

Expert lighting manufacturer and supplier, Tyson Lighting, has recently fitted out the Tattu Restaurant and Bar in Manchester – fulfilling an ambitious brief that entailed the company's largest-ever installation of bespoke products.

## TACKLING THE MOST RADICAL OF DESIGN CONCEPTS HEAD-ON



The contemporary Chinese restaurant, located in the fashionable Spinningfields area of Manchester, is inspired by the strong conceptual restaurants found on America's West Coast. Owner Adam Jones, in partnership with his brother Drew, wanted the interior to take customers on a visual journey, drawing decorative influence from different styles of body art.

"The clients, Adam and Drew, both had ambitious plans for the look and feel of Tattu," explains Tyson's MD, Andrew Gibson. "This was certainly apparent in the initial discussions, which included talk of suspended anchors, woven rope lighting and bespoke chandeliers featuring glass skulls encased in cast iron spheres.

"The venue design in itself is very opulent so everything had to be made to the highest quality. We were responsible for bringing some very radical pieces of lighting to life, so from a design point of view we set about prototyping the fittings which could, potentially, give us the most headaches."

The brief asked for a low level of ambient light, but one that highlighted key aspects and design pieces within the interior to capture the essence of the brand. The main colour scheme blends earthy tones with sumptuous blacks and golds, so Tyson was instructed to use lighting that would provide a tapestry of light against these surfaces.

"We fitted many of the products with halogen lamps to provide a flame-like appearance," says

Andrew. "However, with the building falling under new energy consumption compliance regulations, the use of LEDs was compulsory. So, to match the light to the halogens, we used specialist Sora lamps which use colour-changing filters to alter the colour temperature of each lamp as required."

The rope ceiling, being a special feature in itself, required lighting that highlighted its presence, yet that didn't impact on other features, such as the illumination of the blossom tree and skyscraper pendants. Tyson therefore used high-level track-mounted spotlights facing upward to flood light onto the ceiling, while spotlights are positioned on the same track to wash down the walls and highlight the textures of the wall panels.