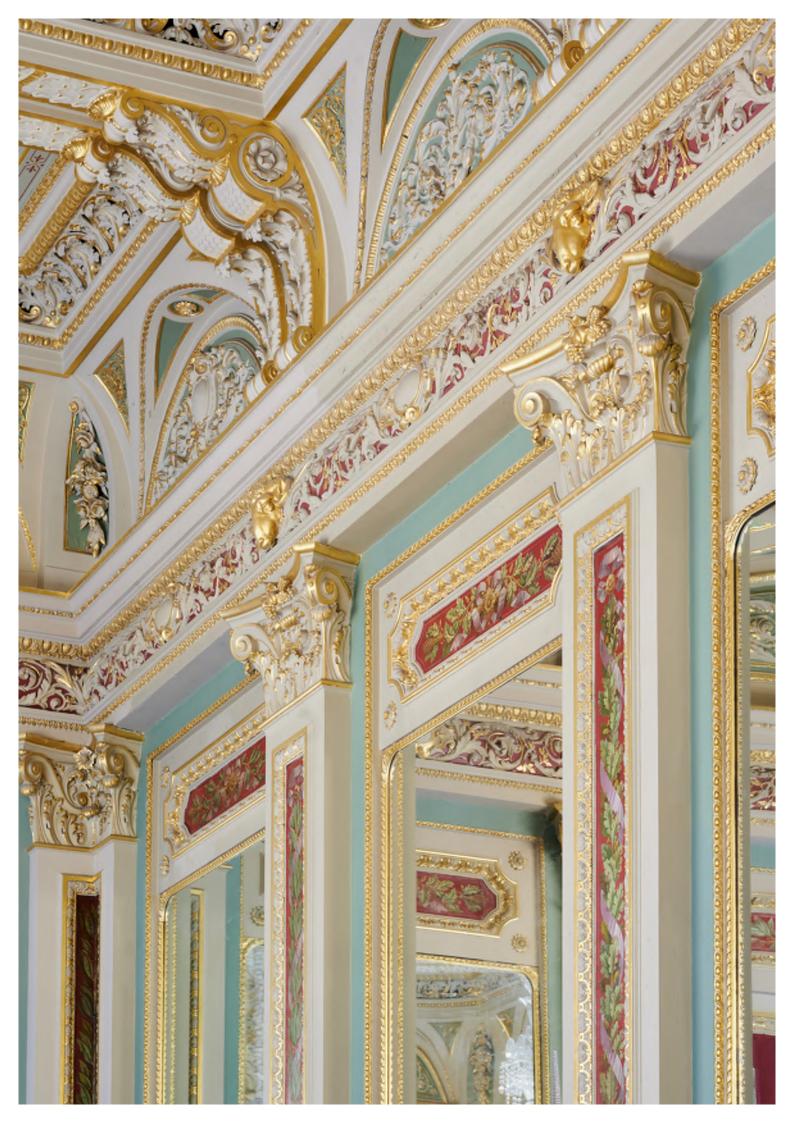


DRAPERS' HALL

CITY OF LONDON

For over 40 years Paul Humphreys has been working with The Draper's Company to keep their hall looking as good as it did in the 1890's. The Drawing Room, Court Dining Room, Court Room and Livery Hall have all been restored and maintained by Hare & Humphreys. Each room has an incredible amount of detail including stenciling, gilding, trompe l'oeil and heraldry.

Our most recent undertaking with The Draper's Company is to collaborate on a new colour scheme for their livery hall. By conducting research on buildings of a similar age and following principles used by the architect Sir Thomas Graham Jackson, we are aiming to create a scheme that will be sympathetic to the original design while still being a new interpretation.











