



## BLACKPOOL TOWER BALLROOM PROSCENIUM ARCH

**Hayles and Howe have been working with the Town Council on numerous venues in Blackpool, the Crown Jewel being the Tower Ballroom.**

Opened in 1899 and designed by Frank Matcham, an architect well known for his work on theatres in the late 19th and early 20th century, the Ballroom has gained more recent fame through the popular television show *Strictly Come Dancing*.

Earlier this year the team undertook a thorough survey of the fibrous plaster ceiling and are in the process of repairing and consolidating the proscenium arch.

Extensive repairs are being carried out from the face and within the void behind the plasterwork; areas which have been mostly untouched for over 100 years.

The team are using traditional techniques and materials to preserve the 120 year old ceiling for years to come.

In some cases, redecoration is key before the scaffolding comes down. Hayles and Howe work closely with numerous trades and can offer high-end finishes such as gold leaf.



**FIS Awards Lunch**



**Birth of a new Scagliola**

## WHAT'S INSIDE

Royal Opera House Renovation  
Arlington House External Facade  
Strapwork Ceiling Project  
Team News

# ORNAMENTAL PLASTERWORK



## PRIVATE RESIDENCE

Hayles and Howe are delighted to have been part of this project at a private residence in the Southeast of England. From concept to completion, we designed, produced and installed a contemporary strapwork ceiling, complete with a smaller domed ceiling in the new build home of our clients.

The ceiling was designed by our in-house design team, then left to our highly skilled craftsmen to produce in our Bristol workshop. Once manufactured, the ceiling was transported across the country and finished to its full glory. This was an exciting project drawing on skills from across the entire team.

Its always a pleasure to be involved in new, original projects. Strapwork ceilings, new and old, are a staple of Hayles and Howe's work.



# SCAGLIOLA

## The Birth of a New Scagliola

Scagliola is a pigmented plaster. It can provide a consistent colour scheme throughout a project, unlike marble, which creates multiple differences in colour, texture and veining.

The first phase in the creation of Scagliola is to match the required colour, which is not a simple process; there are several stages which need to occur before we see an accurate representation of the final colour. You start with pigmented water which looks similar, however when you mix it with the plaster the colour changes. When the plaster sets the colour changes again, and as you polish the piece the colour will change yet again! If you are lucky you may hit it first time, but in most cases it will take multiple attempts to attain the correct match.



When the palette has been achieved 'all you have to do' is compose the Scagliola in a way that looks correct and aesthetically pleasing.



**As can be seen this is still a work in progress. Hopefully next time we will be able to reveal the finished article!**

## DAVID HAYLES VISITS SUNNY DEVON

Recently we had the privilege and pleasure of hosting David Hayles at our Scagliola workshop in Crediton. We were assisting him in producing a couple of exhibition pieces for the International Preservation Trades Workshop 2019 held in Stirling. This annual event brings together practitioners of traditional trades, employed in the conservation of the built environment, to share skills, knowledge and best practice. Here we see David, Jamie, and Lukasz making a small 'Marezzo Scagliola' column shaft.





### ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

**The team were back in the Royal Opera House this summer for an intense two week period, to complete part of a revamp of the Auditorium.**

An impressive 'flying carpet' platform was suspended from the joists behind the fibrous plaster ceiling so the team could access the face to carry out repairs and redecorate the iconic plasterwork. A mobile elevated work platform was used to carry out repairs to the balcony fronts and survey the frieze above the stage in preparation for future work, whilst rope access harnesses enabled the team to safely access the back of the ceiling to clean and maintain the plasterwork.

Regular inspections of this type of ceilings are imperative to protect the public and preserve examples of the craft.



### NHTG Open Day

**During the year the team at Hayles and Howe joined forces with the National Heritage Training Group to provide a number of free workshops for students at our Bristol workshop to promote heritage skills.**

The workshops included demonstrations, talks and hands on lessons in Fibrous Plaster, Lime Plaster, Oak Framing, Scagliola and much more.

Robin Harrison, MD says: "It is great to be involved in this worthwhile project to ensure that these traditional skills are continued throughout future generations."

