

Southbank Centre
London
BAM Construction Ltd

BIG Biodiversity Challenge Award category: Temporary Award

Project overview

The project is located in the east section of the Southbank Centre. BAM is refurbishing the existing gallery and performance spaces, such as the Hayward Gallery, Queen Elizabeth Hall, and the Purcell Room. BAM is also refurbishing and upgrading the existing buildings and their surroundings, bringing them up to industry standard and making them fit for contemporary artistic practice.

What were the biodiversity conditions on site, prior to the enhancement?

The site team has built temporary office accommodation in the basement carpark for the Southbank Centre. Previously, this area was a dark and colourless space.

Were there any specific reasons that led to this project?

This is something that the Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) recognises as a way to enhance the welfare facilities and improve the image of the site. Therefore, we took the opportunity to reuse timber and items from the building to create planters.

Having entered in the BIG Challenge in 2016, the site team has maintained and further enhanced the area.



Photo Description: Replanting of the pallet-planters

What were the biodiversity measures taken?

Making planters allowed us to reuse some of the materials from the building. This ultimately prevented unnecessary waste being disposed of in a skip, and provided a unique way of boosting biodiversity on site.

The planters have attracted a lot of attention on site, and have created a greater awareness of how biodiversity initiatives can be introduced on site to boost wildlife. The initiative has also generated a sense of pride from the site team as they now manage and maintain the flowers and herbs.

The photo shows additional planters that have been constructed since the 2016 BIG Challenge.

How would you best describe the project?

Enhancement

What was your personal motivation for carrying out the enhancement?

To improve the appearance of the welfare area, as well as enhancing biodiversity of the Southbank.



Photo Description: Additional planters made from offcuts of timber and broken pallets.