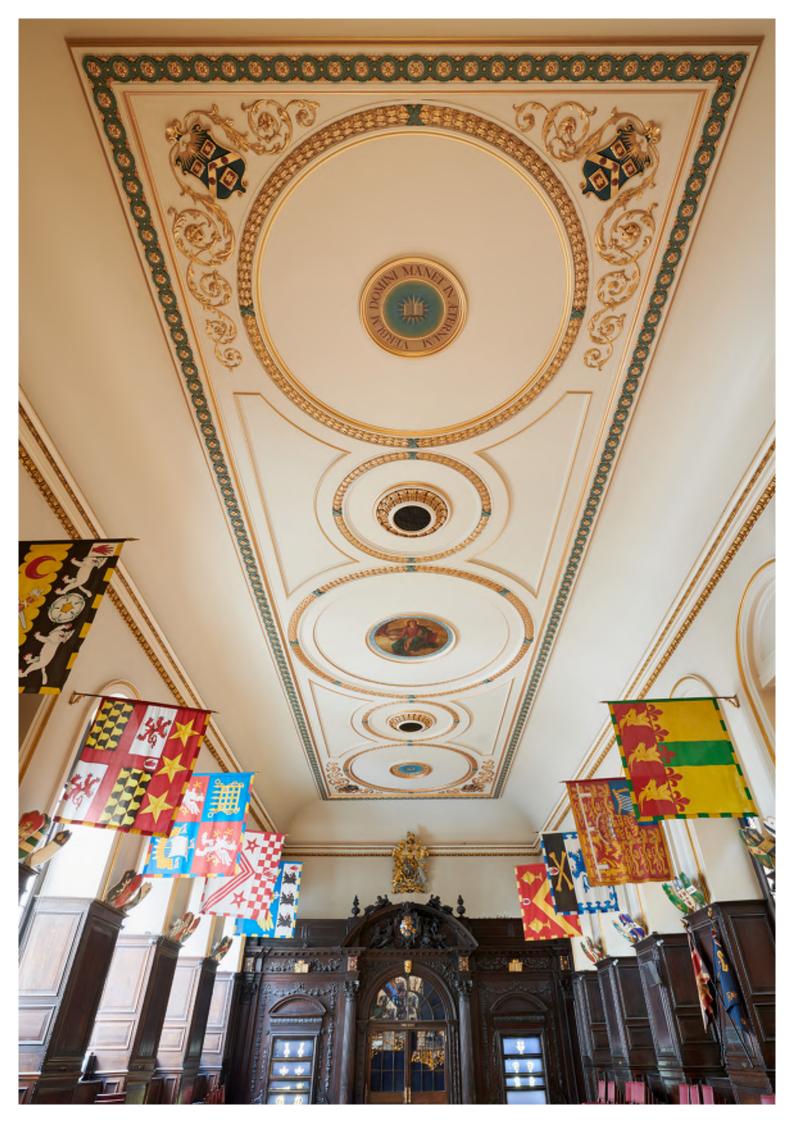
STATIONERS' HALL

CITY OF LONDON

Stationers Hall was completed in 1673 after the Great Fire of London. It is one of the best surveying examples of a livery hall from this time. Hare & Humphreys undertook the restoration of the main livery hall. We were engaged to redecorate and gild the elaborate ceiling which involved cleaning down the surface and repainting the detailed cornices and ceiling moldings, along with the application of 23.5 carat gold leaf.

A feature of this project is the central ceiling canvas which was conservation cleaned by our specialist team of conservators to remove years of dirt.





ORLEANS HOUSE

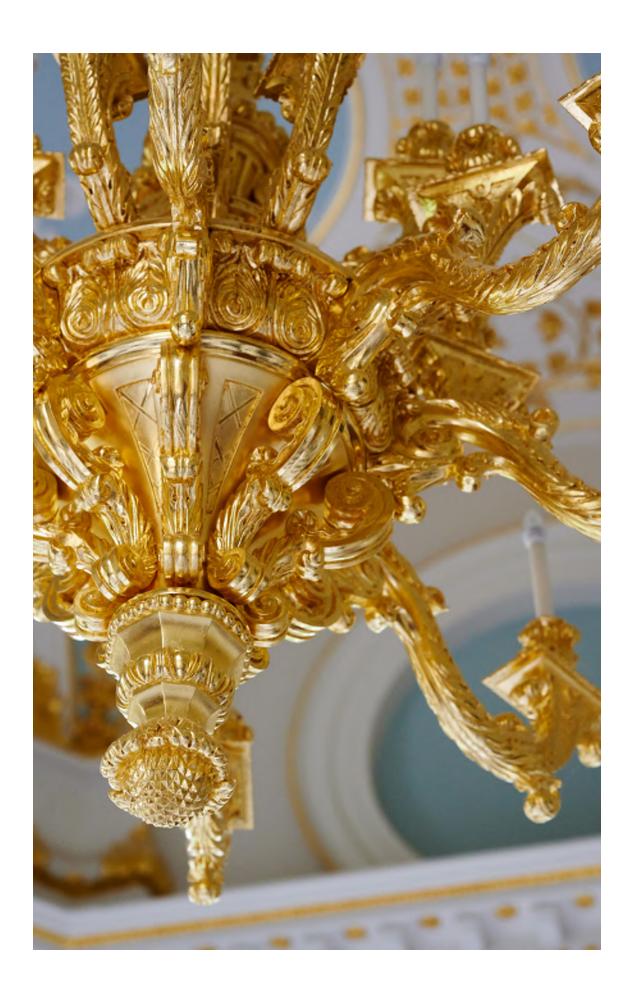
TWICKENHAM

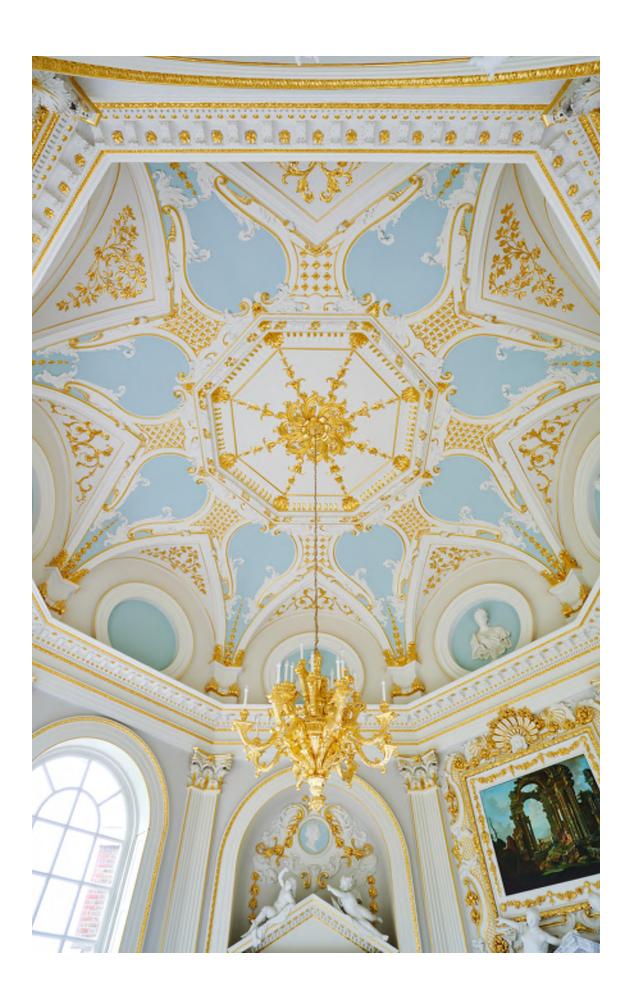
In 1720 the Baroque Octagon Room was constructed at Orleans House. George I, George II and Queen Caroline all dined under the amazing gilded ceiling in the 1720's. The original Orleans House that once adjoined the Octagon was demolished in 1926 but thankfully the room itself was saved and preserved.

