

# Press Release

**For Immediate Release:**

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## **A new vision for the Holburne Museum, Bath**

Eric Parry Architects has designed a new extension to the Holburne Museum of Art in Bath. The design makes bold use of ceramic, mirroring the permanent collection of the Museum, much of which will be on display in the new gallery space created by the extension.

The extension is strikingly configured in ceramic and glass, complementing the original Grade 1 Listed building and sympathetic to the museum's collection of paintings and decorative arts. The new development provides an extra 800 square metres of gallery space in addition to a garden café, educational and other visitor facilities.

The project will reunite the historic Sydney gardens with the city by recreating the clear axis between Great Pultney Street at one end and the gardens at the other.

EPA has an enviable track record working with historic buildings: they are currently working on the redevelopment of St-Martin-in-the-fields in Trafalgar Square, London and the practice has recently completed a new extension to Old Wardour House, Wiltshire.

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**Notes to Editors:**

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### **Eric Parry Architects**

Eric Parry Architects is an established and award-winning practice with a growing portfolio of notable work.

Current projects include the nineteen storey office building at 5 Aldermanbury Square in the City of London; the practice is also working on the restoration and redevelopment of the historic St Martin-in-the-Fields Church in Trafalgar Square, due for completion in 2008.

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The practice undertakes an unusual range of work, varied in scope and scale. It has won numerous awards, including an RIBA Award 2003 and the AIA Design Excellence Award 2003 for the design of its office building at 30 Finsbury Square, London, the Best Leisure Design at the FX International Interior Design Awards 2001 for the Spa at the Mandarin Oriental, Hyde Park and an RIBA Regional Award 1998 for Foundress Court at Pembroke College, Cambridge University.

Eric Parry founded the practice in 1983. It is based in Finsbury, London, and employs 54 staff. EPA also has an office in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where the practice has designed a number of residential schemes.

Eric Parry has a key involvement in all projects, particularly in their design development stages. He is keenly interested in the bridges between theory, practice, space and society.

<http://www.ericparryarchitects.co.uk/>

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### **The Holburne Museum of Art, Bath**

The Holburne houses an extraordinarily rich collection of fine and decorative art, including nationally important collections of Renaissance bronzes and maiolica, of silver and porcelain and of paintings and miniatures. The Holburne has at its heart the personal collection of Sir William Holburne which was bequeathed as a kernel of Bath's first public museum in 1883. In every area he acquired works of exceptional significance and beauty such as Susini's refined bronze of a *Kneeling Woman Bathing*, or the Diana and Actaeon plate, a rare and early example of maiolica. His silver collection is remarkable and his group of 17th century Dutch and Netherlandish painting, including two significant works by Pieter Breughel the Younger, and a fine group of Dutch Italianate landscapes are still the most important in the west of England. Since Sir William's death the collection has grown by some 2,000 objects which have enlarged the scope of the collection and given it a renowned strength in British Painting, with works by Raeburn, Ramsay, Stubbs, Turner and Gainsborough. Housed in the eighteenth-century Sydney Hotel and set within the park of Sydney Gardens, it is Bath's most beautiful museum.

#### **For further information on the Holburne Museum of Art, please contact:**

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