

BUS STATION

Bus Station and Art

The city council's £11m glazed bus station offers passengers a modern, comfortable waiting area with upholstered seating, temperature control and automatic entrance doors. Electronic travel information will be displayed at each of the nine boarding areas and the bus station management team will also have offices in the bus station to offer passengers face-to-face information and help. CCTV cameras and regular security patrols will add to the feelings of public safety.

Following a successful bid by the city council for £11m of government funding construction work began early in 2006. All bus services previously based at Eldon Square bus concourse transferred to the new bus station from Sunday, March 18, 2007.

Gillian Merron MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport, unveiled a plaque to officially open the new Bus Station on Tuesday, March 20, 2007.

Bus Station Art

Passengers using the brand new Eldon Square Bus Station in Newcastle in March were the first to see the striking glass installation by artist, Dan Savage. The external glass barrier and 19 glass bay screens with their dynamic contemporary graphics celebrate the vibrancy of the city.

The multi-million pound bus station is a landmark building for Newcastle, designed by CDA Architects. Dan Savage worked closely with the commissioners and architects to create designs for the glass artwork in the bus concourse which reflect the bustling urban environment and hint at the distinctive architectural features around the city.

Dan Savage is an architectural glass artist who is rapidly gaining national recognition for his bold graphic style. "Dan was selected because his work has an urban context and intuitively celebrates a community in motion, a living community. For the Eldon Square Bus station, Dan frames these elements within abstract revelations of existing architecture, acknowledging the navigational markers of our city. The combination of the contemporary with our heritage creates a dynamic sense of place," commented Matthew Lennon, Public Art Office for Newcastle City Council.

Dan's aim with the installation was to create a sense of rhythm as people moved through the bus concourse. He said, "I was interested in creating a dialogue between the screens, and between the public and the artwork. By symbolizing the urban, social, architectural and historical context of Newcastle, I wanted to give the public a sense of ownership of the artwork which celebrates the city they are proud of."