Hare & Humphreys conducted the interior restoration including the decoration and gilding. The gilding process was a painstaking labour of love, as it needed to be conducted in a dust free environment to get the best results. The colours where hand mixed on site and adjusted to suit findings from paint analysis. The hand carved chandelier was designed, carved and gilded in house and was based on meticulous research in to similar carved and gilded chandeliers of the period.

Architect: Donald Insall Assocaites Contractor: Quinn London

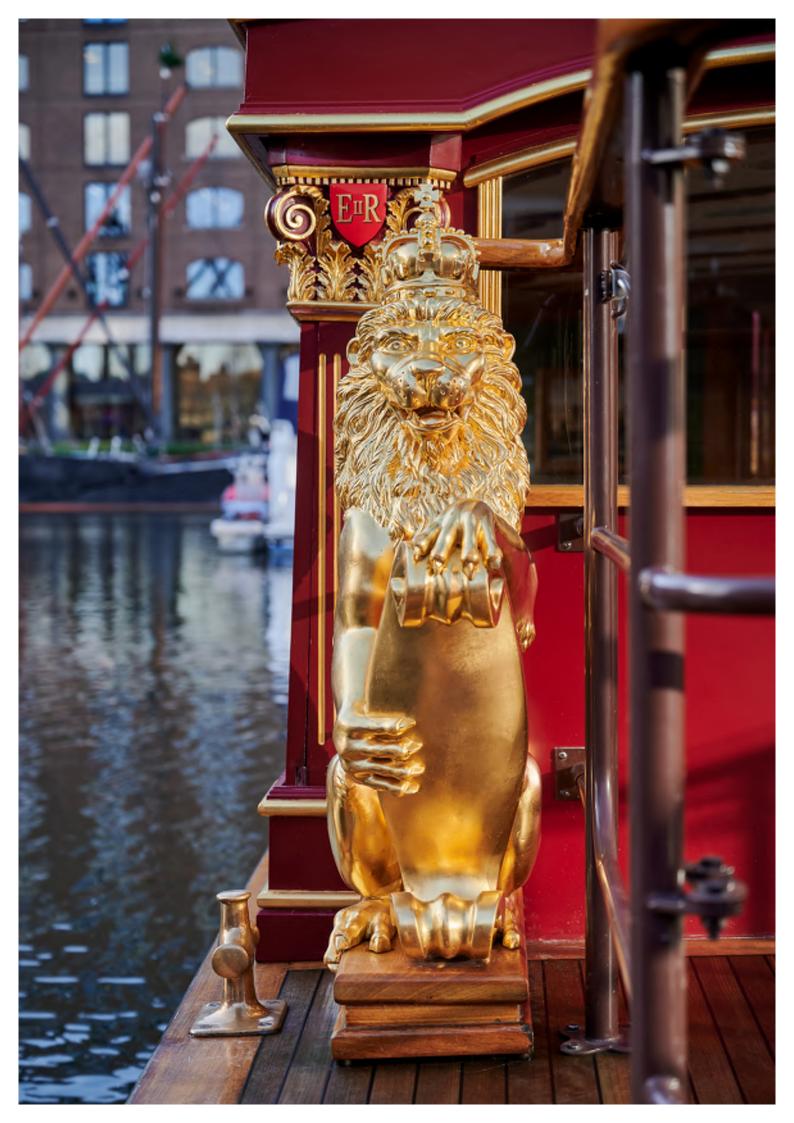




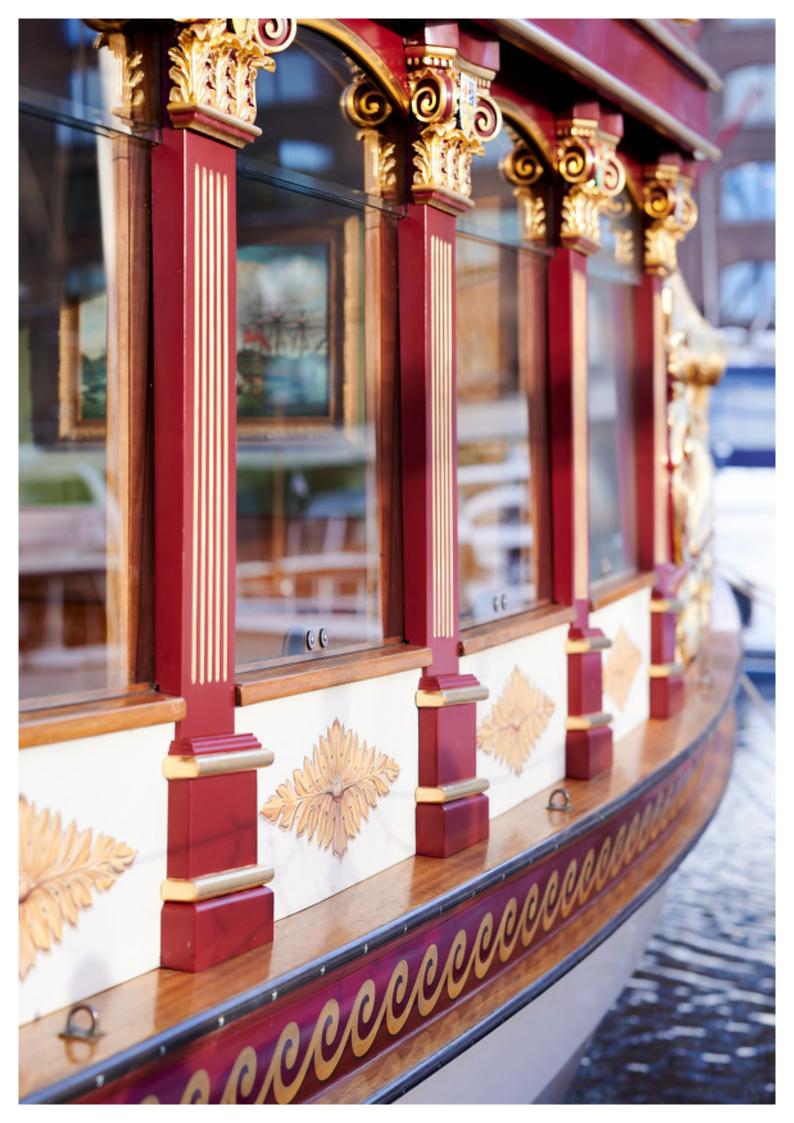


GLORIANA - ROYAL BARGE

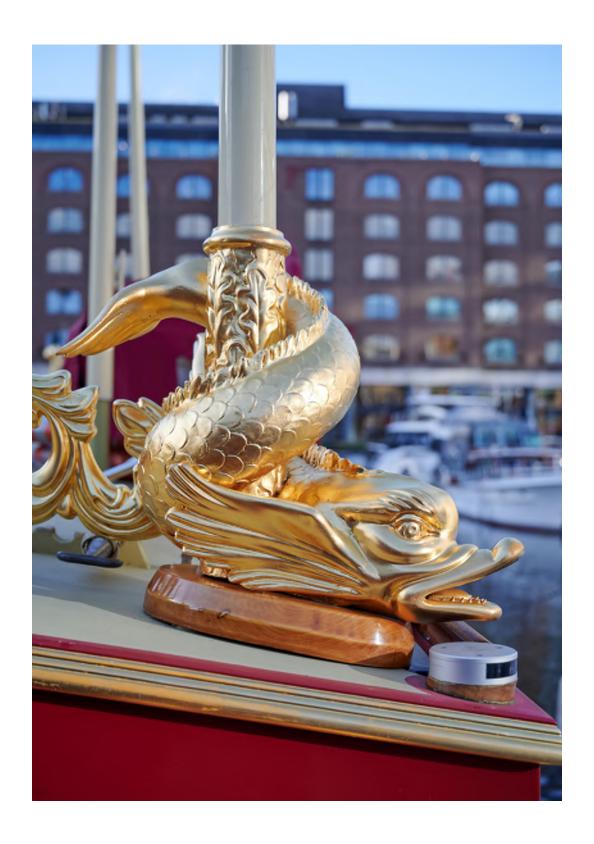
As a part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, Hare & Humphreys were commissioned to undertake the decorative and art works for the Queen's barge Gloriana which led the flotilla on the Thames Pageant day.











LANCASTER HOUSE

ST JAMES'S - LONDON

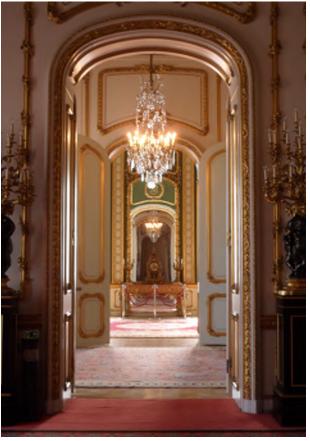
The construction of Lancaster House was commenced in 1825 for the Duke of York, the second son of King George III. This building has some of the best state rooms in the UK. Queen Victoria is said to have remarked on arriving at Lancaster House, 'I have come from my house to your palace'.

