

Richard Rogers House in Wimbledon Restoration by Gumuchdjian Architects



Iconic Richard Rogers House in Wimbledon features stunning wet rooms clad in HI-MACS®



The breath-taking single-storey home, designed in the 1960s by **Richard Rogers**, has been recently restored by **Gumuchdjian Architects** and is now a most fitting environment for the Harvard University Graduate School of Design (Harvard GSD) fellowship residents as well as a relaxed, spacious setting for on-going events and seminars. Standout features of the renovated Wimbledon House include two wet rooms within the lodge, fully clad in HI-MACS® surfaces.

22 Parkside or **Rogers House** as it's also known, was a blueprint for industrialised housing and a radical departure from more common building methods of the time. It follows a modular format that would allow for the renewal of technology and developing needs over time made possible by the long-life steel portal frame structure, giving the house its iconic appearance. The property is characterised by the then-radical use of fully glazed facades to create a contemporary composition of courtyards, gardens and linked interior space.

Gifted to the University by Lord Rogers and Ruth Rogers, the importance of this building is marked by its Grade 2* heritage listing status, and it beautifully demonstrates the architect's interest of urbanism within architecture.

Oozing modernist industrial design, Richard Rogers' single-storey sixties house is the new HQ for The Harvard GSD's Richard Rogers fellowship programme. Academic Fellows who are taking part in the three-month residency for the research of alternative and sustainable urban futures will enjoy the relaxed, open atmosphere of 22 Parkside. The bright, open-plan setting can also be used for seminars and events run by the University.

Restoration project



Gumuchdjian Architects, whose founder **Philip Gumuchdjian** worked alongside the Richard Rogers Partnership for 18 years before setting up his own practice, led the recent renovation. The ethos was to maintain the design's character rather than the fabric of the building itself.

"Gumuchdjian Architects' proposition to Harvard GSD was to return the house to its original condition, albeit modified to their specific needs," explains Philip Gumuchdjian. "As ever, the success of the project was entirely supported by the vision and sensitivity of the client. Our seemingly simple proposition, tempered by the wish to exploit the advantages of modern materials, resulted in the replacement of the entire roof and all of its asbestos-filled external walls, the demolition of recently added buildings, the removal of new internal partitions, the replacement of its servicing system, the refurbishment and redecoration of the joinery and the reconstruction of the garden in its entirety".

Interior style

The renovated Wimbledon House includes two wet rooms within the lodge, fully clad in HI-MACS® surfaces. Fresh, clean and contemporary, these showering spaces offer practicality combined with a sleek, seamless finish perfect for modern living. Strong, hardwearing and aesthetically appealing, HI-MACS® is solid throughout. Virtually scratchproof, it is also non-porous, making it easy to clean and resistant to stains, moisture and sunlight – the ultimate choice for the legacy of modern design.

"At 22 Parkside, we required a complete wet room solution for the new en-suite shower rooms in the 'lodge' building. The solution had to be of high quality and aesthetically pure, while being equally robust in use to complement the original 1968 design. The result is an apparently seamless custom-made wet room material, lining the shower room walls and floors" - Michael Ramwell, Project Architect for Gumuchdjian Architects.

Perfect for wet rooms and bathrooms



Martin Saxby, Country Manager for LG Hausys in the UK comments: “HI-MACS® is a solid surface material that can be thermoformed into any shape. It is widely used in wet rooms and bathrooms, but also in kitchens, healthcare, public spaces, wall-cladding and various other bespoke pieces.

“Many natural stone and timber surfaces, when used in the home, need time and care. HI-MACS® is maintenance-free, apart from normal everyday cleaning, and of course it’s totally non-porous, and seamless so is ultra-hygienic too – with nowhere for germs to lurk.

“LG Hausys’ HI-MACS® uses a simple heating process to give three-dimensional thermoplastic forming capabilities, allows visually seamless designs, offers a virtually limitless range of colours and so we’re able to offer the longest guarantee for a solid surface material, 15 years if installed by a Quality Club fabricator.”



