

Serpentine Gallery

Press Release

Major new commission by Zaha Hadid at the Serpentine Gallery

Zaha Hadid, the internationally acclaimed architectural designer, has been specially commissioned to create a dramatic temporary sculptural structure in which the Serpentine Gallery's 30th Anniversary Gala Dinner will take place on 20 June.

Zaha Hadid's structure radically reinvents the accepted idea of a tent or marquee. It takes the form of a triangulated roof structure which spans an impressive internal space of 600m² by using a steel primary structure. A folding form of angular flat planes extending to the ground at points gives it an illusion of solidity whilst at the same time creating a variety of internal spaces. These undulations are emphasised by the positioning of lighting between two roof fabrics which incur gradual changes over time, creating a sense of perpetual movement. This is reinforced throughout the interior with specially designed tables which are gradated from white to black.

Zaha Hadid's architectural projects have won her much public and academic acclaim. She is currently working on a variety of commissions including two large-scale contemporary arts centres for Cincinnati and Rome; a ski jump in Innsbruck, Austria; Al-Wabrah, a breeding centre for endangered species in Qatar; as well as a major bridge in Abu Dhabi. She also designed the *Mind Zone* in the Millennium Dome and the stage designs for the recent Pet Shop Boys' world tour. She is one of four British architects invited by the British Council to represent Britain at the VII Venice Biennale of Architecture (18 June - 29 October 2000). Zaha Hadid has been a Trustee of the Serpentine Gallery since 1996.

Zaha Hadid's structure can be seen from the Serpentine Gallery's Lawn from 19 - 22 June. The interior will be open to the public on 22 June 2-5pm.

The commission is the third in a series of projects by contemporary architects and designers at the Serpentine Gallery. Previous collaborations include Ron Arad and Seth Stein.

Project Consultant: Eric Gabriel

Lighting Design: Maurice Brill

Main Contractor: Gap Sails and Structures

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The Serpentine Trust is a limited company registered in England under no 2150221. It is an Educational Charity which is funded by the Arts Council of England & Westminster City Council. Registered charity no 298809. Vat no 466 5881 01.



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The Serpentine Gallery is open daily 10am to 6pm. Admission is free

Public Information 0171 298 1515. www.serpentinegallery.org