Hare & Humphreys have been working at Lancaster House for decades. We have redecorated and gilded many of the opulent state rooms including the Grand Hall and Staircase, the Long Gallery, the State Drawing Room and the Gold Room. Each of these rooms has detailed wall panels with carvings in high relief, and ornate cornice and ceilings. Over the years these rooms also need maintenance which we undertake under the supervision of Interserve and Heritage Surveys.

Contractors: Interserve







PITZHANGER MANOR

EALING

During the restoration of Pitzhanger Manor, Hare & Humphreys worked with Jestico + Whiles, Julian Harrap Architects and Quinn London to recreate the original schemes of Sir John Soane that were overpainted in the 1830's. This involved us at the start of the project taking paint samples from every surface of the manor to analyse and generate a report that could be used by all the stakeholders involved.

A number the of the finishes we recreated to match the original included hand painted Chinese wall paper to the drawing room, redecorating multicolored decorative ceilings and apply faux stone, marble and gaining effects throughout the project.

Architects: Jestico + Whiles and Julian Harrap Architects Contractor: Quinn London











NATIONAL GALLERY ROOM 32

LONDON

Room 32 is the largest gallery in the building. The purpose of this project was to reinstate the original decorative scheme of its architect, Edward M. Barry. The dark red wall cloth, ornate painted frieze and lunettes, whose designs alternate winged lions with dolphins, have all been reinstated according to the original colour scheme.

