

transmission

Issue 3

Dispatches from Television Centre

Design

How Suzy Hoodless evolved
Television Centre's historic
interiors

Culture

Lights, Camera, Action.
Television production returns
to Television Centre

Heritage

Fancy façade: the story
behind the 'atomic dots'

Television Centre is back on the air

Television Centre
89 Wood Lane
London W12 7FA
020 8811 8720

Live at Television Centre.
televisioncentre.com

Cover image:
Former Television Centre
studio by Lee Mawdsley

transmission is edited
and produced by dn&co.
dnco.com



This autumn, television is returning to Television Centre. This issue coincides with the re-opening of BBC Studioworks, a trio of state-of-the-art studios for hire by production companies. This is an important moment for White City - its legacy as a buzzing media hub is alive and kicking.

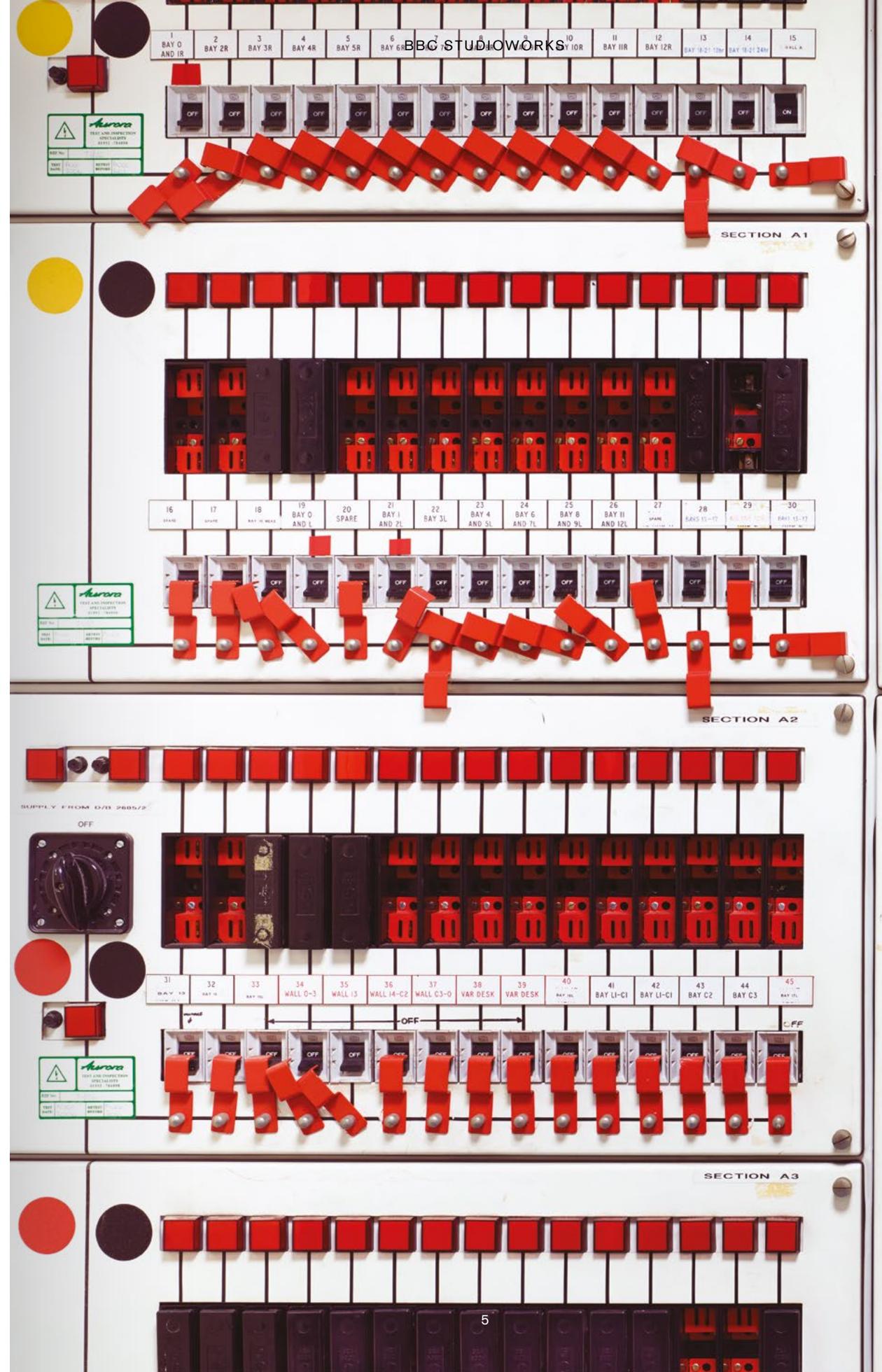
Studioworks has already signed primetime programmes like The Jonathan Ross Show to be produced at the famous 'Factory for Television'. And now you too can return, in the audience - or if you're in the business, hire out the space and become the next big thing on the box.



