

HIMACS

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PRESS RELEASE

Sculpting Water: NEON Designs a Landmark Fountain with HIMACS



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Designed for Brent Cross Town by NEON, the Neighbourhood Square Fountain reinterprets the traditional civic fountain as a contemporary sculptural form. HIMACS solid surface was selected for its precision, durability and ability to seamlessly integrate colour, water and complex geometry.

Fountains have traditionally formed the hearts of neighbourhoods, towns and cities, creating landmark gathering points for communities and visitors. While honouring the soothing and multi-sensory properties of water, they also celebrate the unique character of their respective locations by combining art and architecture into meaningful works for the public realm.

For Brent Cross Town, a new 180-acre park town in north London by Related Argent and Barnet Council, interdisciplinary design practice NEON was commissioned to create an iconic installation for “Neighbourhood Square.” Led by architect Mark Nixon and visual artist Viliina Koivisto, the design strategy carefully considers community identity and interaction while ensuring robust, low-maintenance, environmentally sensitive infrastructure that is also emotionally resonant.

“We were interested in creating a piece that could shift between being contemplative and playful, depending on how people choose to engage with it. The Fountain offers calm moments through its sound and movement, but it also invites light-hearted interaction, especially from children. That duality felt important for a public space like this,” says Mark Nixon of NEON.

HIMACS, in vivid and uplifting tones of green and turquoise, was the material of choice for a number of reasons, both aesthetic and practical. This intricate and striking design features a series of stacked, tapering plates that guide water downward, with radial corbels supporting their edges. The gentle shift of the plates introduces a

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High resolution images available: <https://www.lxhausys.com/eu-en/case-studies>

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calm asymmetry, giving the sculpture a variety of intriguing aspects when viewed from different angles and perspectives. These overlaps also create a variety of cascades, enriching the sensory experience of the falling water.

The project demanded a material that could guarantee precision, performance and longevity. HIMACS offers not only the technical and aesthetic sophistication demanded to meet such exact geometries, but also the durability, weather resistance and colour stability required for an exterior installation of this nature. This long-lasting, easy-to-maintain functionality enables peace of mind, while the material's ability to be repaired and reused enhances sustainability and the lifecycle of the installation.



The malleability of HIMACS also offered considerable value to the project, together with its natural compatibility with water. Thermoformable into almost any shape desired and seamlessly joined to create sleek, grout-free surfaces, the material can be worked like wood while having the enduring properties of stone.

An eye-catching, vivid green was chosen for the vertical elements to echo the surrounding landscaping, while a soothing turquoise was chosen for the water tables to echo the appeal of this essential element. The Fountain was opened in November 2025 to the delight of residents in this lively new north London community.

“The Fountain at Neighbourhood Square has swiftly become a focal point, providing a vibrant space for coming together and for restaurants and retailers to spill into and animate,” says Morwenna Hall, Executive Director and COO, Related Argent. “The form and colour of the HIMACS material make The Fountain visually distinct, it is unexpected and joyful, and it purposefully complements the natural surroundings. Our aspiration was to create a true landmark to be treasured by the community for the decades to come.”

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project: The Fountain

Location: Brent Cross Town, London

Design: NEON | www.NEON.uk

HIMACS fabricator: The White Wall | www.thewhitewall.co.uk

HIMACS supplier: James Latham | www.lathamtimber.co.uk

Material: HIMACS | www.lxhausys.com/uk-en

Photography: John Sturrock | www.johnsturrock.com

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HIMACS is a solid surface material that can be moulded into any shape. It is widely used for architectural and interior applications, such as sculptural and high-performance wall cladding or kitchen, bathroom and furniture surfaces, in commercial, residential and public space projects. It is composed of minerals, acrylic and natural pigments that come together to provide a smooth, non-porous and visually seamless surface which meets the highest standards for quality, aesthetics, fabrication, functionality and hygiene – offering many advantages over conventional materials.

HIMACS provides limitless possibilities for surfacing solutions and inspires creative minds from all over the world. **Zaha Hadid, Jean Nouvel, Rafael Moneo, Karim Rashid, Marcel Wanders** and **David Chipperfield**, among others, have completed fabulous projects using HIMACS.

Proud to be at the forefront of innovation, LX Hausys made Solid Surface history with the introduction of **HIMACS Ultra-Thermoforming**, a pioneering formulation which pushes the boundaries of solid surface shaping to significant new levels with 30% greater thermoplastic capability. Furthermore, **HIMACS Intense Ultra** is a groundbreaking advance that now combines the qualities of both **Intense Colour Technology** and **Ultra-Thermoforming**.

To add to the benefits of working with HIMACS, now the iconic HIMACS Alpine White, plus a wide selection of colours, come with SCS certified pre-consumer recycled content for a more sustainable product offering.

HIMACS uses a simple heating process to give three-dimensional thermoplastic forming capabilities, allows visually seamless designs, offers a virtually limitless range of colours and – for some shades – exhibits a special translucency when exposed to light. Although HIMACS is almost as robust as stone, it can be worked in a similar way as wood: it can be sawn, routed, drilled or sanded.

HIMACS is made using a next-generation technology, the **thermal cure**. The temperature reached during the manufacturing process sets HIMACS apart from other solid surfaces and creates a denser surface that is even sturdier, more homogeneous and more durable, and with better resistance and superior thermoforming results.

HIMACS does not absorb humidity, is highly resistant to stains and is easy to clean, maintain and repair. HIMACS is composed from premium-quality materials, ensuring a surface that is free from harmful substances such as silica, formaldehyde, VOC emissions, and nanoparticles. Prioritising health and safety, HIMACS offers peace of mind for any environment.

Countless internationally recognised certificates attest to the quality of HIMACS in terms of ecological commitment, hygiene and fire resistance – being the first Solid Surface in the market to receive the official **European Technical Approval (ETA) for façades** – for the Alpine White S728 colour.

HIMACS offers a 15-year warranty for products fabricated by a Quality Club Member.

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Let's connect!



HIMACS is designed and produced by **LX Hausys (formerly LG Hausys)**, a world leader in the technology sector and a subsidiary of LX Holdings Corp.

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