

THE ARTS CENTRE, CAFE VIC FITOUT

Project Location
100 St Kilda Road
Melbourne

Client
Victorian Arts
Centre Trust:
Tobi Pedersen

Design
H2o Architects:
Tim Hurburgh
Alison Binks
James Tinsley

Schiavello Vic Fitout
Daron Johnson
Carmelo Rositano
Andrew Belurov

Area
650 m²

1_ New marble curved bench top with mirror-backed wall. Bulk-head squared up to enhance existing Truscott Trompe l'oeil ceiling.
2_ Main entrance to café with feature wall comprising colourback glass menu board surrounded by Gold Leaf plated mosaics. Existing marble floor complemented by new custom designed carpet in lounge area.
3_ Main bar features stone tops with stainless steel glass food display cabinets highlighted by Gold Leaf plated mosaic tile wall, suspended plasterboard bulkheads and lighting.

PAST MEETS PRESENT

Topped by a symbolic spire, and filled with foyers that revel in marble-topped bars, walls of mirrors and red plush, Melbourne's Arts Centre knows how to entertain and excite. What better way to top off an evening after a show than with supper at the centre's restaurant, Café Vic.

__Café Vic, originally designed by Oscar-winning Australian designer John Truscott in the early 1980s, is one of the Art Centre's supporting hospitality spaces. H2o Architects, with the support of Schiavello's Fitout team, has revitalised this space to create a friendly, inviting venue that maintains key design elements in respect of Truscott's inspiring surroundings.

__The major challenge was to upgrade and re-present the café to attract new clientele, whilst preserving the integrity of the original heritage listed interior and the majority of existing features and furnishings.

__"The Arts Centre can be a difficult environment to work in, as all work must be scheduled around performances in the venues. Schiavello's team did an excellent job, working under those constraints to ensure that the project was completed on time and to the standard expected of the iconic facility," says Tobi Pedersen, Manager, Asset Development at the Arts Centre.

__Schiavello were involved in demolishing and rebuilding toilets and helped facilitate a new external entrance from the courtyard. Cafe changes include a new bar front and rear display together with reconfigured coffee and bar facilities. Schiavello also procured and installed imported commercial kitchen appliances. New seating offers

a range of bar, lounge and custom banquette seating in addition to the retained conventional table seating.

__H2o's design emphasises the principal aspect of the original space – the double height coffered ceiling with its intricate Truscott designed Baroque inspired 'Trompe l'oeil', and to highlight its distinctive gold, ochre and aqua scheme.

__The H2o designed carpet features an abstract of the floral design and colouring of the Trompe l'oeil above. Existing metal bulkheads in a plum red, which were painted out, recede visually and complement a new long counter in dark brown tiles. The design is highlighted by shiny gold mosaics, referencing the ceiling, and is accented by a colourful display of bottles and spirits providing a new backdrop to the scheme. These elements enable the existing retained dark stained timber to be visually accommodated within the 'new' design theme.

__"Schiavello's on site work practices highlighting careful materials selection and work procedures guaranteed that the project achieved beyond industry environmental and energy efficiency standards," says Tim Hurburgh, Director, H2o Architects.

