

News

17.07.19

University of Huddersfield's new £30 million Barbara Hepworth Building reaches completion

The new AHR-designed Barbara Hepworth Building is complete and has been celebrated with a royal visit from HRH The Duke of York, KG. The £30 million building, built by Morgan Sindall Construction, will house the School of Art, Design and Architecture, enabling these disciplines to be united under one roof for the first time in an exciting hub of creative studios and technology facilities.

The new building brings digital and physical innovation together in one space, epitomising the School's philosophy and acknowledging millennia of creative practice whilst looking ahead to the future. The design sets the scene for spontaneous interactions, ideas and innovations within, sparking new ways of working that will push the boundaries of creativity and find collaborative solutions to complex challenges.

Anthony Langan, Director and Education Lead at AHR, said, "The School's aspiration and our shared vision with the University was to bring together students and staff across different creative courses and generations. We achieved this by approaching the design of the building as one open and flexible learning hub that will catalyse creativity through interconnected working and learning spaces. This also includes more relaxed areas, such as the café and outdoor terraces, which allow important chance encounters and casual discussions to take place.

"As architects, it is a great honour to design an exemplary and inspirational building in which the architects, designers and creatives of the future will develop their craft. We are very proud of what we have created and look forward to the possibilities that will be realised through its use."

Paul Limb, Project Director at Morgan Sindall Construction, said: "This project has been incredibly rewarding for our team to work on. We've developed a strong relationship with the University over recent years, and it's been a privilege to welcome students on to the site to learn more about the complex construction process involved in creating incredible buildings like this. Through the use of cutting-edge technology we've been able to deliver AHR's ambitious vision for the University and create a building befitting of Barbara Hepworth's legacy, and one that is the perfect environment for the School's students to nurture their crafts."