

## AHMM makes waves in the west end

### This development in London's west end takes inspiration from the classical 1930s Aalto vase



Designed by leading architectural practice, Allford Hall Monaghan Morris (AHMM), the architecture of 61 Oxford Street introduces a highly contemporary landmark to a renowned location. AHMM worked closely with Westminster Council to create a modern iconic focal point that sets the bar for the ongoing redevelopment of the area.

Featuring a distinctive curved glass design across the whole façade, the architecture takes inspiration from the classical 1930s Aalto vase concept while retaining a traditional shop-front aesthetic. The distinctive 'wave length' of the exterior tapers up to the bespoke glass lantern that sits at the top of the building, accentuating the corner location and providing a modern successor to the original Victorian masonry feature of the structure. The lantern will be illuminated with a

lighting effects sequence, from dusk until early morning, with colours and patterns varying through the seasons.

Dukelease Properties and AHMM recognised the potential of the site, particularly with respect to revitalising the local area and raising the bar for Oxford Street, in an area which is currently seeing significant regeneration due to Crossrail and several other major redevelopment sites. Both Dukelease and AHMM had high ambitions for the development, as well as the clever references to context, mixed-use and sky-line apparent throughout the building. Richard Leslie, CEO of Dukelease Properties, comments: "61 Oxford Street is a scheme we are incredibly proud of. Representing a real feat of design and engineering. We are dedicated to delivering high-quality, distinctive and innovative buildings which make a real contribution to the surrounding area."

Nick Myall

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