



# RSHP Studio The Leadenhall Building

London





**Place / Date**  
London, UK / 2015

**Cost**  
£2.3 million

**Area**  
1620m<sup>2</sup>

**Structural Engineer**  
Arup

**Service Engineer**  
Arup

**Lighting Design**  
Speirs and Major

**Main Contractor**  
Ruddy Joinery and Fit Out

**M&E Contractor**  
BPI

**Landscape design**  
Dan Pearson Studio

**IT Consultants**  
Modern Networks /  
Cordless



**The Studio has become a well-coordinated New York loft where the backdrop is neutral but offset by fantastic splashes of colour and activity. It projects a surprising level of humanity within a great super-studio space.**

Graham Stirk, Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners

After 30 years based at Thames Wharf in Hammersmith, West London, Rogers Stirk Harbour and Partners have relocated to The Leadenhall Building. Their new accommodation, on Level 14 of the 48-storey building, enables them to accommodate all their 200 staff on one floor, strengthening communication and collaborative working and bringing a distinctive ethos and culture to a new London landmark.

The fit-out of the studio reinterprets the practice's design philosophy as flexible, legible space which will be conducive to a collaborative approach to design.

The building's completely open floorplate gives sight lines across the whole studio, and beyond to St Paul's Cathedral, Canary Wharf and Lloyd's of London. Desks are arranged in three groups aligned to each of the façades, giving the best aspect for all staff. Generous circulation space and a large kitchen give opportunities for chance encounters and informal conversations and a the central meeting area, open on three sides and visible to all, provides flexible space capable of hosting either a number of small meetings; the weekly Monday Design Forum, open to all staff; or lectures and events for up to 200 people.

The fit out takes full advantage of the shell and core design of the building. By exposing the soffit and services, rather than putting in a suspended ceiling as other tenants in the building have done, the full height of the space is revealed. Lighting design by Speirs and Major is closely aligned to natural circadian rhythms, changing in tone through the day to mimic circadian patterns.

The modelshop and server room are located within the main studio space, open to view as integral parts of the life of the practice.

There are no 'corner offices' at RSHP, reflecting the democratic philosophy of the practice. Instead, the corners are given over to quiet space, for meetings, reflection and relaxation. A planting concept by Dan Pearson Studio will screen these corners providing privacy and visual amenity.

The practice moved into The Leadenhall Building in December 2015.