

# &CO.

a TOG magazine for collaborators, co-workers and creatives

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## The architects and designers behind TOG buildings describe what makes them work

### Victoria Station



#### Key statistics

Number of floors: 4

Number of meeting rooms: 4

Minutes' walk from tube station: 2

Floor-to-ceiling height: 14.5ft

Victoria Station runs the length of platforms one and two of Victoria Station. The main entrance was on Hudson Place but it's now in a much brighter space inside the station.

The concept of the new design really came straight off the platforms, where they have the luxury British Pullman trains. These trains have been fully refurbished in authentic 1930s style, with their lacquered finishes and silver service – think the Orient Express. There's a real culture around these trains, which pull up right outside the entrance.

We wanted to take inspiration from that era – the Golden Age of Travel – and bring that feel to the present day. You could call it opulent modernism.

The material palette is rich: we've got checkerboard terrazzo floors in dark green and white as you enter the grand entrance hall just off the platform. Go upstairs and you get Bolivian rosewood parquet floors with lots of black polished marble counter tops. And there's lots of velvet and custom seating, which creates a cosy and sophisticated area.

You get the scale and the proportions of the original building now that we've increased the ceiling heights and connected more of the spaces. We're particularly pleased with the new mezzanine – it's such a huge change from what was there before. It's a very comfortable place to sit and work, overlooking the ground floor. It's like a hideaway, where I could imagine getting comfortable, hanging out and spending the whole day.  
*Rowan Taylor, interior architect, Shed Design, shed-design.com*