



## Open Call Power Walks!

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### The commission

The London Festival of Architecture (LFA) and the City of London Corporation invite you to create a public realm intervention that will improve the pedestrian routes and experience within the City Cluster area. The project should encourage City workers and visitors to take alternative and improved journeys off the main roads and busy traffic routes.

A series of creative, physical, on-street interventions are desired to animate and enhance the City Cluster public realm. The project should take a holistic design approach, creating bespoke and integrated pedestrian journeys within the City Cluster interpreting the festival's 2020 theme of 'Power'

We are inviting architects, designers and artists to submit a design proposal for a series of on-street interventions that will create alternative and improved journeys for workers and visitors to try.

Following the competition process, up to 2 winning teams will be revealed in February 2020 and will work with the City of London Corporation and the London Festival of Architecture in delivering a fully costed, feasible design and oversee the install as part of the London Festival of Architecture in 2020 subject to planning permissions. This will be a chance to participate in a unique project and showcase your imaginative design to the public and the many festival producers involved.

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### The context

The City of London, also known as the Square Mile, is the historic heart of London and one of the world's leading financial centres. It is home to 8,000 residents and a working

population of over 513,000 people. Each year the City welcomes over 10 million tourists, in addition to those visiting for business.

The City Cluster is an expanding part of the City with an increasing working population and a growing number of visitors. The streets and spaces must respond to these changes in order to maintain the area's attractiveness as a world-class business destination and increasingly as a hub for culture and leisure.

The City Cluster Vision is focused on what happens between the buildings and how we make the public spaces more attractive, safe and welcoming. The desire is to create outstanding public spaces, which in combination with a dynamic range of curated events, will become destinations in their own right.

For the first time in its almost 1000-year history, the City of London Corporation has developed a long-term draft Transport Strategy. The draft Strategy sets out how the City Corporation proposes to design and manage the City's streets to ensure the Square Mile remains a great place to live, work, study and visit. It has been developed to help enable the growth of the City as a global financial centre and its development as a major cultural destination.

Proposals within the draft Transport Strategy include:

- Putting the needs of people walking first when designing and managing our streets
- Providing more public space and delivering world-class public realm
- Incorporating more greenery into the City's streets and public spaces

**See point 16. Useful Links for further information on the City Cluster Vision and City of London Transport Strategy.**

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### The aim

The aim of this project is to improve the pedestrian experience in the City Cluster, offering more engaging, friendly and less polluted journeys through the area.

We encourage submissions that take into account the festival's 2020 theme of 'Power' in a creative and interesting way,

#### **1. LFA Power Theme**

For the purpose of this commission we feel that the Power Theme can be interpreted in several ways, that are relevant to our projects aims:

- Power of choice
- Power of information
- Power of the individual

## 2. Improve the pedestrian experience in the City Cluster

- Encourage pedestrians off the main roads and busy traffic routes
- Highlight the most pedestrian friendly routes and promote active travel
- Offer alternative and improved journeys for workers and visitors to try

## 3. Encourage exploration of the City Cluster

- A series of creative, physical, design elements would be welcomed
- The installation should encourage pedestrians to take in their surroundings and explore the existing local heritage and cultural offer
- Could involve a “treasure hunt” or interactive element in some way, to make it more playful but also to track how many people are actively participating
- The trail should have a connecting narrative or focus– it should feel joined up for users
- The installation should be supported by a series of events or tours that encourage interaction and promote the project

## 4. Create connections

- The installation should support improved wayfinding and visitor confidence in the City Cluster, linking key destinations or transport hubs in the area
- The project should explore opportunities for local stakeholders to participate, support and promote the project
- Digital engagement opportunities should be considered
- Connections to the wider cultural and heritage offer in the area should be considered

## 5. Incorporate more greenery into the City's streets and public spaces

- Some landscaping and greening is desirable but maintenance should be considered
- The project should explore planting that takes into consideration resilient greening

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### The sites

A variety of potential routes and locations across the City Cluster have been identified for the project. These are areas where there is significant scope for public realm enhancement and higher pedestrian flows.

