An audio and visual artwork called The Choral Forest has been embedded into the new Mittal Children’s Medical Centre at London’s Great Ormond Street Hospital. Renowned practicing artists, Shona Illingworth and Henna Nadeem, were commissioned to create an evocative artwork that would provide patients and visitors with a space to visit for quiet reflection.

Henna Nadeem undertook the visual element of the collaborative project, while Shona Illingworth was responsible for the sound. The resulting Choral Forest creates a rich magical woodland scene that includes bird song and ambient sounds of the forest, which aims to provide a welcome distraction from the hustle and bustle of the hospital environment. Shona chose to use Feonic’s Invisible Speaker technology for a number of reasons, as she explains: “Having used Feonic’s audio technology in previous projects, I was aware that as a company, they are pushing the boundaries on what is possible in terms of how the audio technology works. For this commission, we have been able to modulate the volume to the ambience in the surrounding area, and so it rises and falls with the noise levels within the vicinity.

Another distinct advantage of installing the Whispering Window audio device into the artwork was its ‘invisible quality’ as Shona confirms: “For public artworks, there are a number of reasons why the Feonic technology is special; the main one being that you can’t actually see the speakers.”