

CITY OF LIGHT

PROJECT TYPE **MASTERPLAN & COMMUNITY**

DATES **06/2005 - 03/2006**

CLIENT **BLACKPOOL COUNCIL**

Blackpool's heritage in the field of light reaches back over 100 years when Blackpool Council was awarded a £5000 grant to install the UK's 1st electric street lighting.

The City of Light builds upon Blackpool's tradition in the field of light and provides a platform to study, experience and re-invent light. The proposal for the Second Gate Area includes: A National Museum of Light showing the latest innovations and inventions in light; The Illuminations Experience, showing Blackpool's heritage in the field of light; a Light Lab providing studio space for artists and technologists working in light; and 100 community run satellite projects to illuminate the city's neighbourhoods. The City of Light will operate as a catalyst to drive forward the self-regeneration of Blackpool from within the community. Whereas the buildings provide a series of significant new attractions and enterprise spaces, the satellite projects will ensure that the project will spread into the furthest corners of the town.



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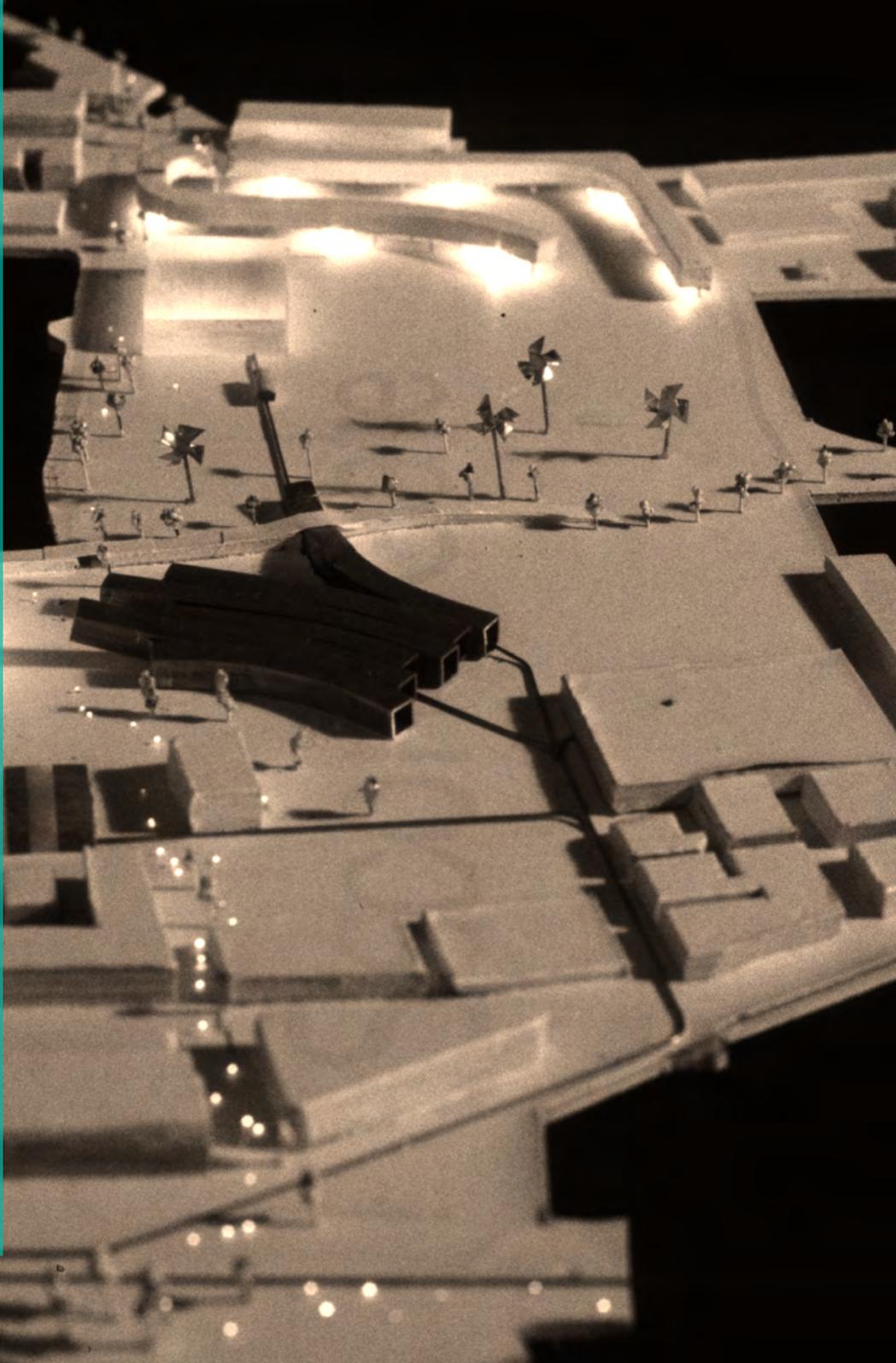
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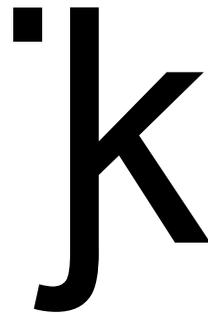
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Jan Kattein Architects worked closely with Blackpool's Illuminations department to draw up a masterplan. Two of the catalyst projects, the Zero Emission Luminaires and Foxhall Night Rainbow were commissioned to generate media interest.

The Zero Emission Luminaires were designed and built by students from University College London from salvaged and re-claimed materials. They were transported to Blackpool during Energy Savings Week and set-up on Caroline Street. Donkey dung and kitchen waste placed in the tanks at the base of the units ferment to create methane gas which was burnt off in the lanterns above. The Foxhall Village night rainbow was designed to bring a sense of delight back into Blackpool's old town.

left: The City of Light model,
right: Luminaire.





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