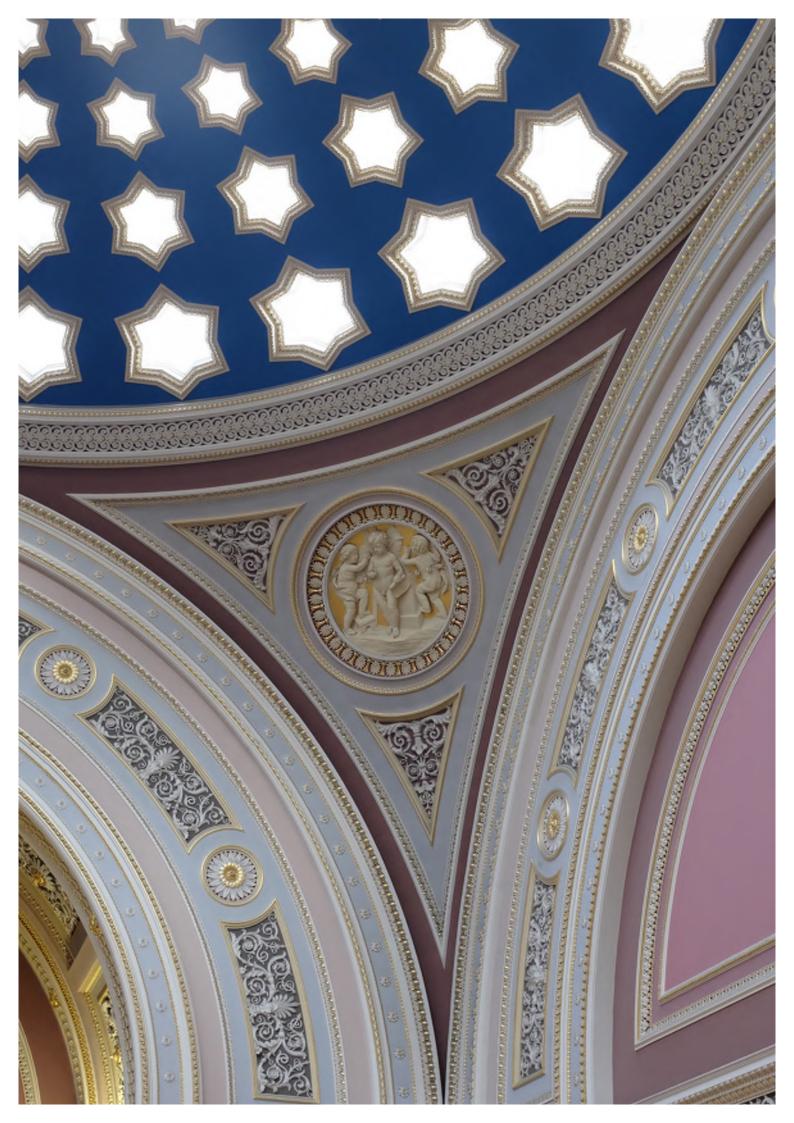
Main contractor : Willmott Dixon Interiors Architect : Purcell Donors : Hans and Julia Rausing

