

## Deconstruction



# TROCADERO

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**T**rocadero, designed by Allan Powell Architects, is located at the St Kilda Road level of the Arts Centre Melbourne's Hamer Hall and is the first of three restaurants to open as part of the refurbished entertainment venue. Named for the site's historical connection to a former dance hall, the sign typography is a contemporary reflection of that era.

The cocktail bar and brasserie has a European influenced menu and is planned as a series of chambers which divide the long floor plate into zones. The interior is revealed as you wander in from the St Kilda Road foyer, through the bar and into the promenade entry foyer. Here, black flagstones

are peppered throughout the custom designed white terrazzo floor and are playfully reflected in the brass clad bar, mirror finish columns and window reveals. There is a sense of entertainment and a lightness of touch to the design which allows a stylistic link to the gold treatments of the large bar and ticket counter of the St Kilda Road foyer while at the same time defines this venue as a separate entity.

A subdued palette of finishes is shared between the bar and the dining area. Walls are rendered in a natural concrete colour and black is used as an accent throughout the interior.

Suspended lighting tracks, folded sheet metal wall lights, black gloss wall tiles and a black granite counter which flanks the perimeter windows of the

bar boldly contrast with the lighter tones. Blackened steel is used variously as frames that support the black granite bar tops and waiters' stations, and as large format wall panels at the promenade entry. At this point the mood shifts a little.

Vibrant fluid artwork by Japanese graffiti artist Jun Inoue injects drama into the otherwise carefully controlled interior. The artwork clearly reflects Inoue's energy as it stretches across two walls and extends into the folds of others at each end. His artwork also adorns a column in the centre of the large kitchen just for the chefs' enjoyment.

The design of Trocadero responds to Allan Powell Architects' particular interest in the subtle effects of space and light on one's state of mind by incorporating areas of intensity balanced with soothing tones. Follow the curve of the building into the dining area where raw concrete columns act to remind you of Trocadero's link to Hamer Hall.

Themes of contrast and reflection are balanced with the warmth and comfort of black leather

upholstered banquette seating and beautifully detailed custom designed solid walnut timber tabletops. Paired with black stained timber dining chairs with seats upholstered in grey fabric and flanked by grey rendered walls, the banquette seating provides a cocoon of sorts which helps to create a more intimate atmosphere within the larger space. Openings in this wall provide a glimpse to the feature wall colour at the corridor while mirrors above the banquette seating allow diners reflected views of the city and passing activity of the promenade and river.

Statuarietto marble top dining tables by Tom Dixon are height adjustable which allows for flexibility in the range of events that Trocadero may cater for, and protected outdoor dining for 100 people will further activate the river frontage. Allan Powell Architects have delivered for the Van Haandel Group a finely crafted interior that is both respectful of the architecture of Hamer Hall as envisioned by ARM Architecture, and designed to use the vibrant river setting and CBD views to advantage.



## SUPPLIERS

### 1. FLOOR FINISHES

- TTI Stone
- Signorino Tiles
- Edwardstown Carpets

### 2. JOINERY FINISHES

- Corsi & Nicolai
- Viridian
- Bronze Works

- Laminex
- Polytec
- New Age Veneers

### 3. WALL FINISHES

- Porters Paint
- Signorino Tiles
- Defazio
- Parchem

- Dulux
- Viridian
- Cube
- Dulux
- Dulux Powdercoat

### 4. FF&E FINISHES

- Pelle Leathers
- Dulux

### 5. SOFT FURNISHING

- Internal Curtain Fabric
- Svenska KJ
- External Curtain Fabric
- Unique Fabrics
- Blind Fabric
- Clearview