



With Nelson's Column and the spire of St-Martin-in-the-Fields nearby, this sphere provides a startling spectacle on the London skyline.

Built in 1904, the London Coliseum is the masterwork of Frank Matcham, leader of turn-of-the-century theatre architecture. It is the largest proscenium theatre in England.

In 2004, a £41 million restoration programme was under way, which included the overhaul of the unique globe sculpture. Originally intended as a rotating sphere, it had remained static for most of the theatre's life, with illumination to give the effect of movement. Smith of Derby's brief was to re-engineer the whole feature and include power transmission to enable the lettering to be lit up.

The globe, driveshaft and mechanism weigh 5 tonnes and offer variable rotation speed.

Client: London Coliseum  
Location: London, UK  
Size: 4m diameter  
Materials: Steel, fibre optic  
Date: 2004  
Ref: 24248

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