## Arlington House

**The residence of Robert E. Lee and his family before the Civil War, Arlington House connects to many important figures, issues and events in American history.**

Built by enslaved labourers of George Washington Parke Custis between 1802 and 1818, the house and grounds have served many purposes over the last 200 years: a memorial, a family home, a plantation estate and home to 63 enslaved people, military headquarters for Union troops and a national cemetery. Since 1933, the NPS has managed Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial which sits within the Arlington National Cemetery.

Hayles and Howe were involved in many elements of this restoration project including new plaster, plaster conservation, stucco restoration, interior paint and decorative paint finishes, as well as faux stone finishes to the exterior of the mansion using mineral paints.

The \$1.1 million project is nearing completion and will be the jewel in the crown of the Arlington National Cemetery.



## CITY HOUSE - Baltimore, Maryland

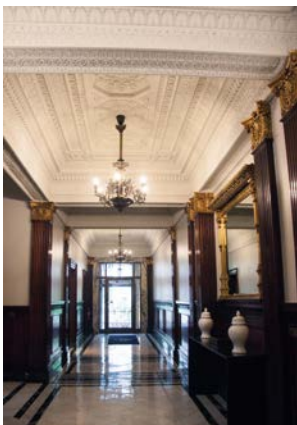
Located in the historic Mt. Vernon neighborhood of Baltimore sits 6 East Eager St. known as City House and used as a modern shared working space including offices, meeting and event venues.

It was built in 1906, for one of Baltimore's wealthiest residents at the time, William Marburg and designed by renowned architect Joseph Evans Sperry, the 16,000 square foot mansion is full of superior craftsmanship. Aside from its multiple levels of highly ornate ceilings, it includes intricate stained-glass windows, Philippine mahogany woodwork, and marble throughout.

Hayles and Howe have restored the decorative plaster skylight surround, the corridor plasterwork on all four floors of the building, and most excitingly, the grand first floor corridor and front parlour, all of which had succumbed to hundreds of lineal feet of cracking, and in some cases water damage.

The work undertaken earned individual Craftsmen Awards for the team by the Building Congress and Exchange and the project as a whole is also nominated for an award for the restoration and renovation of this historic property.

[www.cityhouse6e.com](http://www.cityhouse6e.com)



## TEAM NEWS

### APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR



Lucas received the apprentice of the year award at the Plasterers Training Awards 2019.

Lucas started at Hayles and Howe two years ago. He has shown a natural skill with fibrous plastering, is hard-working and a great team player. His nominator, Niall Harris says:

“Lucas’ skills are increasing daily; he is a valued member of the team. A real success story.”



### APPRENTICE TOM

Tom has joined the Hayles and Howe team this year on a fibrous plastering apprenticeship.

Tom attended the NHTG open day last year with his school and during the visit he gained an insight into the world of fibrous plastering. He subsequently made the decision to contact Hayles and Howe for an apprenticeship at the end of his academic year!

Welcome Tom!

### CHAIRMAN RECEIVES TRAINING AWARD



David Harrison received an award for a lifetime contribution to training.

David has spent 41 years in the industry, extolling the virtues of quality with an average of 2 apprentices each year. He has also been a major contributor to NHTG, SPAB, ABTT and the Theatre Trust.

David collected an engraved Silver Salver and an engraved Armada Dish.

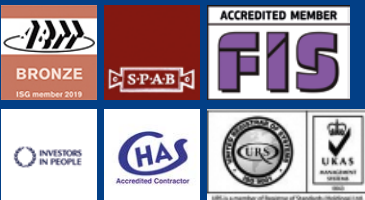
### FIS AWARDS: SILVER FOR BLACKPOOL WINTER GARDENS EMPRESS BALLROOM

Hayles and Howe are delighted to have received an award at the FIS Contractors Awards held at the Dorchester in London. The team were presented with a Silver Award in the Heritage Plastering category for our work on the Empress Ballroom at the Blackpool Winter Gardens. Judges feedback stated:

**“While the immediacy and scope of the required work put Hayles and Howe under considerable pressure, they fulfilled all the testing requirements on the project to an extremely high level.”**



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