

LASSCO & Ropewalk



In the ever-changing London the flux of new within historic places is constant. Ropewalk provides a natural congregating space where the historic locals meet the new arrivals.

HISTORY: ROPEWALK & THE AMOS FAMILY

Ropewalk incorporates a fabulous series of Victorian brick-built railway arches and is home to the **LASSCO** (London Architectural Salvage and Supply Company) warehouse shop and working timber yard. Ropewalk is also home to restaurants **40 Maltby St**, **St Johns**, **LASSCO bar & dining**, **Tozino** and café **Comptoir Gourmand**, with **Maltby Street Market** popping up at the weekend.

Just eastwards, and now entirely concealed, the railway arches span the River Neckinger that flows into the Thames at Jacob's Island. Jacob's Island, the area of Bermondsey riverfront immediately east of St. Saviour's Dock, was once one of South London's earliest and worst slums; celebrated in fiction as Bill Sykes' lair in Charles Dicken's *Oliver Twist*. The area was developed by the early 18th century, but the worst of the rookery was cleared in the 19th century to make way for warehouses.

ADRIAN, GEORGE & HARRY AMOS

The Amos involvement with architectural salvage goes back to the early 1970's. It was then that Adrian Amos began his gradual and haphazard migration from the family trade of cabinet and furniture making through restoration and eventually into the salvage and supply of reclaimed architectural fittings and antiques.

The family has its working roots in the South Shoreditch furniture trade and when demand for newly made furniture (and the skills attendant on that trade) began to decline after the War, Amos Sr. began collecting and dealing in the architectural cast-offs of a Post-War London that seemed committed to eradicating its historic buildings.

In 1979 Adrian returned to Shoreditch, setting up the London Architectural Salvage and Supply Company, raising his sons George and Harry Amos up to the family trade. In a sprawling deconsecrated church on Leonard Street, the business that today inhabits premises in Bermondsey, Vauxhall and Oxfordshire, grew.

Adrian still runs the company and has a hand in the everyday running across all three sites. George is one of the directors of LASSCO and specialises in furniture, fittings and other interior elements. Harry's specialty is reclaimed flooring.



Ian Banfield, Nick Newman

Adrian Gono, Aimee Sajjan-Servaes, Rosie Oliver

George Amos, Rosie Oliver, Aimee Sajjan-Servaes, Nick Newman



The full timber team: Jake Brown, Charlie Brown, Nick Newman, Harry Amos

THE LASSCO TEAM

Nick Newman

Managing Director Nick joined LASSCO 12 years ago as a junior salesperson for flooring. His specialty is reclaimed timber and flooring.

Ian Banfield

Ian is LASSCO's in-house product designer, as well as having an operational role alongside Nick.

George Amos

George is one of the directors of LASSCO and specialises in mid-century furniture and fittings.

Aimee Sajjan-Servaes

Aimee is resident artist and heads homeware sales, she has a background in set and costume design for theatre and film.

Rosie Oliver

Rosie looks after textiles, she has a background in fashion and as a print designer. Rosie has worked in London and New York.

Adrian Gono

Adrian has a background in design, and is responsible for making all the lights look sexy in the shop.

Oscar Brown

Born and bred Bermondsey boy, Oscar is the Timber Yard manager.

In-depth LASSCO Ropewalk profiles



Nick Newman, Managing Director, LASSCO Ropewalk

Nick Newman joined LASSCO as a junior salesperson for flooring after reading The Independent's property section and seeing LASSCO featured in it. 11 years later, Nick has found his home amongst the timber at LASSCO.

Originally from Dorset, Nick came to London and studied English at Goldsmiths, before travelling and working in various jobs, including PR for a bar group in London. But it was Nick's avid interest in all aspects of design that led him to LASSCO Ropewalk. Clean lines, raw materials, polished concrete and creating the right spaces for objects and materials is rooted in Nick's design aesthetic. Nick particularly loves material-led design, with a focus on textures. Favourite designers include clothes designer De Rien and interior designer James Plumb (particularly the work they did for Hostem).

Unique to LASSCO is its years of experience, who claim Grandfather rights to the reclaimed flooring industry, something that instantly attracted and held Nick's attention. A company that specialises in reclaimed materials, Nick shares the same philosophy as England's prime source for architectural salvage and curiosities company: reclaimed materials need to be respected, which is something that takes knowledge and expertise. Reclaimed materials and products are sustainable, and Nick - a self proclaimed romantic - sees the job of a reclamation expert as someone who recuses forgotten items.

