



Hackney Empire, London

Case Study



The letter 'M' weighed 4500kg and stood some 4 metres tall.



Units were wrapped with protection for transporting. Handling and turning the units was critical as all faces of the unit were to be seen.



A fully boarded scaffolding was installed for safe access to the units as they were installed. Stainless steel brackets supported units 1m from the projecting façade.



Mobile craneage was used to install units. A road closure was necessary during the erection process.



Stainless steel cast in channel securely held the units to the brackets.



Holes left in the backing plate for fixings were masked with cover plates to match the powder coated aluminium.

Project:
Hackney Empire
291 Mare St. London

Contractor:
Hackney Empire Theatre
Company Ltd

Engineer:
Babtie/Scott White
Hookins

Architect:
Tim Ronalds Architects

Specialist Subcontractor:
PAYE Stonework &
Restoration

Product:
Terracotta faced precast
letters.

The renovation of the Hackney Empire Theatre involved much replacement terracotta by Shaws of Darwin and Tim Ronalds, the architect, wanted the new feature signage to match.

Large elements of terracotta were individually prepared for precast using stainless steel hedgehog pins and delamination membrane.

Stainless steel reinforced concrete was poured on to the reverse of the terracotta. Waffles in the mould formed ribs in the concrete to minimise weight whilst maintaining rigidity.

The back face of the panels was covered using a water jet cut aluminium profile, powder coated to match the colour of the terracotta.

