

3 The Haçienda

The Haçienda nightclub is synonymous with the 'Madchester' years. During the 80s and early 90s, the nightclub run by Factory Records, was famous for the rise of acid house and rave music – it is considered by Peter Saville as the birthplace of the 90s. The last 'rave' took place in 2001 when the venue was used in the film *24 Hour Party People* starring Steve Coogan, before being rebuilt as apartments.

4 Bridgewater Hall

Opening in 1996, the Bridgewater Hall is the home of the Hallé Orchestra - the oldest professional orchestra in Britain. The international concert venue hosts over 250 concerts per year. The focal point of the 2,400 seat auditorium is the magnificent 5,500 pipe organ that beautifully fills the rear wall with wood and burnished metal.

www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk

5 Barbirolli Square

The square outside the Bridgewater Hall is named after Sir John Giovanni Battista Barbirolli – Chief Conductor of the Hallé Orchestra for 25 years. A bust of Barbirolli outside the Bridgewater Hall recognises the work he did rebuilding the orchestra in the 1940s.

In the centre of Barbirolli Square lies the *Ishinki – Touchstone* by Kan Yasuda. The 18 tonne polished marble has a tactile nature that invites passers-by to stroke the stone. The word *Ishinki* was translated by Yasuda as a form returning to its heart.

6 Deansgate Station and G-MEX Metrolink

Today an elevated bridge integrates the railway with the Metrolink tram service, taking passengers high above the road and canal towpath way below.

www.gmpte.com

7 Manchester Central

Manchester Central was originally built as a railway station where it served passengers from 1880 to 1969. In 1986, it was reopened as the Greater Manchester Exhibition Centre (G-MEX for short). Today it is known again by its original name, Manchester Central. It hosts conferences, exhibitions and concerts. Everyone from Tony Blair to U2 have appeared on stage here.

www.manchestercentral.co.uk