

**SPEIRS  
MAJOR**

Skylon Restaurant,  
London, UK

**LIGHT  
ARCHITECTURE**

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The lighting creates intimacy in the Grade I listed, cavernous space.

CLIENT  
D&D London

INTERIOR DESIGN  
Conran and Partners

PHOTOGRAPHER  
James Newton

PROJECT TEAM  
Mark Major, Andrew  
Howis

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The lighting brief at Skylon was to create the contemporary style and elegance associated with a Conran Restaurant (now D&D London) while remaining in keeping with the 1950s Modernist style of its host building, the Royal Festival Hall, and working within the tight restrictions of a Grade I listing. The client also asked for intimacy in what is otherwise a cavernous space.

The centrepiece of the solution was the design of the chandeliers. Suspended within the space, they break up the height of the room, but their slim elliptical form ensures that they are not overbearing. Winches permit higher suspension in summer to create an airy feel and lower suspension in winter to increase the sense of intimacy. White light sources concealed within the chandeliers were chosen to complement daylight, which then cross-fade across to the warmth of amber sources during the evening. Using forms and materials drawn from the original interior design, the chandeliers sit comfortably within the Modernist interior. As the most prominent part of the overall design, they have become synonymous with the restaurant's identity.

Around the chandeliers, a very light touch was applied to the main architectural elements of the room with simple accenting of the columns and the



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