The maps below outline opportunities and constraints of the area. The successful designers should provide an indication of a preferred route for the intervention. The design should be flexible and adjustable to other locations should there be a change in the route selection or scope of the project area.

# City Cluster

## Project area - Existing findings

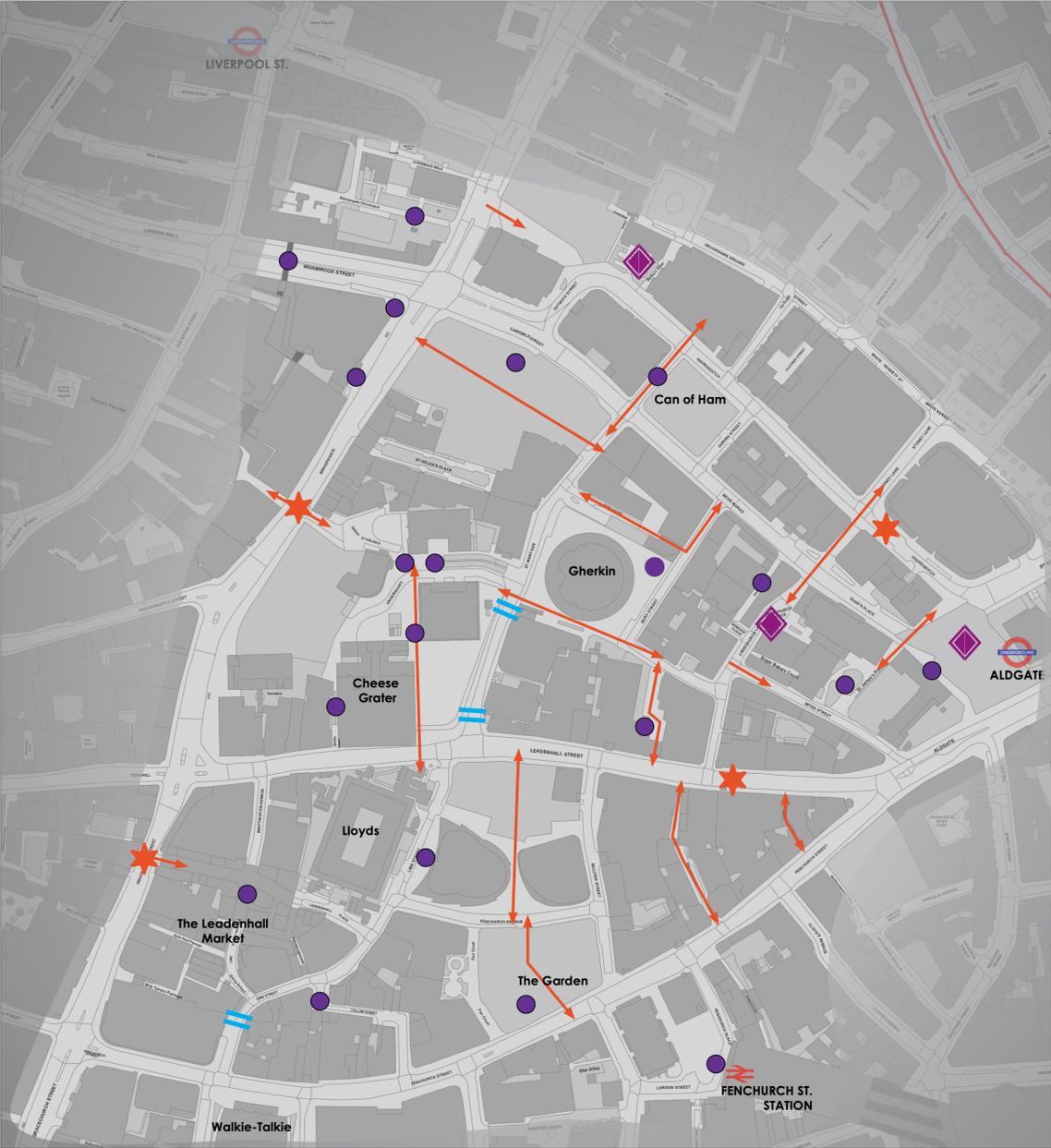


### KEY - Existing findings

-  Green spaces
-  Architectural landmarks
-  Main roads (discourage use as walking routes)