This personal passion has spurred Nick to become more involved with Made by LASSCO: a bespoke design service supported by LASSCO's in-house designers that draws on their skills to create a range of originals, from textiles to tables. Nick wants to see this side of the business grow and become the first port of call for designers and architects looking for interesting and characterful materials. Whether it be flooring from notable buildings, their demolitions and refurbishments; wide oak board; pine floorboards; herringbone parquet from institutions and libraries; chevron, strip, tongue-and-groove or Parquet de Versailles; or floorboards milled from un-usual sources like warehouse beams, SNCF railway trucks, Romanian log-cabins. The growth of Made by LASSCO will be reinforced by a trend spotted by Nick: people are becoming more conscious about sustainable materials and thus opening up to ideas and designs you can create with reclaimed materials and in particular, reclaimed wood for flooring.



Ian Banfield is the LASSCO Ropewalk in-house product designer, as well as having an operational role – he orchestrated the move from 41 Maltby St warehouse to 37 Maltby St – some may say he does all the jobs that others don't want to do.

With a degree in furniture and product design, he has spent most of his career as a designer, but also as a builder. These skills have come together at LASSCO Ropewalk, Ian is responsible for Made By LASSCO products, such as tables and benches from reclaimed wood, lighting, and building bars (Brunswick House, St Johns, Little Bird, LASSCO bar & dining).



George Amos

George is one of the directors of Ropewalk and looks after interior elements.

George spent his high school years in Malaysia, where the wooden hand carved Hindu temples sparked his passion in architectural design. Whilst studying journalism in California he learned of the rebels such as Frank Gehry and the Case Study Houses, defining his interest in the modernist movement.

Pieces that capture his eye are rare mid-century, beautiful but functional design.



Rosie Oliver (left) is the LASSCO specialist in textiles, a role that includes, buying, sourcing and commissioning textile pieces. The textiles department includes rugs, carpets and cushions, linen (antique and vintage), and bespoke pieces by UK based designers.

Rosie studied textiles at the Chelsea College of Art. After graduation she spent time in New York first interning and then working as a print designer for fashion houses Diane Von Furstenberg and Phillip Lim.

Moving back to London, Rosie continued in the fashion industry, working in production and as a freelance print designer for Victoria Beckham, Nicole Farhi and Maarten Van Der Horst. Slowly moving into the interiors world spending some time working with Christopher Howe. Rosie enjoys her autonomy at LASSCO and varied nature of her role and the shared openness to ideas and creativity.

Aimee Sajjan-Servaes (right) heads up homeware at LASSCO Ropewalk. Her background is in set and costume design for theatre and film, and illustration and is a graduate from University of the Arts London.

At LASSCO Aimee sources unique homeware pieces, reclaimed and new. Most recently LASSCO obtained a whole kitchen's worth of crockery and tableware from Le Chabonais, Mayfair, (now currently adorning the Michelin starred Ellory, London). Aimee also helps source items that are reproductions of classically designed homeware accessories - such as therange of bulkhead lights and luggage rack shelving. Aimee's ethos is to buy UK made products where possible, but sources from craftsmen from all over the world who use traditional and ecologically aware methods and materials.



LASSCO Timber Yard & The Brown Brothers

Bermondsey born and bred, the Brown brothers are an integral part of LASSCO. Oscar (left) manages the timber yard, and when Jake (right) is not being a fireman he is also on the yard helping with the timber. Their brother Charlie has been known to help out, and even their father gets called up when Oscar desperately needs an extra pair of hands!

Oscar started as a Yardman, sweeping, de-nailing timber, doing all the jobs no one wanted to do – “this is a place where hard work does not go unnoticed”.

Oscar came to work at LASSCO after trying his hand at scaffolding with his brother and father-in-law, but realised that heights were not his thing. Previously Oscar had run a stall in Borough Market (Piemminster), and worked as a griller making gourmet sandwiches (The Guild), and was a full-time boxer. Oscar’s connection with LASSCO comes from his brother Jake who has worked at LASSCO off and on between shifts as a fireman, when extra help is needed, for years and through his brother Charlie’s friendship with Harry Amos, and Oscar knew George Amos from boxing. It was from stories of LASSCO from his brothers – the fun, the people – and knowing the Amos brothers that encouraged Oscar came to join the company. What started out as stop-gap job became something that Oscar loved.