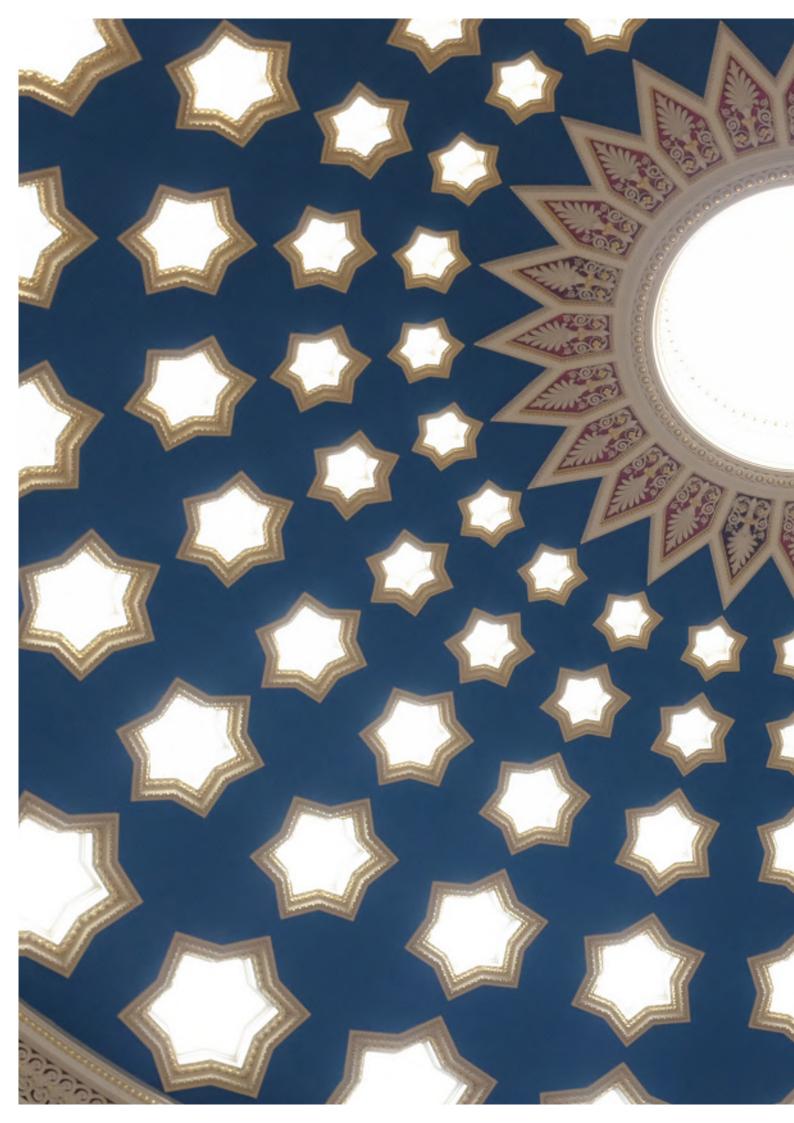


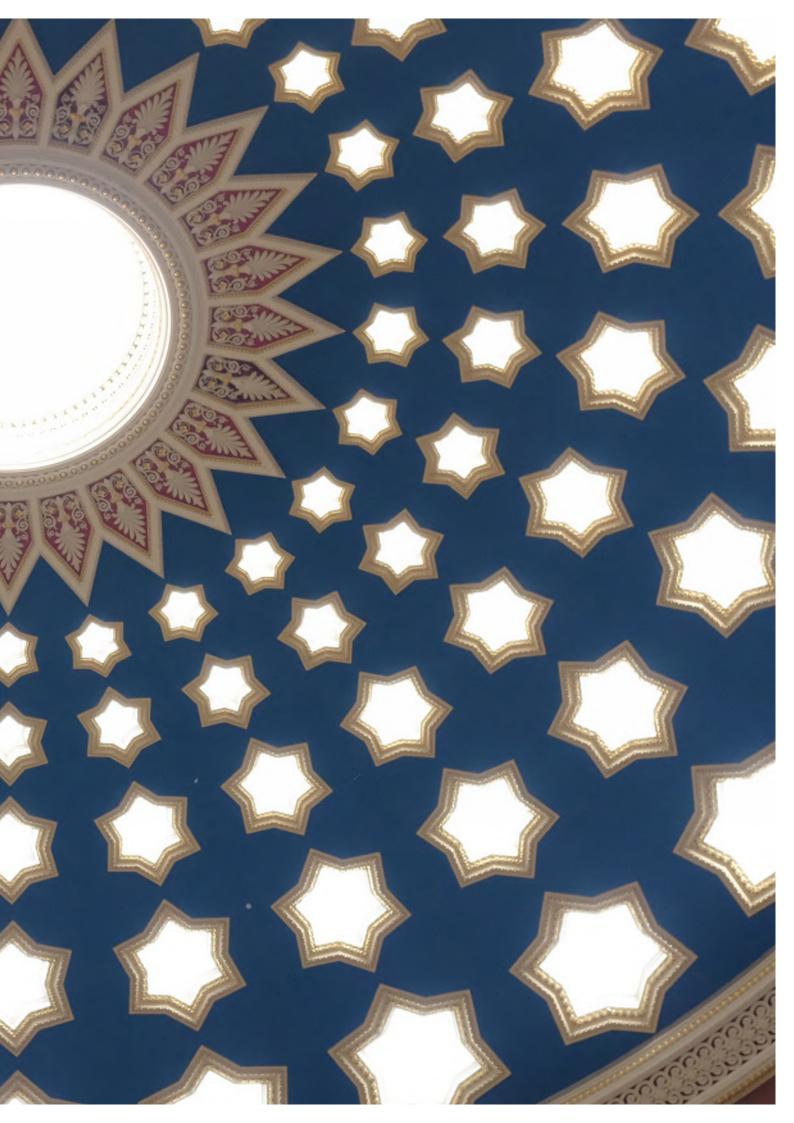
DUNDAS HOUSE

EDINBURGH

It was built by architect William Chambers in 1772 for Sir Laurence Dundas as a private villa and being its own grounds, it would have claimed to have been be the grandest residence in the New Town. After his death it became the Excise Office for Scotland, and then In 1825 the Royal Bank of Scotland moved in to use as their head office. In 1857 they added the banking hall which has a magnificent interior with four wide arches leading up to a dome in blue, pierced with glazed stars. H&H recently carried out a conservation clean and redecoration of the Banking Hall and various historic rooms.







ECCLESIASTICAL BUILDINGS

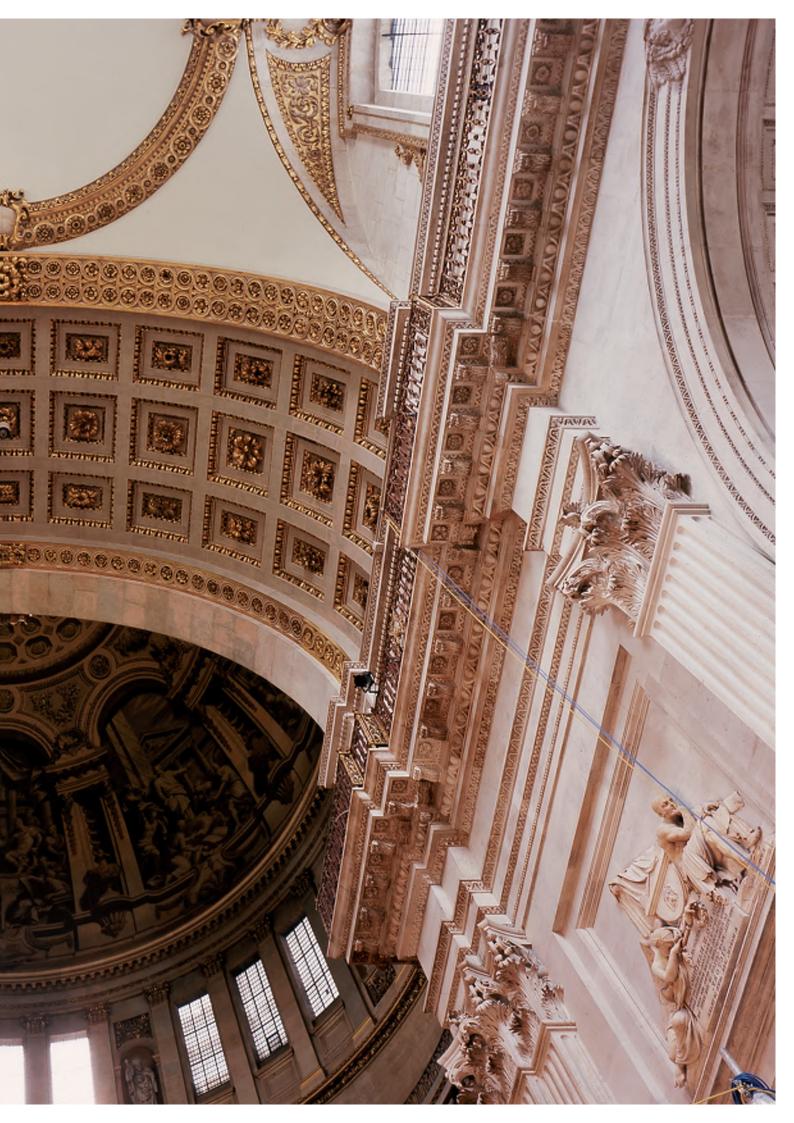
Hare & Humphreys projects have ranged from St Paul's Cathedral to local parish churches and the scope of work can be anything from the installation of a new decorative scheme, or the care of a small country church requiring lime wash, through to extensive conservation work.