# City Cluster

## Potential routes and temporary installation



- KEY - Temporary and potential interventions:**
- Sculpture in the City
  - Potential (indicative) shortcuts / wayfinding
  - Informal crossing
  - Movable planters
  - Potential locations for bigger installations

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## Budget

- If successful, the total budget available for this project is £44,000 plus VAT to include all fees, fabrication, installation and deinstallation costs (materials, transport and construction). The budget outlined above includes a design fee of £4,000 inc. VAT for the winning team.
- The budget will be managed by the entrant. There is no restriction on how the budget should be divided between various different aspects of the proposal.

Three-quarters of the fee will be awarded in April 2019, on receipt of a signed agreement in which you commit to provide a scheme as per your submission and any revisions as requested by City of London Corporation. The remaining fee will be given in June 2020 after delivery and approval of the project.

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## Design requirements

The installation should highlight and improve navigation through the promotion of alternative pedestrian focussed routes in the City Cluster. The design should be highly visible and a variety of design elements that could add colour and greenery to the City Cluster would be welcomed. Together all the design elements should be read as a family of objects and act as a trail.

We are looking for pieces that function as a wayfinding tool and are realistic to the brief (do not become pavilions or follies). They must be safe, durable and offer a low-cost design solution.

Interventions may include (but are not limited to):

- Pavement vinyl sticker or painted navigation
- Signage
- Temporary, moveable planters
- Floral installations
- Bespoke wayfinding
- Installations at height, hanging or in between buildings
- Bollard treatment
- Emphasise of gates, entrances, alleys, etc.

The intervention could consist of many smaller elements, which could lead to a larger scale installation.

Due to a temporary nature of the project, entries with minimal impact on the existing infrastructure will be preferred. Use of existing public realm elements for fixings should be considered.

The City recommends the following general design guidelines:

- Interventions should not damage the existing public realm features or impact accessibility
- Some landscaping and greening are desirable, but maintenance must be considered
- Non-movable elements rather than movable elements are encouraged
- Free-standing designs without the need for installation of fixings or additional street works are preferred. If necessary, in particular to prevent theft or anti-social behaviour, appropriate fixings and security methods should be considered for elements and should be included in the design.
- Interventions should be designed to limit opportunities for skateboarding, rough-sleeping and anti-social behaviour
- Although the Sculpture in the City artworks should be considered part of the project area, the *Power Walks!* interventions must not impact or conflict with the final artwork locations and artistic integrity of the pieces
- Interventions should not block fire hydrants, fire exits, utility covers, street signage, or any other emergency access

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### Maintenance and monitoring

A maintenance plan will be required alongside the final submission. The maintenance plan should consider what level, frequency and timings of cleansing and horticulture maintenance is required. In addition, if day to day operational management is required a stakeholder engagement plan should be provided.

Each proposal should consider and suggest ways of monitoring and evaluating the success of the project.

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### Deinstallation and future uses

Each proposal should consider the deinstallation and potential afterlife. Some elements may be relocated elsewhere if alternative locations are secured and if agreed with the City Corporation.

Consideration should be paid to deconstruction costs, materials used and whole life sustainability of the design i.e. can individual elements be re-used, what will happen to the materials after the project.

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### Health and Safety

The final drawings should be checked by a structural engineer. On installation the project will be checked to ensure it is safe for public use. You may be asked to make modifications following the inspection.

The City of London Corporation will also require the designer to coordinate and submit in a timely fashion all the necessary information for the project permissions, permits and licenses. The permissions required are dependent on the design and will be agreed following appointment.

Additional health and safety paperwork to carry out the works related to the installation must also be provided and approved by The City of London Corporation in advance of any works taking place in the public realm.