Chris Cook, Managing Director of Solidity Ltd comments: “The skylights and exposed beams Richard Rogers chose to put over these wet rooms shows the difference and value a brilliant architect can add. In the 15 years we have been using HI-MACS® to make our unique wet room floor and wall system we have seen a lot of great architecture but these spaces are special. We are delighted to have been chosen to provide part of this fabulous project.”

A legacy remembered

“22 Parkside is not just an iconic, flexible machine for living nor simply a historic experimental building that foretold the architect's future work; it is a home and garden with a unique memory, patina and aura. Conserving these qualities within a wholly-renewed twenty-first century urban composition was our aim and hopefully the achievement of the team's work” says Philip Gumuchdjian.

PROJECT REFERENCES

Renovation Project Architect: Gumuchdjian Architects www.gumuchdjian.com

Landscape architect: Todd Longstaffe-Gowan www.tlg-landscape.co.uk

Construction: Piperhill Construction <https://piperhillconstruction.com>

HI-MACS® supplier: Solidity www.solidity.co.uk

Material Wet rooms: HI-MACS® Alpine White www.himacs.eu

Photos: © Petr Krejčí www.petrkrejci.com



HI-MACS® by LG Hausys

www.himacs.eu

HI-MACS® is a solid surface material that can be moulded into any shape. It is widely used for architectural and interior applications, such as sculptural and high performance wall-cladding or kitchen, bathroom and furniture surfaces, in commercial, residential and public space projects. It is composed of minerals, acrylic and natural pigments that come together to provide a smooth, non-porous and visually seamless surface which meets the highest standards for aesthetics, fabrication, functionality and hygiene – offering manifold advantages over conventional materials.

HI-MACS® provides limitless possibilities for surfacing solutions and inspires creative minds from all over the world. **Zaha Hadid, Jean Nouvel, Rafael Moneo, Karim Rashid, Marcel Wanders** and **David Chipperfield**, among others, have completed fabulous projects using HI-MACS®.

At the forefront of innovation as always, in 2017 LG Hausys introduced two new products. First **HI-MACS Structura®**, a 3D textured panel material that takes solid surface opportunities to a new level. And now **HI-MACS® Ultra-Thermoforming**, an innovative formula that pushes the boundaries of solid surface shaping to a whole new level, with 30% more thermoplastic capabilities - the biggest innovation for the Solid Surface history since its inception in 1967.

LG Hausys' HI-MACS® uses a simple heating process to give three-dimensional thermoplastic forming capabilities, allows visually seamless designs, offers a virtually limitless range of colours and – for some shades - exhibits a special translucency when exposed to light. Although HI-MACS® is almost as robust as stone, it can be worked in a similar way as wood: it can be sawn, routed, drilled or sanded.

HI-MACS® is manufactured using a new generation technology, the **thermal cure**. The temperature reached during the manufacturing process sets HI-MACS® apart from other solid surfaces and creates a denser, even more homogeneous, sturdy, durable surface – with a better resistance and superior thermoforming performance.

HI-MACS® does not absorb humidity, is highly resistant to stains, and is easy to clean, maintain and repair.

Countless internationally recognized certificates attest to the quality of HI-MACS® in terms of ecological commitment, hygiene and fire resistance – being the first Solid Surface in the market to receive the official **European Technical Approval (ETA) for façades** – for Alpine White S728 colour.

HI-MACS® offers the longest warranty on the solid surface market with a 15-year warranty for products fabricated by a Quality Club Member.



HI-MACS®. Because Quality Wins.

For more information and to stay connected, visit our [website](#) and our [newsroom](#).

Let's connect!



* **HI-MACS®** is designed and produced by **LG HAUSYS**, a world leader in the technology sector belonging to LG Group, and distributed by **LG HAUSYS EUROPE** based in Frankfurt (Germany).

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