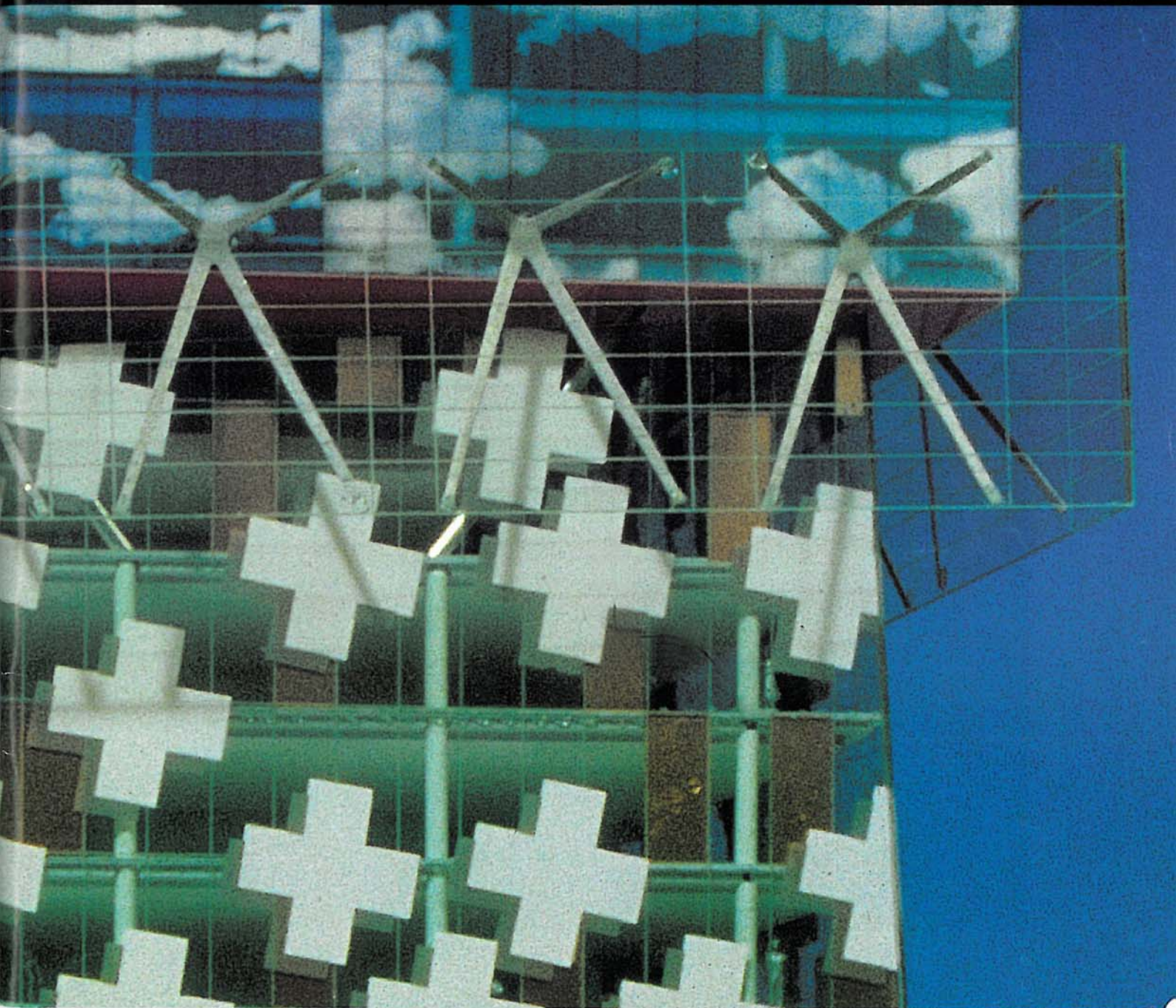




# Art & Architecture

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processes - networks, nodes, light, ripples and flows, clusters and channels, roots and routes, fibres, transfer of energy, and transmission. One piece reflects the influence of technology on the landscape and the other that of the landscape on technology.

[www.zoechamberlain.com](http://www.zoechamberlain.com)

#### Cookson and McNally

were commissioned by Leicester City Council to make two works for the new Bede park which also has a sculpture commissioned from A&A member Wallscapes. The development, formerly a scrap yard lies between the Old Soar and the Grand Union Canal near De Montfort University, includes shops, business park, social housing, a pub and restaurant, play equipment with the tallest slide in Europe, new landscaping and woodland with pathways and a cycle route.

Ideas were developed with community groups and art works were placed as roundabouts where Sustrans cycle way crossed pedestrian paths. A tall ceramic sculpture 'Making a Place' represents a map of Leicester in a rolled-up carpet form that corresponds to the way the park was set down all at once as though unrolling a carpet. The second sculpture 'Wildlife Map' illustrated species found in the area. Linocuts were stamped into clay tiles to create an embossed design. A full-scale model was built in plaster and 180 components were cast from individual moulds. The painted and glazed tiles were built up in a precarious tower and fired to frost proof temperatures. Both sculptures were popular, especially the humorous imagery and local references in canal-boat style of



Rory McNally and Chloe Cookson | Bede Park, Leicester

'roses and castles'. The Park won a Civic award, runner up to Goldsmith's Square, Southwark. Sadly, since the official opening in summer 2000 the park and sculptures have been plagued by maintenance problems and graffiti and damage to the plinths. Leicester City Challenge, English Partnerships, East Midlands Development Agency, Ericsson and Sustrans funded the project.

#### Gary Drostle and Rob Turner

of Wallscapes - have completed a 5 x 9 metre mural on a prominent site at One Bell Corner for Dartford Council. The public were able to vote on the choice of design that pictures the industrial history of Dartford, with some inspiration from Diego Rivera. Scenes include a giant lift engine, the paper industry, refrigeration ships, freeze-dried blood, iron works, Trevithick's steam engine and Vickers Vimy aircraft engines as well as the only present-day industries of Blue Circle cement and Wellcome pharmaceuticals.

"People still associate murals with the poor quality flaky emulsion of the 1970's. They forget about the likes of Michelangelo and the Sistine Chapel." Drostle used acrylics as they are flexible and do not crack or flake. Earth pigments were preferred as they react less with light and they keep their colour. Under painting began with black, white and grey to get the correct light and tone; coloured glazes were then added in translucent layers "like the

Dutch masters". All topped with an anti-graffiti varnish. Drostle is now working with Tom Phillips RA. Contact: [www.wallscapes.co.uk](http://www.wallscapes.co.uk)

#### Peter Fink

has reached a high point with the switching on of 'Northern Lights' his roof-to-pavement public art work of coloured light on Richard Murphy's Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh establishing Anglo-Czech hegemony over the former Scottish capital. The project began in 1995 when Fink won a competition with a light tower that failed to get planning permission. The design has had to be modified but there is still a thematic link to the aurora borealis as in the original concept. The light installation on the building and in the pavement uses the most advanced computer programmable LED lights capable of producing several thousand colours performing in an exact sequence. He has recently completed work on the Wynyard Bridge and at the

Horniman garden in North Kensington, an odd relic and delightful haven by the Arts and Crafts master, Voysey. He is currently working on the biggest new park in London for the last hundred years at Northala Fields, Ealing. [www.art2architecture.co.uk](http://www.art2architecture.co.uk). See Grafting (Architecture + Planning).



Art2 Architecture | Wynyard Bridge | Peter Fink