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### Further guidance

- *Materials*: You can use salvaged materials or seek in-kind materials sponsorship to reduce expenses.
- *Planning permission/permits/Licenses*: The work and submission of the necessary permissions should be included in the budget and programme.
- *Property*: The project will be the property of the City of London Corporation for the duration of the installation. At the point of deinstallation the project will become the property of the competition winner.
- *Timescale*: The project is expected to be installed by 1 June 2020, for up to 12 months.
- *Installation*: Unless otherwise agreed with the City of London Corporation installation will take place on 30 May 2020.
- *Deinstallation*: To be agreed with the City of London Corporation once appointed
- *Re-use/Recycling*: To be agreed with the City of London Corporation once appointed
- *Durability*: The project will need to last for a minimum of 12 months and you should consider the longevity and appearance of your design accordingly, to ensure that little or no maintenance is required during this period. Subject to durability, the project may be able to be in place for longer or moved to a different location for an extended period if agreed with the City of London Corporation.
- *Insurance*: Your practice / collaboration needs to have Professional Indemnity of £1million to be eligible to go through to shortlisting. The project will require Public and Products Liability of £5million.

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## Submission

This competition has a two-stage submission.

This first stage submission should include:

1. Full name and contact details including postal address, contact number and email of project lead.
2. Brief biographies of all the project team.
3. A 200-word description about your practice along with any relevant technical experience acquired through previous experience; please include a selection of relevant previous work.
4. A short paragraph of max. 500 words on why you are interested in being involved in the project, including your initial concept or vision in relation to the brief.
5. One initial sketch of your proposal
6. Indication of a preferred route for the intervention

Submissions will be shortlisted by the judging panel. Up to 8 shortlisted practices will then be invited to develop a more detailed design proposal based on the information laid out in this open call and will be awarded an honorarium of £500 including VAT each.

The work required for the second phase of the project will be reflective of the honorarium sum.

We will be expecting:

- The equivalent of 2 A2 board explaining your proposal. This can come in the form your practice feels will most effectively communicate your design to the judging panel.
- Hand or computer drawn 3D design visualisation, plan and sections
- Construction detail of each intervention element drawn to scale, with key dimensions noted
- Outline all materials, budget and production process
- A maintenance plan
- A method statement expanding on the construction of the scheme and logistics on site for the installation and deinstallation of the successful design.

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## Deadline and submission details

- The deadline for first submission is midday Friday 17 January 2020. Submissions received after this time will not be considered.
- For competition enquires please contact: [rosa@londonfestivalofarchitecture.org](mailto:rosa@londonfestivalofarchitecture.org)
- Please send expressions of interest in a PDF format via: <https://www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org/powerwalks/>

- The PDF should be no more than 5MB and 10 A4 pages.
- You will receive an email confirming receipt of your submission.

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### Schedule outline

- 1<sup>st</sup> stage submissions open: December 2019
- 1<sup>st</sup> stage submissions closed: Friday 17 January 2020
- Successful shortlisted practices notified: w/c 20 January 2020
- 2<sup>nd</sup> stage submission closes: Thursday 20 February 2020
- Second stage interviews: w/c 24 February 2020
- Planning submitted: w/c 9 March 2020
- Winning designs opens to the public: 1 June 2020

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### Judging panel

- Patrick Hegarty (Open Spaces Technical Manager - City of London Corporation)
- Tanya Parkin (Associate Director, Eric Parry Architects)
- Francesca Perry (Deputy Editor, Blueprint magazine)
- Giles Radford (Highways Manager – City of London Corporation)
- Tamsie Thomson (Director, London Festival of Architecture)
- Rob Timmer (City Public Realm Project Manager – City of London Corporation)
- Representative of the Eastern City Partnership

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### Further information

- Submissions will be judged on originality, demonstration of creativity and relevance to the brief, as well as feasibility and how the proposal works in the context of the site.
- The ownership of Copyright of the design will be in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, that is Copyright rests with the author of the submitted design.
- All designs remain the intellectual property of the designer however the winning designs when built, will be the property of the City of London Corporation for the duration of the installation.
- Please bear in mind that the project requires a fast turn around and may have peak moments when your practice will need to dedicate sufficient staff to deliver the project on time, on budget and to the high standard expected by all stakeholders.
- Significant efforts are made by all stakeholders of the project to ensure wide media coverage.

