



RESTAURANT DELIGHT

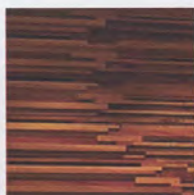
The Montcalm Restaurant has a little more to boast about than just good food, as diners are wowed by the venue's latest lighting concept



Located in the Montcalm Hotel, Marble Arch, London, the grill restaurant has recently undergone a complete refurbishment. Paul Nulty Lighting Design was called upon to provide architectural lighting design services, including a full review, finessing of the existing lighting systems and designing a new feature lighting sculpture. In just 10 short weeks, the restaurant underwent a lighting design overhaul.

Working alongside interior designer, Tonik Associates, the team worked to a fast programme but ensured that the space would be lit to their best ability. Paul Nulty, head of practice at Paul Nulty Lighting Design said: 'The restaurant owners wanted to retain as much as possible of the distinguished structure by replacing the original centre sculpture. The whole place was rather gloomy; the idea of the lighting concept was to lift the space and create a visual statement.'

In order to keep within the theme of the restaurant, a chandelier reminiscent of embers from a fire was designed and hung as the centrepiece. The sculpture features 600 points of light yet uses just 600W of energy. ...



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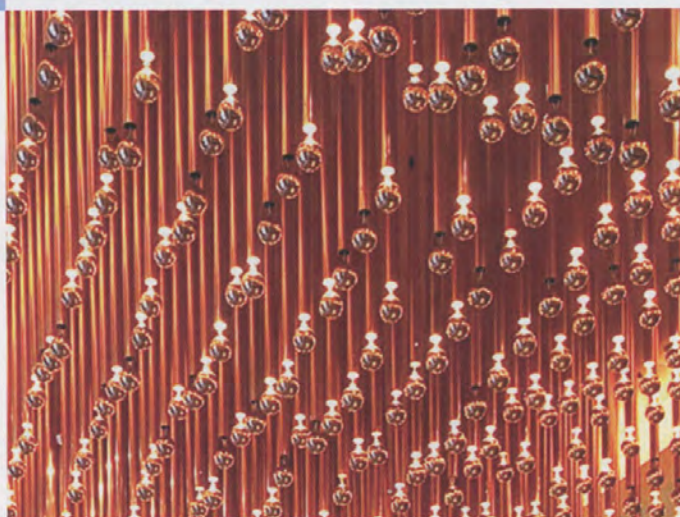
The design team at Paul Nulty firstly worked with the interior designers to produce CAD models in order to provide an understanding of how the sculpture might look. Nulty said: 'We developed the product by looking at different mock ups and scale models.'

Different materials were explored before settling on a polished brass solid finish, providing contrast and sparkle while shielding the lamp. CAD drawings of the individual luminaries were produced to ensure each was accessible and maintainable. Straw models were produced to define the dimension of each drop and the form of each wave. Mock-ups of the luminaries allowed a review of brightness and to determine the lamp source – fibre optics and LED were explored before deciding on the latter. The final sculpture was manufactured by Iberian Lighting.

Nulty added: 'We wanted to create a statement piece that was a talking and focal point while being useful light.'

The energy efficiency aspects of the design ensure that the restaurant can benefit from reduced energy costs – the 600W of energy used amounts to just half the energy used to boil a kettle. The LEDs will also allow longer lamp life and easier maintenance.

Speaking of the energy efficient elements, Nulty said: 'Energy efficiency is synthetic of the industry. It's not just about lighting design anymore. Designs are now about energy efficiency and longer life. I believe we have created a stunning and sustainable solution for years to come.'



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