

PRESS KIT



THE NEW MKM **Museum Küppersmühle für Moderne Kunst, Duisburg**

New Extension by Herzog & de Meuron **and New Presentation of the Ströher Collection**

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Herzog & de Meuron

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Stiftung für Kunst und Kultur, Bonn

THE NEW MKM – Inauguration of the New Extension by Herzog & de Meuron and New Presentation of the Ströher Collection

P R E S S C O N F E R E N C E

Thursday, 23.09.2021, 11 am in the MKM

with

Jacques Herzog (Herzog & de Meuron)

Sören Link (Lord Mayor of the City of Duisburg)

Walter Smerling (Director MKM)

The Ruhr region is celebrating a new landmark: Following a four-year construction, the extension to the Küppersmühle Museum, designed by Herzog & de Meuron, has now reached completion. From September 25, 2021, the museum will throw open its doors to visitors once again. With the presentation of works from the Ströher Collection across an additional 2,500 m² of space, the MKM is set to become a central venue for German and European post-war art. On display are some 300 works, spanning the immediate post-war period to the present day.

Bricks on the outside, White Cube on the inside: The MKM extension combines industrial culture with contemporary museum architecture. In keeping with the original conversion of the historical grain mill into a museum (1999), Herzog & de Meuron have once again taken their cue from the existing MKM building and the architecture of the Inner Harbour. Three structures of varying height continue the museum to form a new main edifice, which harmoniously rounds off the row of buildings flanking the harbour basin. With its striking redbrick façade, the new extension terminates in a square boasting 35 newly-planted sycamore trees - a green urban oasis.

In the interior, a sequence 36 brightly-lit and clearly-structured collection rooms provide the ideal, spacious setting for the exhibited art works. As part of the extension construction, the historic silos were also refurbished and integrated into the new structure, from which bridges on the first and second upper-levels forge a connection between the new and existing galleries. Both in respect of their exterior appearance and their original material, the silos themselves have been preserved as an industrial monument. A platform on the silos, which, depending on the time of year and the weather, is accessible to the public, offers a sweeping view over the Ruhr region.

"The extension accords with the sequence of impressive historical brick structures lining the dockside. Consequently, the new structure completes the existing museum and harbour basin in a visually appropriate way, and forms a suitable conclusion to the row of buildings along the harbour basin. The new project constitutes an integrating and complementary architecture."

Herzog & de Meuron, 2021

The project has been enabled by the commitment of the privately run MKM foundation, which was initiated by the collectors Sylvia and Ulrich Ströher, who have also collaborated instrumentally in the planning and hanging of the exhibition rooms. The focus in the new building will lie on the Informel and abstract works of German artists, augmented by several positions of European post-war art. The Ströher Collection features a broad selection of works by the following artists: Afro, Josef Albers, Hans Arp, Willi Baumeister, Bernd and Hilla Becher, Anna and Bernhard Blume, Peter Brüning, Alberto Burri, Rafael Canogar, Abraham David Christian, Karl Fred Dahmen, Jean Dubuffet, Jean Fautrier, Adolf Fleischmann, Rupprecht Geiger, K.O. Götz, Otto Herbert Hajek, Hans Hartung, Bernhard Heiliger, Gerhard Hoehme, Anselm Kiefer, Norbert Kricke, Georges Mathieu, Brigitte und Martin Matschinsky-Denninghoff, Georg Meistermann, Manolo Millares, Ernst Wilhelm Nay, Jean-Paul Riopelle, Otto Ritschl, Giuseppe Santomaso, Antonio Saura, David Schnell, Bernard Schultze, Emil Schumacher, Jaroslav Serpan, K.R.H. Sonderborg, Pierre Soulages, Antoni Tàpies, Fred Thieler, Hann Trier, Hans Uhlmann, Emilio Vedova, Maria Helena Vieira Da Silva, Fritz Winter and Wols.

The rooms within the existing MKM building have also largely been rehung, primarily with examples of later German post-war art from Georg Baselitz, Jürgen Brodwolf, Abraham David Christian, Günther Förg, Christoph M. Gais, Winfred Gaul, Gotthard Graubner, Ernst Hermanns, Anselm Kiefer, Imi Knoebel, Thomas Lehnerer, Markus Lüpertz, A.R. Penck, Gerhard Richter, Reiner Ruthenbeck, Michael Schoenholtz, Heinrich Siepmann, Walter Stöhrer and Rudolf Wachter.

On display in the large hall on the third upper-level of the extension are works by Erwin Bechtold, as a reminiscence of his 2020 exhibition which was curtailed by the pandemic. In a later hanging, the complete cycle "Original and Forgery" by Sigmar Polke will be exhibited for the first time, and the recurrent re-hanging of rooms and unveiling of further works from the Ströher Collection forms part of the overall presentational concept. In travelling exhibitions, specific collection positions will also be showcased, as with Hanne Darboven's recent major show "The Rainmaker" or the currently running major Andreas Gursky retrospective.

