

Popular pop-up

A short-lived but extremely popular restaurant featured at London's designjunction event. The concept behind the TFL Year of the Bus restaurant and bar was to create an open plan space with a combination of eating areas, comprising central communal dining tables and benches as well as a more traditional café/bistro style area.

This simple, pared-back approach was perfectly echoed in the selection of the newly launched Type 75 Maxi pendant fittings from Angleposie.



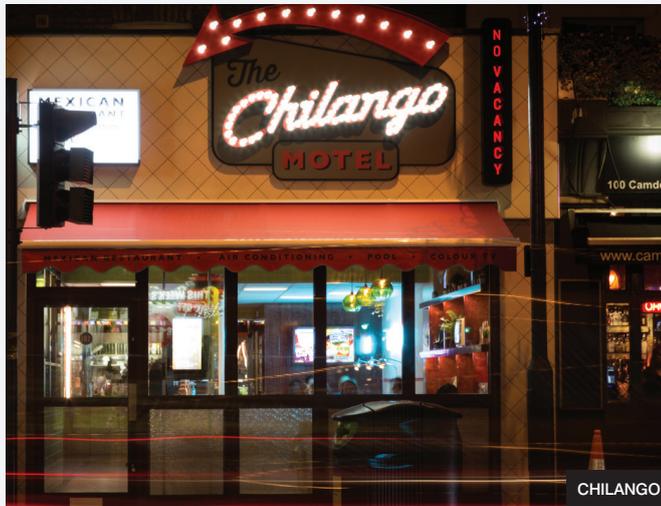
TFL YEAR OF THE BUS RESTAURANT AND BAR

Of course, the majority of restaurants are designed for a longer lifespan, as with Chilango, in Camden. PNLD was given a brief to drive the brand's iconic interior design evolution, moving the theme from back street Mexico to a shabby-chic, motel-style aesthetic. Vivid colour, a sense of fun, and a sprinkling of Latin spirit is at the heart of the lighting design.

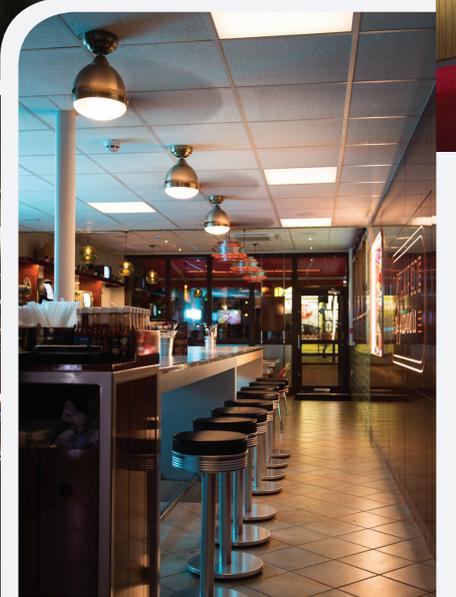
Working in collaboration with the interior design team, PNLD created permeable lighting that draws the eye through and around the restaurant, highlighting the colourful interior. The architectural lighting scheme is bold, striking, and exciting, in support of Chilango's brand aesthetic, but the solution is also low-energy, simple, and cost effective. Atmospheric lighting in the form of ceiling fans gives the impression that the restaurant is enjoying the hot Latin American climate. Making the most of the compact space, PNLD delivered integrated lighting to the skylight void to visually increase the ceiling height, while light features on the wall aid permeability, drawing the eye to the back of the restaurant.

A lighting control system has been employed to provide flexible and dynamic illumination levels that change from day to night, encouraging visitors in at night.

Low-level illumination has been provided in the form of table lamps and shelf lighting, to ensure there is an intimate and cosy atmosphere in the evenings, when the ambient lighting is dimmed down.



CHILANGO





RETAIL

ÉCLECTIC

Parisienne chic

Finally, we take a look at *Éclectique*, the latest venue from critically acclaimed restaurateurs, Fabienne and Philippe Amzalak, who enlisted the help of design empresario, Tom Dixon for the high-end Paris dining experience. The result is a dramatically lit interior, that references the 1970's heritage of the building, yet uses the latest in LED lighting technology to create impact and drama.

By using more than 120 Megaman LED Classic 7W lamps, the scheme will also deliver huge savings in electricity costs. Tom Dixon's Design Research Studio was commissioned to create a scheme that would make the most of the stark concrete interior of the restaurant.

Using the building's heritage, Dixon chose the Cell pendant to light *Éclectique*. Clusters of the pendants have been hung from circular acoustic panels, constructed Chelsom. Located in the main dining room and private dining booths, they create a visual backdrop to the breathtaking 3.5m diameter chandelier that hangs in the centre of the restaurant. Containing 124 Cell pendants, the central chandelier looks dramatic, yet uses minimal energy, thanks to the incorporation of LED lamps.

The company's creative director, Tom Dixon, commented: 'Drawing inspiration from the 1970s architecture surrounding the restaurant, the design plays with colour, simple repeat modules, and clean geometry.'

'The design intends to soften the hard finishes of the contemporary building; warmth and comfort are the key drivers for the interior finishes, and the whole restaurant is furnished in abundance with custom-designed products. The LEDs add warmth and sophistication to the scheme.'

Éclectique is a testament to the power of combining quality design with elegant LED lighting, and of course, great food!

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OLD TOM & ENGLISH

Karen Smart, lighting designer at PNL D, said: 'The lighting design for *Chilango's* is right on brand; it helps set the scene, and demonstrates how the use of colour in illumination can bring interior design to life to enhance the customer experience.'

'Light fittings considered dated and unfashionable by modern standards are used to help re-enforce the brand concept, and give customers a taste of a fun, and vibrant Mexico City experience, yet despite the dated appearance, the latest lighting technology has been used throughout, with most of the luminaires using LED lamp sources.'

Old Tom & English is another of London's atmospheric restaurants, this time with lighting and interior design by Lee Broom. The venue features various lighting styles including: wooden fittings from the One Light Only collection, and a number of different marble lighting from his latest collection, *Nouveau Rebel*.

'I have designed a complete venue concept for Old Tom & English, combining all aspects, including the interior, branding, and elements of the service concept,' explained Broom. 'Marble features throughout the venue in the lighting, the furniture, and right through to the barware and tableware we have created. It is a dream project for a designer and I believe will be a real gem for Soho.'

