

St Paul's Cathedral wins Design Week Award for film exhibition

LONDON (14th March 2011)
PRESS RELEASE

St Paul's Cathedral is the joint winner of the Exhibition Design award at the Design Week Awards 2011. St Paul's was recognised for film experience [Oculus: an eye into St Paul's](#)

The judges commented that *Oculus: an eye into St Paul's* was "exquisite, emotional, beautiful".

The first project of its kind in a cathedral, *Oculus* is a 270° film experience that brings 1400 years of history to life. Located in the atmospheric former treasury in the crypt, *Oculus* takes visitors on a journey through the history and daily life of St Paul's.

Two virtual access films in *Oculus* open up areas of the cathedral that visitors with mobility issues might not otherwise reach. The first film flies visitors through the world-famous dome; whisking them up to the Whispering Gallery before enjoying panoramic views across London from the Golden Gallery. A second film reveals Wren's room-sized Great Model; 4 metre-high projections take visitors inside the model and reveal its beauty in close-up detail.

Oculus is set within a timeline spanning 1400 years of history and interspersed between the films are timeline sequences in which images and dates float across the screens - encouraging moments of stillness and reflection.

Mark McVay, Director of Marketing, PR & Visitor Services said:

"We are thrilled that Oculus has been recognised by the Design Week Awards. We are hugely proud of this project which communicates the story of St Paul's in such imaginative and creative ways."

Oculus was generously funded by American Express Company in partnership with the World Monuments Fund, J. P. Morgan, the Garfield Weston Trust for St Paul's Cathedral, the City of London Endowment Trust and Chartis (formerly known as AIG).

The joint winner of the Exhibition Design award was the V&A Museum for their Mediaeval and Renaissance galleries.

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For more information please contact Hannah Talbot, Press & Communications Officer, on 020 7246 8321 or email hannah@stpaulscathedral.org.uk

Note to editors:

St Paul's Cathedral

St Paul's is the cathedral church of the diocese of London, which it has served for over 1,400 years. The current building has become a potent symbol of the life of a nation and is one of the world's most beautiful buildings. Designed by Sir Christopher Wren in the late seventeenth century, its stones have absorbed the hopes, fears, sorrows and joys of generations and stand as an enduring symbol of our communion with those gone before and those still to come. Each year nearly two million people flock

to the cathedral for services, concerts, debates, educational events, performing arts and sightseeing. All are most welcome.

Oculus project team

Interpretation Strategy - Anne Fletcher on behalf of Fletcher Teckman Consulting Ltd.

Designers - Ralph Appelbaum Associates

Project management and fabrication - Scena

Film makers Centre Screen and ISO design

Technology – Sysco AV