"The collection mediates an essential chapter of post-war German art history", explains MKM director Walter Smerling. "The centrepiece, as it were, are the informel and abstract painters, the 'founding fathers' of German postwar art, such as Willi Baumeister, K.O. Götz or Emil Schumacher, together with their European colleagues Emilio Vedova, Maria Helena Vieira Da Silva or Wols. Also the following generation, which intensively confronted German history - Anselm Kiefer, Georg Baselitz, Gerhard Richter etc. - is also represented with key works. At the same time, the collection is highly personal, which lends it its unique character and vitality. One can sense the enthusiasm for abstraction across the decades, as evidenced by works from Walter Stöhrer, Christoph M. Gais or David Schnell. And the principal objective of the collectors, namely to present "their" artists with selections of works from across the different creative phases of their careers is a godsend for the museum. For now visitors can experience German art history first-hand, compare the teacher and student generations, and trace the artistic development of famous individual artists. The extension, and the new opening, which will see the collection presented on this scale for the first time, represents a priceless asset for the artistic landscape of the Federal Republic of Germany."

Construction history

The MKM is a striking industrial monument from the 19th century, which at the time was erected as a mill works and operated as such until its closure in 1972. On the basis of the masterplan devised by the British architect Sir Norman Foster for the Duisburg Inner Harbour, the former industrial

wasteland was redeveloped into a multifunctional quayside service park – with office and apartment space, and hospitality, culture and leisure amenities - as part of the International Architecture Exhibition Emscher Park (1989–1999). A former grain mill was thus converted into the **MKM Museum Küppersmühle for Modern Art**.

Commissioned with the site redevelopment were the Basle-based architects Herzog & de Meuron. Between 1997-1999 they transformed the old warehouse into a centre for art, which met all the exacting requirements demanded of a modern museum - with an exhibition space measuring some 3,600 m² across three floors, and boasting an architecture distinguished by clarity and reduction. From the inside, the spectacular winding stairtowers – fashioned from terracotta-coloured concrete - resemble a gigantic sculpture, and draws our eyes inexorably upwards.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Operator - Who is behind the MKM?

Since 1999, overall responsibility for the conception, organisation and management of the MKM has been entrusted to the Bonn-based Foundation for Art and Culture, which operates in close cooperation with the MKM Foundation and the collector couple Sylvia and Ulrich Ströher. For the past 30 years, the Foundation has actively served as a thinktank, driver and organiser of projects embracing the entire spectrum of contemporary art. It not only runs the MKM, but also stages exhibitions both at home and abroad, holds cultural discussions and installs art in the public space. The objective: To promote dialogue, and - to paraphrase Joseph Beuys - "help shape society".

Further information available at:

stiftungkunst.de // Instagram: @stiftungkunstbonn // Twitter: @stiftungkunst

Contact

MKM Museum Küppersmühle für Moderne Kunst
Philosophenweg 55, 47051 Duisburg (Innenhafen)

T +49 (0)203 – 30 19 48 -10/ -11

F +49 (0)203 – 30 18 48 -21

office@museum-kueppersmuehle.de

www.museum-kueppersmuehle.de

Instagram: @museumkueppersmuehle | Twitter: @kueppersmuehle

Directions

LPT: Bus line 934, bus stop Hansegracht

Parking: carpark opposite the museum (3 hours free of charge, ticket validation in the MKM)

Opening hours

Wed 2pm - 6pm | Thu-Sun 11am - 6pm | Public holidays 11am - 6pm

Tickets

At the box office and online at: www.museum-kueppersmuehle.de

Prices*

Exhibitions: 6 euro, concessions 3 euro

Entire museum: 12 euro, concessions 6 euro

Children up to 16 years old: free admission

Families (2 adults + children): 18 euro entire museum; 10 euro exhibitions

Children's groups (school, daycare, day trips): 2 euro per child and carer

*Information on ticket concessions available at www.museum-kueppersmuehle.de

Covid-19 Notice

Compulsory masks (FFP2) and minimum distance of 1.50 m.

Admission restrictions (person/m²) and mandatory testing are dependent on current regulations.

Due to the changing situation, please check for the latest information and applicable Corona measures on our website before your visit!

