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## PRESS RELEASE

### FORM Design Architecture complete work on alterations to well known London house by David Adjaye's former partner William Russell

Just off London's Brick Lane, the house was built in the 1990s by architect William Russell as his family home, when he was working in partnership with David Adjaye. FORM Design Architecture's alteration and extension of the iconic concrete and glass contemporary house has now been finished.

FORM's scheme is a response to the new owner's requirements for increased upper level living space, linked to a new roof-top garden (to take advantage of the city skyline views). FORM have developed the plan with landscape specialists Urban Roof Gardens.

FORM's sympathetic alterations to the elevations have retained the striking cubic 'lighthouse' aesthetic of the existing building.

#### Key features:

- The enclosure of a 1<sup>st</sup> floor rear lightwell area with a retractable glass roof.
- The partial enclosure of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor terrace, overlooking the principle double-height living space, creating an internal mezzanine area.
- The extension of the concrete stair up into a roof top owner's study and terrace garden, set well back behind the existing parapet.

**Materials:** Continuity of the existing palette of solid, clear glass, and etched glass panels. Manipulation of these to provide natural lighting, outlook and privacy requirements.

**Structure:** The limited capacity of the existing foundations precluded forming the structure of the alterations completely in matching cast in-situ concrete. After careful consideration FORM elected to use concrete only in extending the stairs and stairwell walls thus creating visual continuation, whilst utilising a light (steel & timber) structural solution for the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor enclosure and rooftop extension. In addition, the white painted plasterboard finishes of these new spaces, together with the new glazing augments the open & airy feel to the interior.

**Energy:** With a building characterised by such large areas of glazing, achieving satisfactory energy calculations for the extension has also proved challenging. FORM has divided the house into zones for assessment purposes and has made use of offsets to balance under and over performing areas. These include replacing the glazing originally proposed for the less visible rear elevations (north and west) with highly insulated solid construction.

Ends  
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For further information, please contact:

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## About FORM Design Architecture

FORM Design Architecture is a growing practice based in Bermondsey, London. Directors Jeremy Lingard and Malcolm Crayton established the practice in 1998, after working together at The Bartlett. Since then the practice has designed a wide range of projects for both private and commercial clients including residential, leisure, commercial, exhibitions and mixed developments. The practice is skilled at both new build and renovation, working with sensitive sites and with significant technical challenges.

FORM Design Architecture aims to create places that can be inhabited and experienced by people in a natural and instinctive way. Places with an apparent sense of simplicity which belies their underlying complexity.

For more see: [www.form-architecture.co.uk](http://www.form-architecture.co.uk)