The new studios at Television Centre

The iconic studios have been updated for the next generation. The Jonathan Ross Show, It Takes Two and Good Morning Britain are just some of the programmes to be produced out of White City this autumn.

Above and right: Television Centre back of house, 2014. Photography by Lee Mawdsley



Television production at Television Centre: before the refurb. Opposite page: programmes to be produced at Studioworks this autumn.



Studioworks (a subsidiary of the BBC) runs and hires out its studios to production companies. With refurbishments now complete, Studioworks has announced that television shows like the *Strictly Come Dancing* spinoff, *It Takes Two* and a new production by Sky called the *The Russell Howard Hour* will be produced at its facilities. ITV's Saturday night primetime talkshow *The Jonathan Ross Show* will also be recorded inside the legendary 'TC-1', so don't be surprised to see the odd celebrity making their way along the 'talent terrace'.

ITV has also announced all of its daytime productions will be produced out of the studio facilities at Television Centre and neighbouring White City Place. This means shows like *Good*

Morning Britain, *Lorraine*, *This Morning* and *Loose Women* will all be moving to White City.

So what does a business that rents out television production space look like? In a word, impressive. The team behind Studioworks has spent the last 18 months consulting with its customers and evaluating its technology to create a new state-of-the-art offer. The three studios add up to roughly 22,000 sq ft of studio space. The largest, Studio 1, has space for audiences up to 600. The complex includes all the trimmings needed for live and pre-recorded television production: post production studios, more than 200 monitors, green rooms, dressing rooms and production offices.

It goes to show that Television Centre is, and will continue to be, a factory for television.



Top to bottom: It Takes Two courtesy of BBC photo library, Russell Howard and The Jonathan Ross Show courtesy of Shutterstock

Architect Arthur Hayes has always had an affection for the facade of Studio 1, and it's likely he isn't the only one. The wall he's referring to is one of Television Centre's most iconic features: 26 lights that form the 'atomic dots', a pattern panned by countless cameras as the establishing shot that was broadcast into living rooms throughout the country for nearly half a century.

Hayes was part of the team that designed Television Centre from 1956 onwards, and was the in-house architect from 1962. He recalls the original scheme for the Studio 1 facade was a simple line of light fittings, placed against a brick wall. It was up to him to design something a little more imaginative, which would uphold the modern spirit of the building. He drew up a series of patterns and was in the process of creating a model to present to the board when the phone rang. The board urgently needed to see the model, including the elevation.

His office was still on Gloucester Road and the models needed to be presented up at Broadcasting House, pronto. Hayes quickly decided on one of his patterns and with a handful of drawing pins stuck into the model created the pattern that we still see today.

As part of the refresh at Television Centre, the iconic dots have had a clean up. Come by at night to see them a-glow.