- This project is funded by the City of London Corporation. Budget for this project spans two financial years, with the final part of the budget planned for sign off in April 2020.
- London Festival of Architecture and City of London Corporation reserve the right to use images from the submissions for promotional purposes in press, social media and publications. All endeavours will be made to ensure accurate accreditation.

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### Useful links

- London Festival of Architecture: [www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org](http://www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org)
- City of London Corporation: [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk)
- City Cluster Vision: [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/enhancementstrategies](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/enhancementstrategies)
- City of London Transport Strategy: [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/transport-and-streets/Documents/city-of-london-transport-strategy.pdf](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/transport-and-streets/Documents/city-of-london-transport-strategy.pdf)

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### Contact

- To submit your entry please visit:  
<https://www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org/powerwalks/>
- For general enquires please contact:  
[rosa@londonfestivalofarchitecture.org](mailto:rosa@londonfestivalofarchitecture.org)

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### Disclaimer

The competition organisers are not liable for lost, misdirected, or late entries. Decisions of the jury represent their professional judgments and all decisions are final. While it is the intent to construct the winning scheme, the organisers reserve the right to not proceed with construction for any reason. Material submitted by you shall be your sole responsibility, shall not infringe or violate the rights of any other party or violate any laws, contribute to or encourage infringing or otherwise unlawful conduct, or otherwise be obscene, objectionable, or in poor taste. By submitting such material, you are representing that you are the owner of such material and/or have all necessary rights, licenses, and authorization to distribute it.

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### About us

# LONDON FESTIVAL OF ARCHITECTURE

## London Festival of Architecture

The London Festival of Architecture was founded in 2004, and is now firmly established as Europe's biggest annual architecture festival. The London Festival of Architecture 2020 will feature events across the capital from 1-30 June, and next year will explore the theme 'power'. The London Festival of Architecture celebrates London as a global hub of architectural experimentation, practice and debate, provoking questions about the contemporary and future life of the city while promoting positive change to its public realm. The London-wide programme is delivered by a diverse mix of architecture and design practices and practitioners, cultural and academic institutions, artists and many others.

[www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org](http://www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org)

Twitter: @LFArchitecture



## City of London Corporation

### About the City of London Corporation

The City of London Corporation provides local government and policing services for the financial and commercial heart of Britain, the 'Square Mile'. In addition, the City Corporation has three roles:

- We support London's communities by working in partnership with neighbouring boroughs on economic regeneration, education and skills. In addition, the City of London Corporation's charitable funder, City Bridge Trust, makes grants of around £20 million annually to tackle disadvantage across London.
- We also help look after key London heritage and green spaces including Tower Bridge, the Museum of London, Barbican Arts Centre, City gardens, Hampstead Heath, Epping Forest, Burnham Beeches, and important commons in London.
- We also support and promote the 'City' as a world-leading financial and business hub, with outward and inward business delegations, high-profile civic events and research-driven policies, all reflecting a long-term approach.

