

# Dramatic new Canada Water library construction underway!

## Press Release

7 April 2009

**Canada Water residents will soon have a stunning new £13.7m library to enjoy and use, with community and council facilities at its heart, as Southwark Council signed the construction contract with ISG Jackson.**



The new 2,500 sq m library building by CZWG, resembles an inverted pyramid that partly overhangs the Canada Water basin. A dominant feature of the four storey building is a striking full height atrium, with a timber-lined central spiral staircase traveling up to the expanding shape above. The building is clad in aluminum sheets that are anodised in a light bronze with sequined perforations, giving it sculptural appeal and striking visual effects. The library also has excellent green credentials, with a ground source heat pump, grey water harvesting and a green sedum roof.

The library will sit at the edge of a new civic plaza which has been designed to allow for a farmers market, large TV screenings, festivals and a host of other events and activities. Together they will form part of a dynamic new town centre for Canada Water, which includes approximately 900 new homes, new retail and public space.

Piers Gough said: "We are excited that building work on the library is to start. When completed, it will be a great addition to this area of Southwark. The community will have a lovely place and resource to explore, read, learn, meet, be creative in and generally make their own."

The project is due to commence in the summer, with completion scheduled for early 2011.

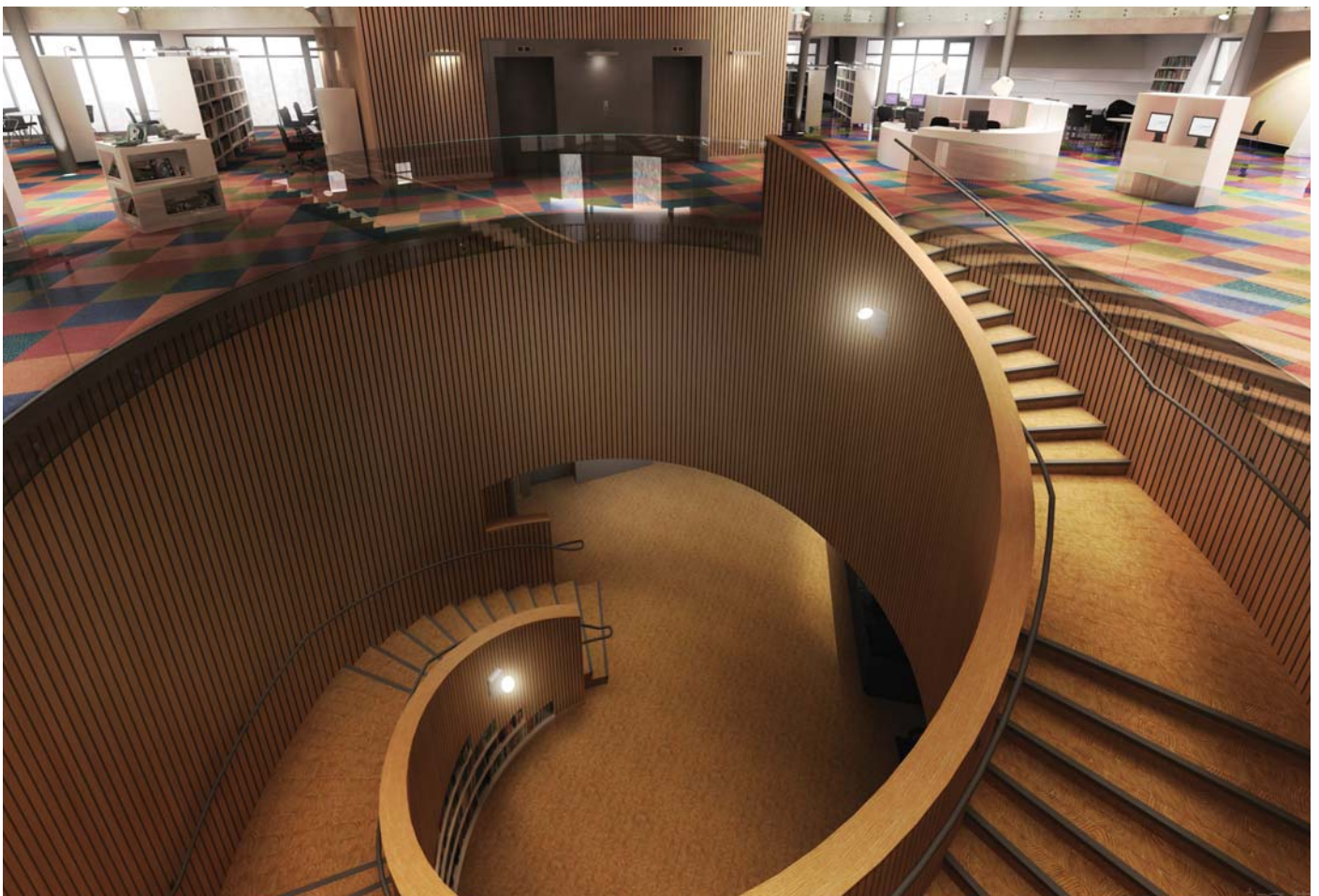
*CZWG Team:* Piers Gough, Stephen Rigg, Anna Ifanti, Sonja Karapiperidis, David Edwards and Bethan Williams

*Client:* London Borough of Southwark

**CZWG**



Overlooking Canada Water Basin



The central spiral staircase links the ground floor entrance and cafe area to the main library space

### **Notes to editors**

In 2003 the Executive approved British Land Canada Quays as the preferred masterplanning and development partner for Canada Water. The development agreement was signed in April 2005, and after extensive public consultation, outline planning permission for Sites A and B, and detailed planning permission for the library and civic plaza was granted by Southwark in 2007.

In 2007 a further development agreement was signed with Barratt London to deliver the first phase of residential homes in the area. The first phase of the scheme is already under construction. B1 is due for completion in September this year and is already 90% sold. Building B2 which fronts onto the plaza and includes new retail has already started construction and is due for completion in late 2010.

British Land Canada Quays Ltd (BL Canada Quays Ltd) is a 50:50 joint venture company between The British Land Company plc and Canada Quays Ltd.

The ground floor provides highly flexible community areas with a café, exhibition space and auditorium opening onto the new Deal Porters Plaza. A mezzanine level provides office and staff areas, with the second floor housing the main library. The upper floor is designed to provide a gallery area overlooking the main library and incorporates a range of learning facilities and meeting rooms. All the areas have fabulous views South over Canada Water Basin, an important ecological lake in the side of an old dock and the new generous Plaza on the North.

### **More information**

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