

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE INDUSTRY

25 November 2015

Carmody Groarke appointed to design Special Exhibitions Gallery

The **Museum of Science and Industry** is delighted to announce the appointment of award-winning architects **Carmody Groarke** as the design team responsible for the creation of the museum's brand new **Special Exhibitions Gallery**, due to open in **2018**. The project will transform the vaults of the museum's historic viaduct and 1830 Warehouse into a venue for world-class science exhibitions.

This flagship gallery will be located in the most historically significant part of the museum site - the 1830 complex. This comprises of the brick vaulted arches of the 1830 viaduct, the oldest surviving passenger railway station and the world's first railway warehouse. HM Treasury and the Wellcome Trust's Capital Awards Scheme have pledged significant funding towards the creation of the Special Exhibitions Gallery.

The **Carmody Groarke** team impressed the selection panel, led by museum **Director Sally MacDonald**, with a combination of a truly imaginative design and evident passion and respect for the museum's historic site. Their plans propose a new ramped entrance and the creation of a beautiful double height entrance space.

The creation of the new Special Exhibitions Gallery forms part of longer term and ambitious plans to transform the museum over the next decade, bringing to life the story of its historic site and developing its role as the northern home for contemporary science engagement.

Carmody Groarke will work together with structural engineers, **Price & Myers** and building services engineers **Skelly & Couch**.

The Museum's Director Sally MacDonald comments: "We are really thrilled to have **Carmody Groarke** on board. Their proposal was simple and stunning, and they demonstrated that they are keen to listen and work with us to design a gallery that is both beautiful and practical. They have experience of working on historic sites - a new gallery at the RIBA headquarters, and their work for the Rothschild Foundation and Lakeland Arts - really set their proposals apart. We can't wait to start working with them.'

Andy Groarke, Co-Director of Carmody Groarke says, “We are delighted to be working on a project that forms a central part of the Museum’s masterplan, which will play an important part in the proposals for Manchester’s evolving city-scape. The ambition for the gallery is to expand the Museum’s opportunities to display temporary exhibitions and to also improve the setting of some of the city’s most important buildings from the industrial age.”

Ends

**PR: Rachel Furst, Senior Press Officer: rachel.furst@msimanchester.org.uk
[0161 606 0176](tel:01616060176)**

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Carmody Groarke is a London-based architectural studio established by Kevin Carmody and Andrew Groarke in 2006. The studio works on a diverse range of commissions in the UK and abroad for private, commercial and cultural sector clients. Recently completed projects include a visitor pavilion at Waddesdon Manor for the Rothschild Foundation, a temporary Maggie’s Centre in Clatterbridge and the RIBA’s new Architecture Gallery at their London headquarters. Current projects include the Windermere Jetty Museum in the Lake District, the UK pavilion at the 2015 International Book Fair, in Guadalajara, Mexico for the British Council and a new cultural foundation in East London.

Since 2006 Carmody Groarke has been recognised by architectural awards including the Building Design ‘Young Architect of the Year Award’ (YAYA), the Architectural Review ‘Emerging Architecture Award’, the D&AD ‘Yellow Pencil’ awards for Spatial Design and Exhibition Design and several RIBA awards. This year, Carmody Groarke’s Maggie’s Centre was the recipient of the AJ Small Projects award, a Civic Trust Award and an RIBA Regional award.

Price & Myers was established in 1978 as a firm of consulting engineers, with the aim of working with good imaginative architects, to make excellent buildings. In their first 37 years they have completed over 24,000 jobs, and won over 580 awards. They have offices in London, Nottingham, and Oxford, and currently employ about 185 people.

Their work covers an unusually wide range, both in size and type. Projects vary from minor alterations and extensions, to major new buildings and refurbishment projects, using the most recent developments in materials and construction techniques. They have advised on the repair and restoration of many historic buildings, and have worked with some of the country’s leading architects on the design of many outstanding modern buildings

Skelly & Couch is a dynamic firm of award-winning building environment and services engineers. Directors Mark Skelly, Tristan Couch and Mark Maidment lead a highly talented team of 30 multi-skilled, specialist engineers. Skelly & Couch won the prestigious Association for Consultancy and Engineering 2015 Business Services Excellence Award (companies with up to 250 employees).

The Museum of Science and Industry tells the story of where science met industry and the modern world began. Manchester was one of the first global, industrial cities, and its epic rise, decline and resurrection has been echoed in countless other cities around the world. From textiles to computers, the objects and documents held in the museum’s collection tell stories of everyday life over the last 200 years, from light bulbs to locomotives. The museum’s mission is to inspire all its visitors, including future scientists and inventors, with

the story of how ideas can change the world, from the industrial revolution to today and beyond. The Museum is part of the Science Museum Group, a family of museums which also includes the Science Museum in London; the National Railway Museum in York and Shildon; and the National Media Museum in Bradford. The Science Museum Group is devoted to the history and contemporary practice of science, medicine, technology, industry and media. With five million visitors each year and an unrivalled collection, it is the most significant group of museums of science and innovation worldwide.

The **Wellcome Trust** is a global charitable foundation dedicated to improving public health. It provides more than £700m a year to support bright minds in science, the humanities and the social sciences, as well as education, public engagement and the application of research to medicine.