



MOSAIC MAKEOVER

CATEGORY: BEST COMMERCIAL INTERIOR

The former McDonnell & East building has been an iconic part of the history of Brisbane for almost 100 years. Located on the highly prominent corner of George and Tank Streets, this heritage listed building has undergone a transformation that will see it turn into a state-of-the-art landmark commercial building in the heart of the re-emerging George Street precinct.

The building will accommodate a combination of offices and a section of retail space on the ground floor, with two upper floor office tenancies of approximately 1650 square metres.

The addition of top-quality glass mosaic to the outside of the building and in the foyer completes the refurbishment and adds a distinctive touch of class. The external façade and columns and the surrounds of windows at street level have been clad in approximately 100 square metres of Bisazza Vetricolour 20 x 20 mm mosaics. The Italian-made tiles come in a wide range of pure and rich opaque colours, in this case a rich chocolate brown.

A custom mosaic artwork was manufactured by Bisazza in Italy and generated using Computer 20

Technique, a process that enables a drawing or image to be converted into a pixelated mosaic consisting of 20 x 20 mm tiles. The finished product was installed by Bisazza certified installers using Bisazza Fill to perfectly match the mosaic's three distinct colour blends.

Architects have three options when they consider the creation of ceramic artwork of this nature. They can employ the services of an artist who will design and decorate a series of plain tiles, by adding the company name or logo. The second option would involve the application of water jet cutting processes, which allow the precise cutting of the featured letters from virtually any type of tile or natural stone, regardless of its dimensions or density.

Mosaic has been used for centuries to create veritable works of art. In the hands of the skilled mosaicist, virtually any image can be rendered. Bisazza's experienced operatives can work from drawings or photographs to interpret and produce the most complex designs, drawing on their extensive range of classic glass mosaics, which are available in a myriad of colours.

PROJECT:
McDonnell & East Building

ARCHITECT:
Brand & Slater Architects

TILE MANUFACTURER:
Bisazza

TILE RETAILER/FIXER:
Tile Corp, Brisbane

TILE DESCRIPTION:
Bisazza Vetricolour glass mosaic

ROOMS/AREAS TILED:
External façade, columns and window surrounds at street level. Custom-made mosaic mural in lobby.

LOCATION:
Corner George and Tank Streets, Brisbane