Television Centre at night, 1960. Copyright BBC photo library



On the dot

We connect the atomic dots of Television Centre's famous facade



Meet Television Centre's
Interior Designer, Suzy Hoodless

Furnishing an icon

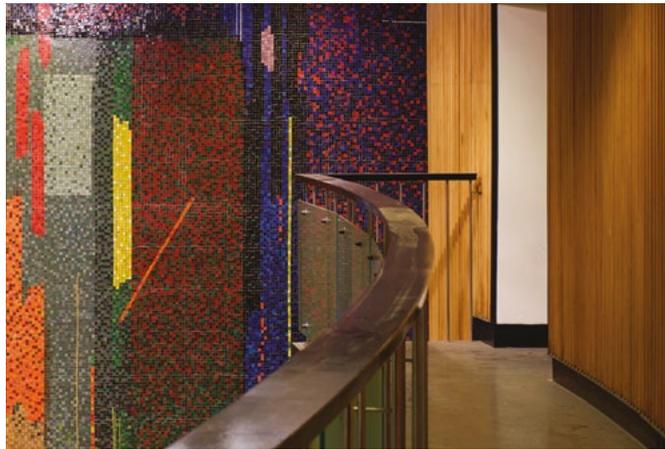
Suzy Hoodless is a self-taught interior designer. She tried school, didn't like it. "I wanted to get on with it," she says from the cosy studio she's since founded in Holland Park. Instead, she went to London to take up positions at magazines like *House and Garden* under Sue Crewe and *Wallpaper** with Tyler Brulé.

Working as design editor, and being so immersed in the industry meant Suzy learned exactly which pieces to turn to, and from where. "I worked with some of the best people, so when I set up on my own I had this amazing rolodex of contacts." Case in point, one of her earliest commissions was a project with Moshe Safdie, and it only went from there. Since then, she has designed interiors for a Soho film production company, Sophie's Steakhouse and the Hoxton Hotel, and plenty of private homes in west London.





“We’re layering it so it has longevity and doesn’t feel like a pastiche.”



Television Centre is one of Suzy’s most recent projects. She was commissioned to design the interiors of communal spaces like the residents’ lounge and the lobby, as well as the sales pavilion. As a finishing touch to the project, Suzy has curated a series of furniture packages for new residents of Television Centre. Looking for something a little more classic? Try the sumptuous Huxley-Jones collection. Something with a Scandi feel? Opt for the Hayes. As with all her projects, the packages focus on pieces that are comfortable and timeless.

“I think Television Centre is a really good example of the approach that we apply to all our projects,” she says. “It has a strong heritage. I know a lot of people are buying here because they want to be at the Television Centre.” It was important here to adhere to the midcentury feel, “but not be slavishly driven” by it.

At the beginning, she observed the battens, the terrazzo, the mosaics and the green marble of the super lobby (above). This led to the selection of oak furniture and bespoke marble tables.

“Of course it’s one fantastic hook to have that history as a style influence, but we’re layering it so it has longevity and doesn’t feel like a pastiche.”

Today, her work is part design, part curation and part therapy. Furnishing a home can be an emotional endeavour, one that can have clients clamouring to the creative process. What makes her work with Television Centre a different experience is that there was no single end-user, but many.

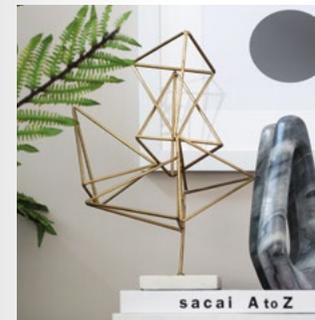
“We thought of a professional couple and the process throughout their daily routine,” she says. “Where are they going to sit at the weekend to read the paper? Are they going to have breakfast sitting on the sofa or are they going to have breakfast on the island?” To that end, it was an unrestrained process, which allowed Suzy to design with the building’s materials and environment in mind, while evolving its rich history.

suzyhoodless.com

Five essentials for a new home

We turned to interior design collective [BoxNine7](#) to share their tips with us. The team curates furniture packages for residences around London – including Television Centre.