What makes LASSCO special to Oscar is what it stands for – providing jobs to local people, it is a little bit of history; it is somewhat old fashioned, but very community minded. Oscar can go day to day and not see the same thing, he always feels like he’s learning, such as a new type of timber. It is the people that make LASSCO and Ropewalk what it is.

A lot has changed in the last five years in Bermondsey, Tower Bridge Road was somewhere you would only walk if you had your wits about you, now it’s arguable the most regenerated part of the area.

To Oscar the heart of Bermondsey is a real community, it is still predominantly working class and people who look out for each other. Ropewalk epitomises how Bermondsey can work well – one side of the arches is an estate, the other side are new, expensive apartments. Ropewalk caters for both, it ties in the community and everyone’s a winner.



LASSCO bar & dining is set within the Ropewalk warehouse. Serving refined food in an architectural salvage company might not seem like an obvious match but the space is beautiful and lends itself to being a place for friends and family to gather, enjoy and experience food somewhere a little different.

Jerome Slesinski and his team have created a seasonal, ingredient-led food and drinks menu. We have an a la carte food menu available for breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as weekly prix fixe specials menu. The drinks menu complements the food with carefully created cocktails, Bermondsey craft beers, natural wines and London roasted Dark Arts coffee.

Our ethos is to create an atmosphere that is relaxed and fun with an emphasis on quality ingredients. The kitchen and the bar work in collaboration, offering little bits of luxury, with ingredient-led drinks, and cooking with booze!

LASSCO's association with food and drink, through [Maltby Street Market](#) and [Brunswick House](#), has grown organically over the years with an emphasis on the local – the people, the product and the place.

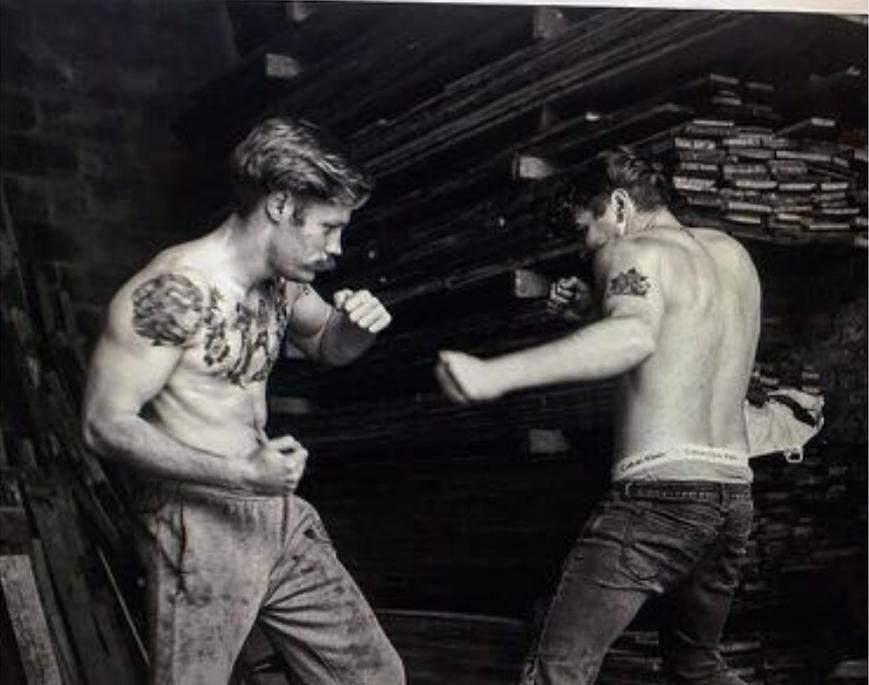
Jerome Slesinski bar & dining General Manager

Originally from Hastings and cut his teeth in the hospitality world by running traditional pubs. Jerome trained and worked as a chef for three years, developing his palate, understanding flavours, food, and the relationship between what's on your plate and what's in your glass.

Jerome created the hit pop-up cocktail bar above the Ten Bells pub in Shoreditch and has consulted on various London brands and restaurants, including the Bermondsey distilled Jensen's gin. Jerome's ethos is about creating bars that have a fun atmosphere where anyone can relax, where there is equal attention to wine, beer, cocktails and food. His worst nightmare is a fussy cocktail bar, where no one talks about anything but the cocktails!

www.LASSCObar.co.uk
[@LASSCO_bar](#)

Open Monday – Sunday for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.
Check website for kitchen service times.



For further press enquires, details about LASSCO, images, Ropewalk and individuals please contact Frankie Reddin: