



Nikolaisaal concert hall Potsdam

...on their way to a concert, visitors pass first through the Baroque section, then cross the 1930s foyer, before finally taking their seats in this concert hall at the heart of the Baroque city. Here the architecture with its space, form, materials, light and music, gains its temperament from the Baroque context." (R.R.)

The product of the conversion of a church in 1934, the Nikolaisaal was partially demolished, leaving just a third of the original building, to be used as a foyer. A new hall, like the body of a musical instrument, fits neatly into this two-storey space with its strictly rationalist design. The rear wall, clad in flame maple, contrasts with the cool elegance of the completely black, almost dematerialised foyer.

In contrast to the severe foyer, the hall is characterised by warm colours and soft, curved lines. The ceiling and wall design is based entirely on the acoustic requirements of a classical concert hall.

Client

Stadtverwaltung Potsdam

Architecture

HHS Planer + Architekten AG, Kassel in Partnerschaft mit Rudy Ricciotti Architecte D.P.L.G., F - Bandol

Structural engineering

Dr. Zauft & Partner, Potsdam

Lighting concept

Thorsten Braun, Limburg

Acoustics

Thermibel, Grenoble

Planning and building dates 10/1997 - 08/2000

Hall volume 7.100 m³

Cost 12,5 Mio. Euro

Awards

German Façade Prize (2001)

Second German Architecture Prize Putz (2002)