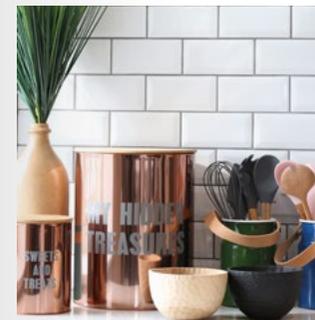
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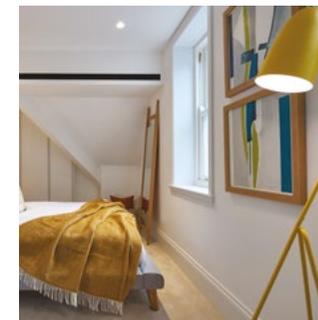
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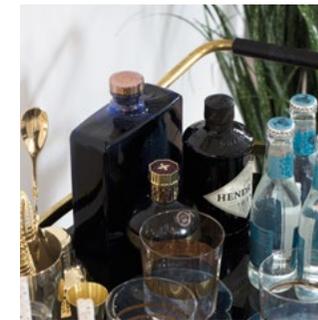
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4



5



To see more furniture packages by BoxNine7, please visit boxnine7.com

1 Build character

Incorporating objects and accessories into your apartment is the easiest way of adding character. When dressing a sideboard you can play with proportions and heights, strong geometric shapes will complement smooth natural stones and create a focal point.

2 Create a reading nook

Transforming a space into a reading area can be done with a low chaise, a side table and a lamp. Adding a selection of soft cushions and a throw will provide a cosy feel, allowing you to sit back and relax and make use of an otherwise unused space.

3 Declutter your kitchen

To create a cohesive feature point in your kitchen and avoid unnecessary clutter you can display your kitchen essentials in a cluster of jars and pots. Specify eye-catching finishes and varying heights and consider the use of trays to unify the display.

4 Work with what you’ve got

Unusual lines in the architecture of your home can be used to your advantage by mirroring the design like this bold angular lamp and unconventional artwork.

5 Liven up your bar trolley

A space for entertaining can easily be created in your home with a vintage bar trolley hosting your favourite drinks. You can complete the look with alternative glass bottles, glasses and coasters. To achieve a Gatsbyy vibe, add a matching gold cocktail-making kit.



The deserted petrol station on Wood Lane wasn't much to look at, overgrown and in varying shades of disrepair. It's current incarnation is somewhat different, now that international artist duo Craig & Karl have finished with it.

The BBC test card goes viral

'Here After' is the design duo's first public work in London. It takes the abandoned petrol station and transforms it with colour: pleasing curves and chunky blocks of it. The work applies the same playful graphic approach they're known for, but this time it takes its cues from the site.

Situated next to Wood Lane tube station, Craig & Karl's technicolored renaissance for the petrol station was inspired by the television test card. The BBC's longest standing test card was used between 1967 and 1997, and included a photo of a little girl playing – the daughter of the BBC engineer who developed it.

'Here After' was unveiled in early summer and has since been photographed (and instagrammed) countless times. Brands like Otti, a childrenswear brand and Print Bint, a maker of printed leggings, have both created their look book photography with the petrol station in the background. K-Lectic dance studio has created a contemporary dance video against the same backdrop of frenetic colour. The petrol station is a beautiful shell, but an empty

one. White Noise now want to fill this striking corner with flash dance mobs, art exhibitions, lemonade stands, kick-boxing classes, spoken word events, film screenings, workshops. Anything, really, that London's cleverest imaginations can dream up.

whitenoise.city





LOCAL AREA

LOCAL AREA

West London culture fix

1 Bush Theatre

Don't expect to have heard of any of the plays and playwrights at Bush Theatre. Their mission is to seek out and nurture the best new talent on its globally-renowned stage, which has become a springboard for up-and-coming talent.

bushtheatre.co.uk

2 Helios Statue

A relic of Television Centre's early days, now restored for the building's second chapter. While previously only accessible to guests and employees of the BBC, the courtyard will be open to the public this autumn, and the Helios statue stands at its heart.

televisioncentre.com

3 Electric Cinema Television Centre

The Soho House's string of small cinemas are in keeping with what the members' club does so well: a well-curated programme, plush interiors and delectable nibbles. The intimate three-screen cinema opens early in the new year.