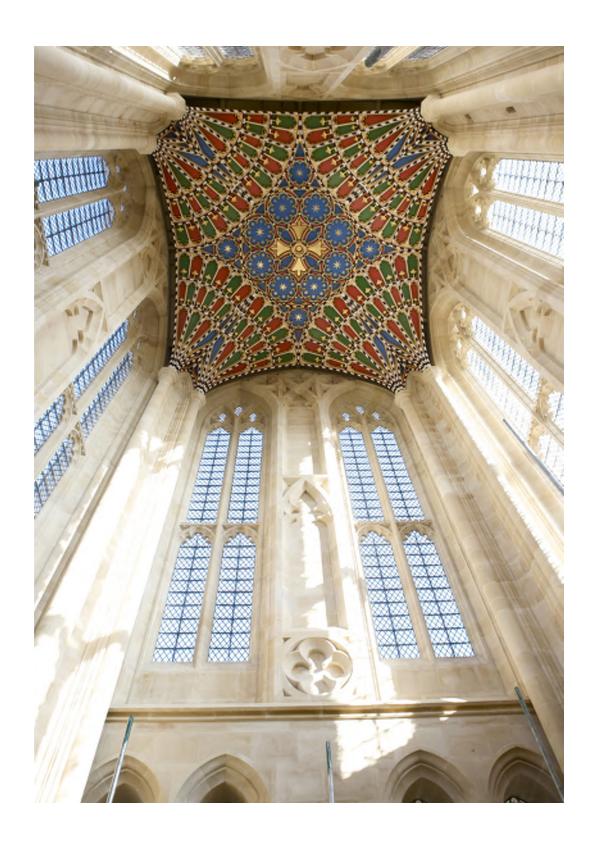
Churches contain some of the finest decorative finishes, such as gilding, carving and polychromy. Hare & Humphreys craftsmen have the traditional skills required to create and/or conserve all these finishes.

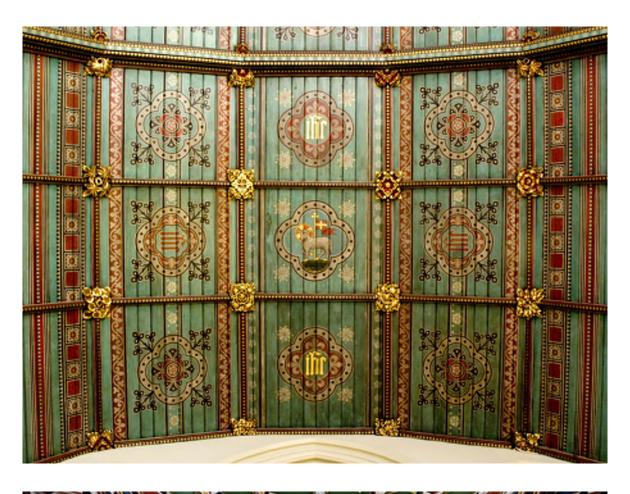
This work is carried out nationwide and overseas and has included The Church of Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem some 15 years ago and, more recently, our role in restoring colour and light into the interior of the Russian Orthodox Cathedral in London.

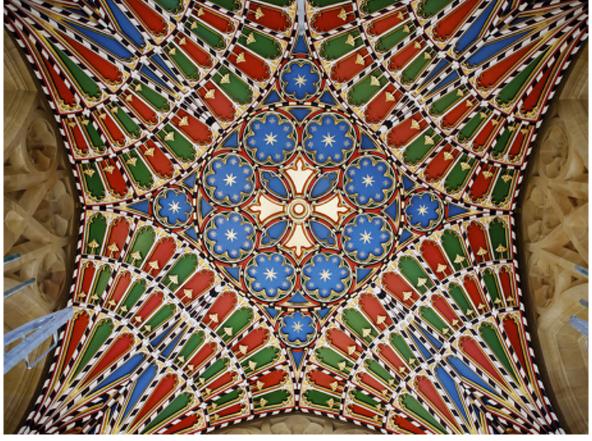












MUSEUMS

Hare & Humphreys is a company trusted by galleries and museums all over the UK. We have had the pleasure of working over the years with amongst others the British Museum, National Galley, Victoria & Albert Museum and the Sir John Soane Museum. The works have included complete redecoration projects, as well as providing maintenance solutions.