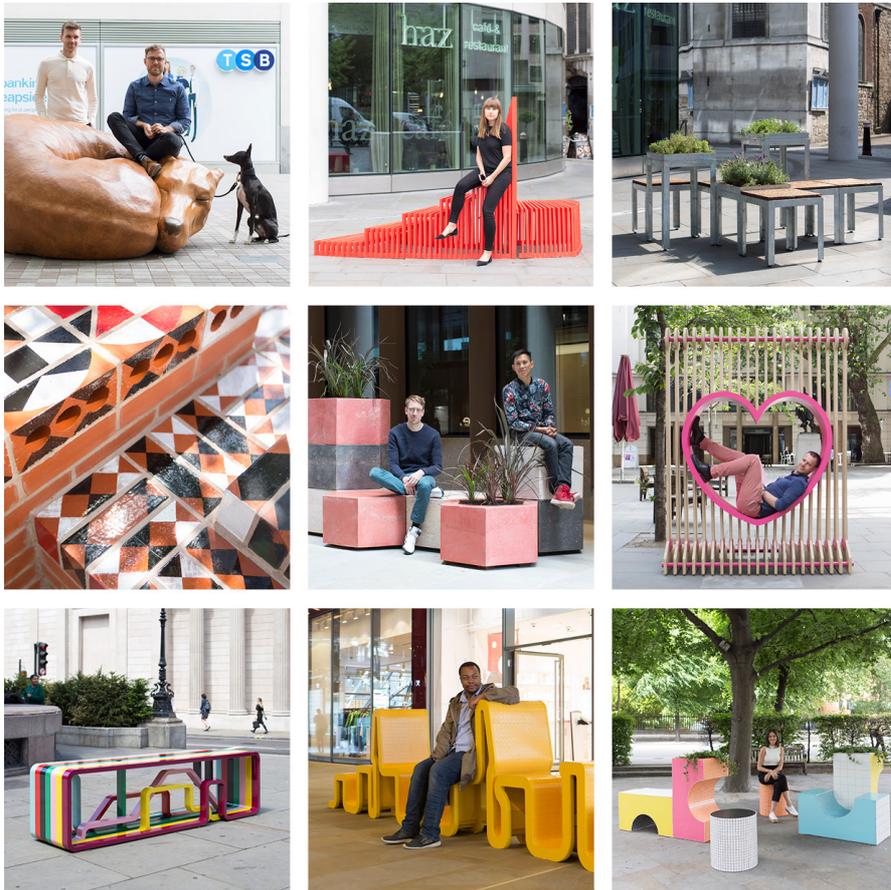
[www.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk)

Twitter: @cityoflondon

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## Previous LFA projects in the City of London

### City Benches 2018 & 2019



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In 2018, London Festival of Architecture, in collaboration with the City of London Corporation and the Cheapside Business Alliance for the first time organised a competition for a series of one-off public benches installed around Cheapside and the Eastern City Cluster areas. The winning designs responded to their settings with imagination and air, and were enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of people during the LFA in June. Following the success of the 2018 design competition, London Festival of Architecture, in collaboration with the City of London Corporation and Cheapside Business Alliance are now running the competition annually for Cheapside area.

## City Parklets 2019



© Luke O'Donovan

In early 2019, London Festival of Architecture, in collaboration with the City of London Corporation organised a design competition for three city parklets in the City of London's historic Square Mile.

Architects, designers and artists were invited to submit a design proposal for a bespoke public parklet that will transform an unused kerbside space into a place to rest, relax and admire the City – bringing additional life, greenery and well-designed pedestrian amenity to the City's streets during the world's largest annual architecture festival. The miniature landscaped spaces were intended both to showcase fresh design talent, and raised important questions about the boundaries between the individual and public realm within the city.

Over 90 teams responded, with the final three entrants selected by an expert jury including Simon Glynn (City Public Realm – City of London Corporation), Patrick Hegarty (Open Spaces – City of London Corporation), Giles Radford (Highways – City of London Corporation), Jennifer Dixon (EMEA Architecture Leader – AECOM) and Tamsie Thomson (director, London Festival of Architecture). The city parklets and their locations were as follows: The London Cablet by Fatkin (West Smithfield rotunda), Pavement Art Gallery by Patrick McEvoy (1 St Martins le Grand) and Rocks and Reeds by PARTI (Billiter Street).

## St Paul's Plinth 2019



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Following the success of the St Paul's Gateway installation designed by ScottWhitbyStudio and Arup for the London Festival of Architecture 2018, in early 2019 LFA and CBA ran a design competition to reuse the existing frame structure in a new and creative way. Lunch break - an installation of 40 gilded angels resting on swings by KHBT architects and artist Ottmar Hörl was selected as a winning entry and was installed on the pre-existing frame structure outside St Paul's tube station ahead of London Festival of Architecture 2019.

The project celebrated what can happen at the creative boundary of art and architecture, as well as providing a charming and eye-catching temporary landmark for the City of London. The piece created a strong conceptual and visual link to St Paul's Cathedral, and the golden cross on top of the dome in particular. The rich interior and ornamental nature of the Cathedral was reflected by the intricate detail of each sculpted angel.