

CDG brings the heat to the Barbican with Bonfire

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Restaurant and commercial kitchen design company Catering Design Group (CDG) has completed a dramatic transformation to the first floor restaurant space at the Barbican Centre in London.

Having worked closely together on past projects including Kenwood House and world heritage site, Blenheim Palace, CDG were again commissioned by Searcys to bring its concept to life. Re-branded 'Bonfire,' the casual dining venue provides an informal restaurant and bar space.

CDG designed and completely renovated the 300m² space (formerly the 'Barbican Lounge' restaurant) together with a refurbishment of the kitchen to include state-of-the-art equipment around a theatre style space to complement the 'laid back' environment front-of-house.

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An urban setting was created to showcase the personality of the 'Bonfire' brand and its menu of rotisserie chicken, burgers, milkshakes and 'comforting' desserts. A dramatic feature wall backlit with LED lighting was designed to display the 'Bonfire' signage, giving customers the illusion of a sunken bonfire and branded livestock.

Statement patchwork floor tiles in navy, orange and grey, zone the space, whilst subconsciously leading diners through each area to improve customer flow. Furniture within the bar and across the banquette dining area features reclaimed timber and galvanised steel finishes.

Chris Madison, MD of Searcys commented: "The feedback from customers since opening has been extremely positive. CDG is exceptional when it comes to answering a brief. It spent a great deal of time immersing itself in our philosophy, the history of this Grade II listed building and our menu offer.

"Our aim was to turn up the heat on London's burger and chicken scene and what CDG has delivered for us is a cool, raw, urban space that oozes the personality of 'Bonfire' with a great deal of warmth."

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