We have been selected for these projects as we understand the importance these buildings have for future generations and our cultural identity. The buildings also become part of the appeal of visiting these locations and show amazing examples of gilding, graining, faux marble and stone effects, stenciling and decorative plaster.





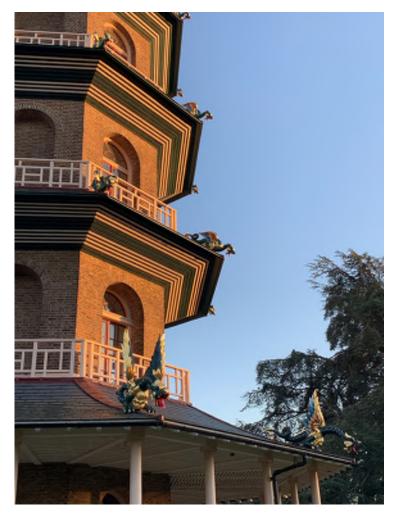


GREAT PAGODA

KEW GARDEN

The original 80 gold-gilded dragons that adorned the 10 levels were removed in 1784 and have never been seen since. Over the decades, many have tried and failed to recreate the lost 80 dragons at Kew until 2018. Our gilders worked on 3D printed dragons to really make the structure come alive.

Architect : Craig Hatton





THEATRES



Hare & Humphreys have for decades been involved in restoring and redecorating many of the top performance venues in the UK. We have been involved in projects such as the Aldwych Theatre, The Dominion Theatre, The Savoy Theatre, The Apollo and The Royal Opera House. These are some of the most decorative buildings often needing specialist skills that can only be offered by a team that has many years of experience.

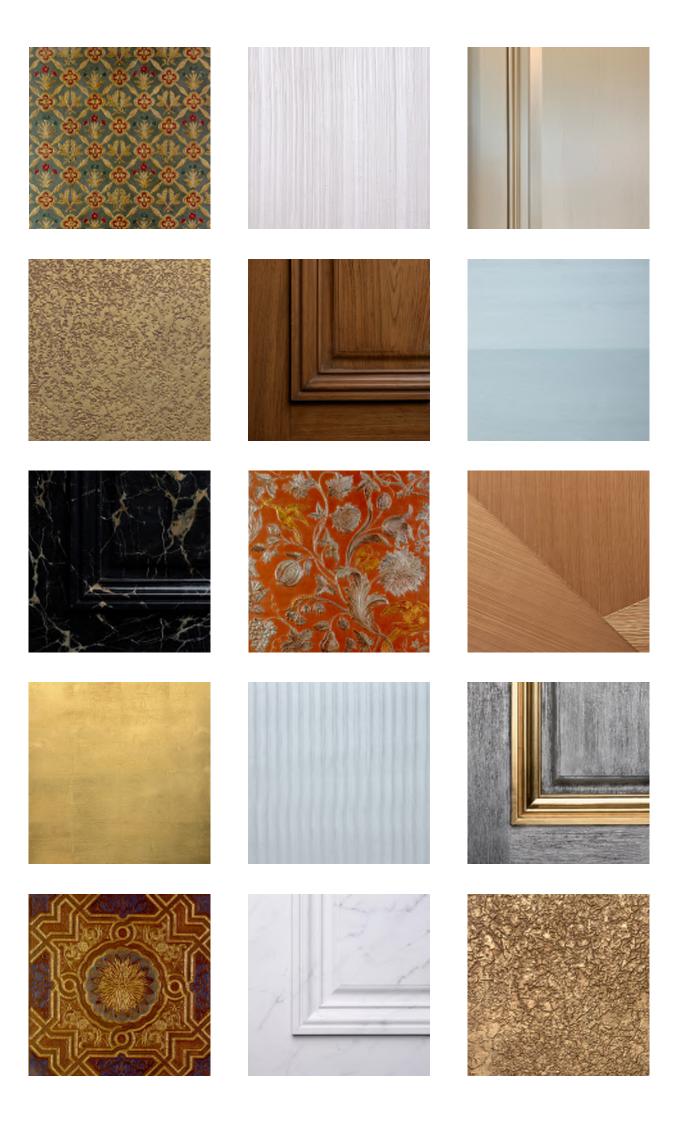
Most of these projects have required a large dedicated team adhering to strict schedules to make sure the theatres can be re-opened and ready for performances. The project management is equally as important as the quality of the finish and our team utilises the lessons learnt on past project to ensure these time frames are met. During these restorations we get to show what we are capable of as all of our expertise is used including architectural paint research, colour matching, special effects such as marbling and graining as well as gilding

ARCHITECTURAL PAINT RESEARCH



Architectural Paint Research (APR) is a process whereby we can determine through examining various layers of the paint the original decoration of an element in a room or building. It is an important tool to determine not just the colours, but also the paint used and when each scheme was carried out. Using this method, you can also work out the dates a door or a window might have been installed by counting how many layers of paint have been added compared to the rest of the room.

The process involves small paint samples of up to 5mm in diameter, deep enough to collect all the layers of paint. Each sample is set in a clear resin, sanded and polished into a cross section to enable all layers to be seen. Samples are then examined under a microscope using reflected white and UV light. Photomicrographs will be taken of each sample and all layers analysed to determine the decorative development of structure; these will also highlight areas of alteration. Selected micro-chemical testing will also be used to highlight distemper, oil and lead containing paints. Some polarising light microscopy will also be used to identify pigments in significant layers.



Come and see our showroom and workshop: 27 Kelso Place London, W8 5QG

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