

Parkside

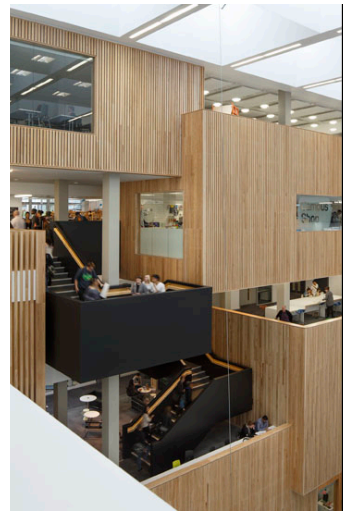
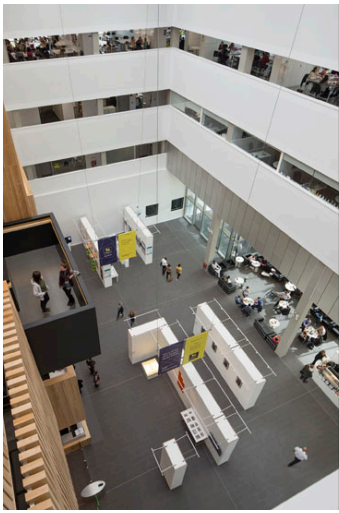


Location: Birmingham

The collaboration of creative courses and teaching under one roof is a game-change for the university and the city, a purpose-made facility with spaces that help to engage students from different courses with each other and encourage cross-over of skills and ideas. The arrangement of the central atrium and circulation to offer incidental, shared spaces and showcase the range of disciplines is well executed. The priority of high-quality materials and detailing to the key circulation areas demonstrates a rational, considered approach to maximising the budget by the architects.

A further collaboration with theatre and lighting design facilities and editing/ digital arts helps to create a truly exceptional centre for inspiration to students across a wide range of disciplines.

The home to Birmingham's School of Architecture, the stimulating yet informal environment encourages a studio-based approach offering formal and informal teaching spaces as well as workshops, seminar areas and cafes.



Photographer: Martine Hamilton Knight

The BIAD centre will eventually form part of a collection of buildings for BCU's new city campus in Eastside and is therefore an important catalyst for this part of the quarter. The journey from the previous Perry Barr campus has in no way been an easy ride and the transformation in quality of a 'grown-up' environment achieved by the university for its students has been overwhelming, in particular for the School of Architecture. It has also helped in driving relationships with local businesses and industries with students benefitting from the opportunities created.

The location of the Parkside building close to the core has helped students to access and benefit from the wider city in a more sustainable manner as well as helping the city in regenerating a challenging area. With the New City Park and now thousands of students, Eastside has become a vibrant and thriving quarter. The success of Parkside for BCU has accelerated the second phase of development on the adjacent site, as an important bookend to the park.

Architect: Associated Architects
Client: Birmingham City University

Contractor: Wilmott Dixon
Consultant: Ramboll

Contact for further information

Address: Cardigan St, Birmingham, West Midlands B4 7BD
Tel: (0) 121 331 5000