

# Kunsthaus Zürich

Zurich, Switzerland 2008–2020

The new Kunsthaus Zürich extension, designed by David Chipperfield Architects Berlin, expands the existing Kunsthaus museum, situated between the Grossmünster church and the university. The Kunsthaus Zürich now represents the largest art museum in Switzerland, comprising four buildings from different eras – the Moser building (1910), the Pfister building (1958), the Müller building (1976) and now the Chipperfield extension (2020). The new freestanding building houses the collection of classic modernism, the Bührle collection, temporary exhibitions and art from 1960 onwards.

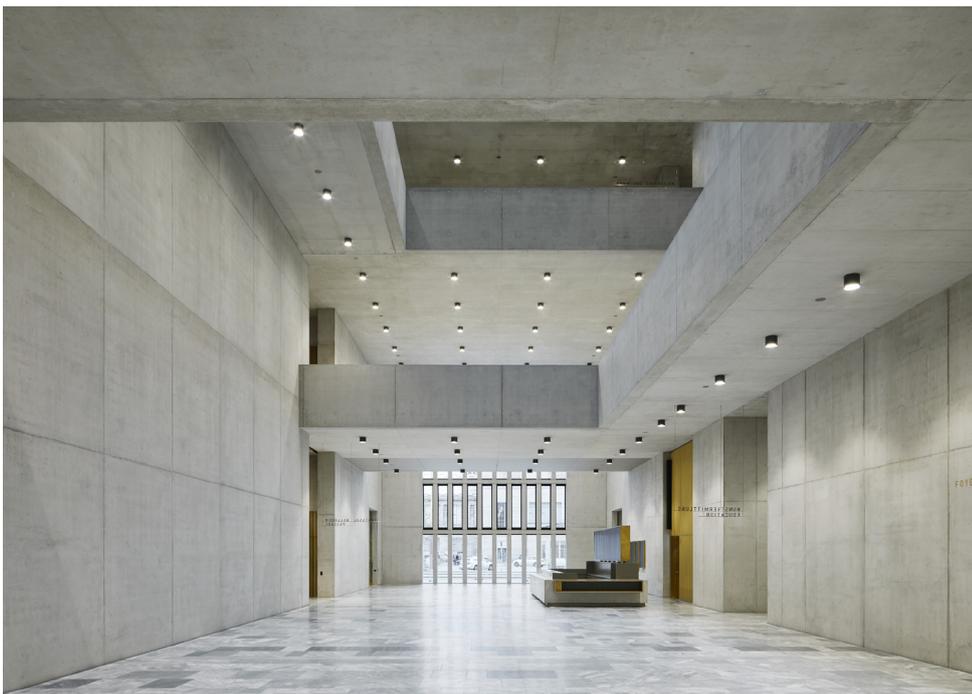
Based on the Central Campus masterplan published in 2007, the museum buildings and the Schauspielhaus theatre located on the east side of the urban square Heimplatz, form a gateway of the arts as an urban entry to the education mile. Here, the large freestanding buildings of Zurich's universities are lined up like a string of pearls leading northwards.

The urban concept for the extension envisaged the placement of a clear geometric volume on the northern edge of the square. The building form takes inspiration from the old cantonal school, built in 1842 to the north of the site, which defines the urban frame with its architectural clarity. The urban plan defines two new external spaces: the urban square to the south, framed on all four sides by buildings and the new Garden of Art to the north as an open and permeable natural environment. An expansive entrance hall, spanning the full length of the building, creates a link between these two new urban spaces. Due to its low-threshold accessibility it likewise acts as a public link between the institution and the city. A visitor passageway running underneath the square connects the new building with the existing Kunsthaus, creating one institutional entity.

The architectural identity is modelled on traditional stone façades, as found in the existing Kunsthaus and many other significant public buildings in Zurich. The extension is therefore embedded in a building culture that is an expression of an enlightened civil society. The new building combines tradition and innovation through slender vertical fins crafted from local Jurassic limestone with sawn surfaces and placed at regular intervals in the façade, embedding the building in its urban and cultural context in a contemporary manner.

The internal organisation is based on the concept of a 'house of rooms'. This idea finds its expression in the different design of the rooms in terms of size, orientation, materiality and lighting, giving each its own character and creating a diverse sequence of spaces. All public functions such as the café/bar, events hall, museum shop and museum education services are arranged around the central entrance hall at ground floor level, while the two upper floors are reserved exclusively for the display of art. The varyingly dimensioned exhibition spaces are characterised by a calm materiality and an abundance of daylight – side light on the first floor and skylight openings on the second floor – placing the immediate experience of art at the centre of the visitor experience.

Competition	2008
Project start	2009
Completion due	2020
Gross floor area	23,300 m <sup>2</sup>
Client	Einfache Gesellschaft Kunsthaus Erweiterung – EGKE
Architect	David Chipperfield Architects Berlin



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Client	Einfache Gesellschaft Kunsthaus Erweiterung – EGKE
User	Kunsthhaus Zürich   Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft
Architect	David Chipperfield Architects Berlin
Partners	David Chipperfield, Christoph Felger (Design lead), Harald Müller
Project architects	Hans Krause (Competition, Concept design), Barbara Koller (Schematic design, Design development, Technical design), Jan Parth (Technical design, Site design supervision), Markus Bauer (Deputy project architect, 2009–2014), Robert Westphal (Deputy project architect, 2015–2020)
Project team	Wolfgang Baumeister, Leander Bulst, Beate Dauth, Kristen Finke, Pavel Frank, Anne Hengst, Ludwig Jahn, Frithjof Kahl, Guido Kappius, Jan-Philipp Neuer, Mariska Rohde, Diana Schaffranek, Eva-Maria Stadelmann, Marc Warrington; Graphics, Visualisation: Konrad Basan, Dalia Liksaite, Maude Orban, Ken Polster, Antonia Schlegel, Simon Wiesmaier, Ute Zscharnt
Competition team	Ivan Dimitrov, Kristen Finke, Annette Flohrschütz, Pavel Frank, Gesche Gerber, Peter von Matuschka, Sebastian von Oppen, Mariska Rohde, Franziska Rusch, Lilli Scherner, Lani Tran Duc, Marc Warrington; Graphics, Visualisation: Dalia Liksaite, Antonia Schlegel, Ute Zscharnt <i>In collaboration with</i>
Executive architect	b + p baurealisation ag, Zurich (Procurement, Construction supervision), Project architects: David Michel, Christian Gruober
Overall management	Niels Hochuli, Dreicon AG, Zurich
Structural engineer	IGB Ingenieurgruppe Bauen, Karlsruhe dsp - Ingenieure & Planer AG, Greifensee Ingenieurgemeinschaft Kunsthauserweiterung, Zurich
Services engineer	Polke, Ziege, von Moos AG, Zurich Hefti. Hess. Martignoni. Holding AG, Aarau
Building physics	Kopitsis Bauphysik AG, Wohlen
Fire consultant	Gruner AG, Basel ContiSwiss, Zurich
Façade consultant	Emmer Pfenninger Partner AG, Munchenstein
Lighting consultant	matf AG Lichtgestaltung, Adliswil (Artificial light) Institut für Tageslichttechnik, Stuttgart (Daylight)
Signage	L2M3 Kommunikationsdesign GmbH, Stuttgart
Landscape architect	Wirtz International nv, Schoten KOLB Landschaftsarchitektur GmbH, Zurich