Jurassic jewel revealed in the heart of London
Joanna Fortnam meets the man behind a stunning new fernery in South Kensington’s Royal College of Art

South Kensington, London’s museum district, is full of impressive buildings housing treasure troves of natural history. From the Victoria & Albert Museum to the American Museum of Natural History, these institutions house incredible collections of fossils, minerals, and more. However, the Royal College of Art (RCA) is a less obvious gem, tucked away in the heart of London. Its new fernery is a testament to the beauty and diversity of plant life.

The RSA’s glasshouse, designed by David Adjaye, is a stunning example of contemporary architecture. The glass walls allow natural light to flood the space, creating a serene and peaceful atmosphere. The fernery is home to a collection of rare and unusual ferns, many of which are native to the UK. The glasshouse is also home to a number of other plants, including orchids and cacti.

The new fernery is a popular destination for visitors to the RCA, who come to admire the collection and learn about the plants on display. The RSA has a well-deserved reputation for excellence in architecture, and the new fernery is no exception. The design is both functional and aesthetically pleasing, with a focus on sustainability and energy efficiency.

The RSA’s commitment to sustainability is evident in the way the building is designed and constructed. The use of sustainable materials and energy-efficient systems is a testament to the RSA’s dedication to creating a more sustainable future. The new fernery is a great example of how architecture and design can work together to create beautiful spaces that are also good for the environment.

The RSA’s new fernery is a remarkable achievement, and a testament to the power of design and innovation. It is a reminder that even in the heart of a bustling city, there is room for nature and beauty. The RSA’s new fernery is a true gem, and a must-see for anyone interested in architecture, design, or the natural world.