electriccinema.co.uk

4 Gate Theatre Notting Hill

For over 30 years, the fierce, independent spirit of the Gate Theatre has been at the forefront of producing provoking performances that launch careers and pack a punch.

gatetheatre.co.uk

5 Here After by Craig & Karl

There are certain things of the past for which we're nostalgic, but might not necessarily miss. Television test cards are one of them: a relic of times long gone, but also a reminder of nights when even the television can sleep but you can't. Illustrators Craig & Karl applied the colour and patterns of test cards to a disused petrol station across the road from Television Centre.

craigandkarl.com

6 O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire

An old-timey theatre with red folding seats and gold embellishments on the walls. Between 1953 and 1994, the hundred-year-old venue was used by the BBC as a studio-theatre for live audience programmes.

[academymusicgroup.com / o2shepherdsbushempire](http://academymusicgroup.com/o2shepherdsbushempire)

7 Opera Holland Park

Every summer, Opera Holland Park transforms a slice of the verdant Holland Park into a venue for live opera. The company has gained momentum over the years and a reputation for producing rare and unusual operatic works. See also: a programme of classic films.

operahollandpark.com

Illustration: Maggie Li



Clockwise from left:
Bluebird, Homeslice,
Patty&Bun



The lineup at Television Centre

Coming up next at Television Centre: new shops, restaurants, a cinema and gym. These are just a few of the new neighbours set to move in early next year. We'll be announcing more in upcoming issues of transmission.

Food & drink

Bayley & Sage

Independent delicatessen and gourmet grocer with nearly 20 years of lunchtime authority.

bayley-sage.co.uk
@bayleyandsage

Homeslice

Regularly hailed as London's best pizza, with unorthodox toppings and prosecco on tap.

homeslicepizza.co.uk
@homesliceldn

The Allis

A cocktail concept by the Soho House Group. It may originate from Chicago, but we hear they make a mean Manhattan.

theallis.com

Patty & Bun

London's favourite burgers come to Television Centre. Stacked buns that require an unhinged jaw.

pattyandbun.co.uk
@pattyandbunjoe

Bluebird

The sophisticated Chelsea establishment moves north. Modern European dining with an interior to please the well-heeled.

bluebird-restaurant.co.uk
@bluebirdchelsea

Scarpetta – NEW

Health-conscious, lighter pasta dishes, salads, soups and focaccia available to eat in or take away.

scarpetta.me
@scarpettalondon

Wellness

House Gym by Soho House

Television Centre residents' place for pumping, spinning, trotting, treading, lifting and a touch of ommmm.

sohohouse.com
@SohoHouse

Entertainment

BBC Studioworks – NOW OPEN

Three historic studios are being refurbished, and will host live audience recordings from 1 September.

bbcstudioworks.com

White City House

The latest addition to the Soho House family. The adjoining hotel will offer 47 cosy bedrooms in the historic Helios from January 2018

sohohouse.com
@SohoHouse

Electric Cinema

A cosy new three-screen cinema opens to the public early in the new year. Enjoy the latest arthouse flicks (or zombie thrillers) in a plush setting.

electriccinema.co.uk



Clockwise from above: White City Market in full swing; hand-crafted sandwiches at Nurture; the new illustrated map of White City, produced by White Noise.

Over the next few months, we'll be spying on our neighbours at White City Place. The well-connected creative business campus up the road from Television Centre is kitted out with a meditation garden, multimedia theatre space and a mobile podcasting studio. Industry leaders like Yoox Net-a-Porter, co-work space Huckletree, The Royal College of Art, ITV and BBC have all claimed their space. Here's what's on at White City Place.

What's on at White City Place



Dining, Drinking, Grab-and-Going

A tasty roster of restaurants and lunch spots will have you well tended to, from the morning latté to post-work bar snack and everything between. Two stalwarts of healthy lunches are already up and running: Cruss and Nurture both offer inventive salads, fresh juices and guilt-free treats. This October, Coco di Mama joins with its fine pasta and Italian bites. There are six more restaurants to be announced, stay tuned.

Lunchtime markets

On Wednesdays and Thursdays, lunchtime is a little livelier at White City Place. The new midday market brings a series of purveyors of street food, fine cheese and charcuterie to the outdoor event space. Look out for Jollof Mama for zesty Nigerian street food or hearty award-winning pies from My Pie, and stick around for live music.

All the essentials

The retail offer at White City Place is well underway, but a few mainstays have already made themselves indispensable: Oliver Bonas for indulgences, Tesco for necessities and a Starbucks to ward off any caffeine deficiencies.

Fitness For All

Two new fitness studios are opening doors this autumn. The high-intensity workouts at F45 promise a vigorous kick of endorphins. For something of a lighter touch, Studio Lagree is a pilates and core studio hailing from Hollywood.

Who's at White City Place

Food and drink

The Athenian
Coco Di Mama
The Cornerhouse
Cruss
Nurture
Pizza Street
Starbucks

White City Place is a five-minute walk from Television Centre, located on Wood Lane. More exciting shops, bars and restaurants are still to be announced, visit whitecityplace.com to learn more.

Retail

Oliver Bonas
Tesco

195 Wood Lane
London W12 7FQ

Lifestyle

F45 fitness studio
Hair by Design
Studio Lagree

whitecityplace.com

Mapping White City

White City Place and Television Centre are just one chapter in a much bigger story of what makes White City great. To navigate it all, a new illustrated map draws on the insider knowledge from a group of residents, writers, local businesses and community groups for the definitive guide to this evolving area. Pick one up at the Television Centre sales pavilion, local underground stations, independent shops and cafés around West London.





New school

Imperial College London's new campus for scientific breakthroughs breaks ground in White City

Imperial College's growing campus in White City, nestled comfortably between the university's South Kensington and Hammersmith locations, is a testament to the university's ambition to innovate at a greater scale.

Once complete, the cluster of new buildings off Wood Lane (just north of the Westway – you can't miss the new tall towers) will be a new home for scientific endeavours such as developing clean energy sources or new cancer technology. The Translation and Innovation Hub or i-HUB, a gleaming tower with dark orange cladding is already open for the private sector to collaborate

with Imperial researchers. The Molecular Sciences Research Hub and Michael Uren Biomedical Engineering Research Hub is due to open by 2019. The first phase also creates 192 new homes (including 62 affordable apartments), and housing for 600 postgrad students.

A second phase is now in planning stages for the area south of the Westway, designed to better connect the campus to the local area, and to encourage the community, researchers and businesses to rub shoulders and share ideas.

imperial.ac.uk/white-city-planning

Illustration: Charlotte Trounce

Tune in

Switch off



Television is now back at Television Centre, featuring The Jonathan Ross Show.

Switch off in the comfort of your new home. Ready this Christmas.

Studios, 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments from £645,000.
New release 23 September

TELEVISION CENTRE

televisioncentre.com
020 8811 8720





Five things you didn't know about White City

Looking back at more than 100 years of arts and culture

- 1** The O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire was built in 1903. In 1905, early performers to take the stage here were the Fred Karno Troupe, which included a young Charlie Chaplin. The troupe's namesake, Fred Karno, is accredited with inventing the pie-in-the-face gag.
- 2** Remember in 2003 when the Dixie Chicks were ostracised and pulled off the air for making comments against then-president George Bush? That happened at their London concert, at the O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire.
- 3** The words "White City" mean something totally different should you utter them in Tel Aviv. There, they refer to a series of 4,000 white mid-rise apartment blocks designed in the Bauhaus style when the city was built up in the 1930s.
- 4** Here's a list of what the music venue Bush Hall has been used for since its creation in 1904: dance hall, wartime soup kitchen, bingo hall, rehearsal space for bands like The Who or Cliff Richard, snooker club, and finally as a music venue once again in 2001.
- 5** Television Centre had a starring role in the Eurovision Song Contest in 1963, when France declined to host the event. The structure was only three years old at the time, but was showcased to the rest of Europe when a helicopter circled the Centre. Alas, Denmark won.