

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM DAYLIT GALLERY

architect
client
location
completed

MUMA
VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM
UNITED KINGDOM, LONDON
2009

06360



MUMA Architects, Dewhurst Macfarlane Engineers and Octatube designed a spectacular glass roof that rises 14 meters above a new gallery floor. The 73 laminated heat-strengthened glass beams, spanning up to a maximum length of 11m. The surface of the roof is formed by insulated glass panels that are fixed by point connectors in the glass seams and a continuous stainless-steel profile on top of the glass beams. The total area of the glass roof is approximately 370 square meters.

To reduce the direct sun-light into the gallery, the separate glass panels of the laminated beams have matte pvb interlayers. The design provided several challenges. Some were of geometric nature while others were safety-issues. The major geometric challenge was the shape of the surface of the roof. Both top and bottom planes are placed horizontally, but since the lines stem from two different shapes of the adjacent buildings and do not run parallel, the surface of the roof becomes saddle-shaped.