Press contact

Send/Receive, Berlin

Jeremy Higginbotham

Tel. +49 (0)170 783 4100

Email: jeremy@sendreceive.eu

Sander Manse

Tel. +49 (0)170 473 7129

Email: sander@sendreceive.eu

Press material

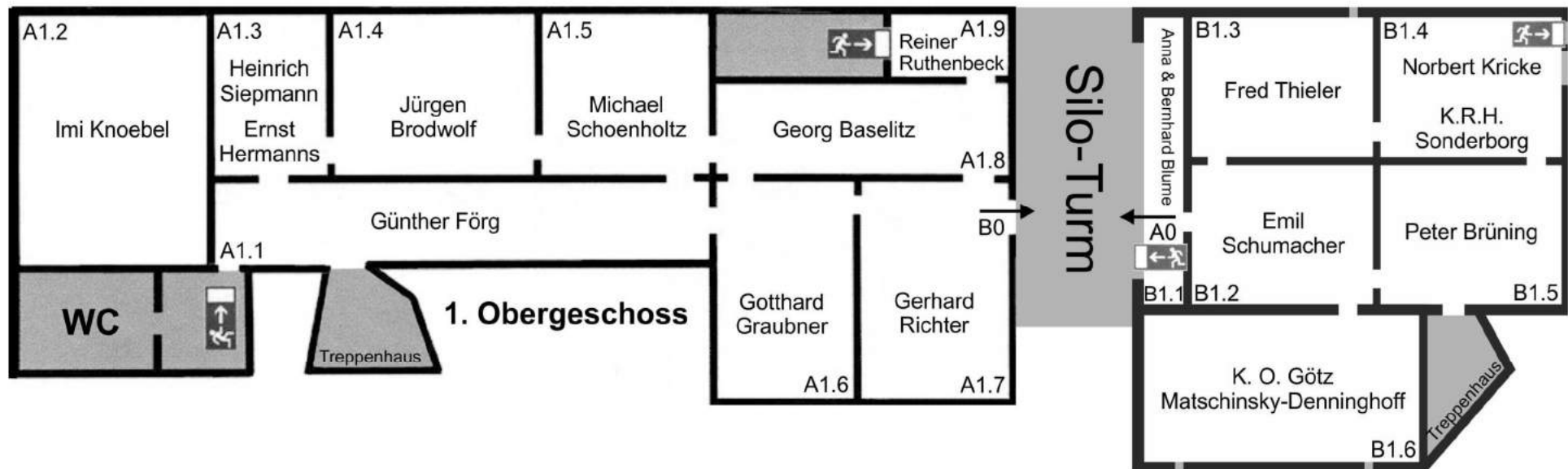
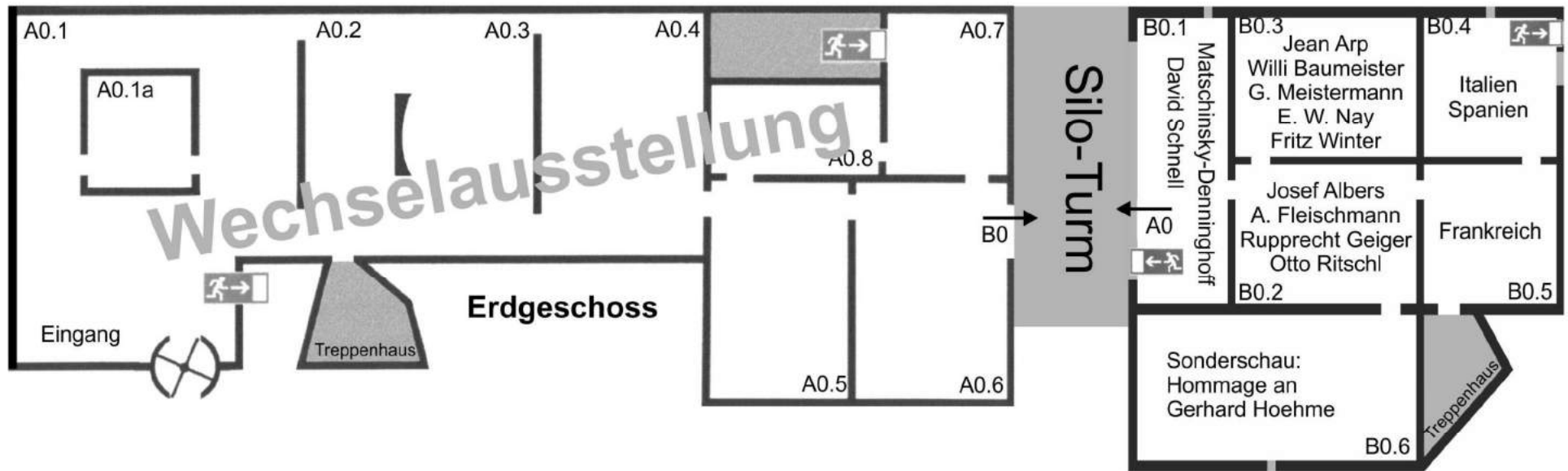
Download at: www.stiftungkunst.de/kultur/presse (registration required)

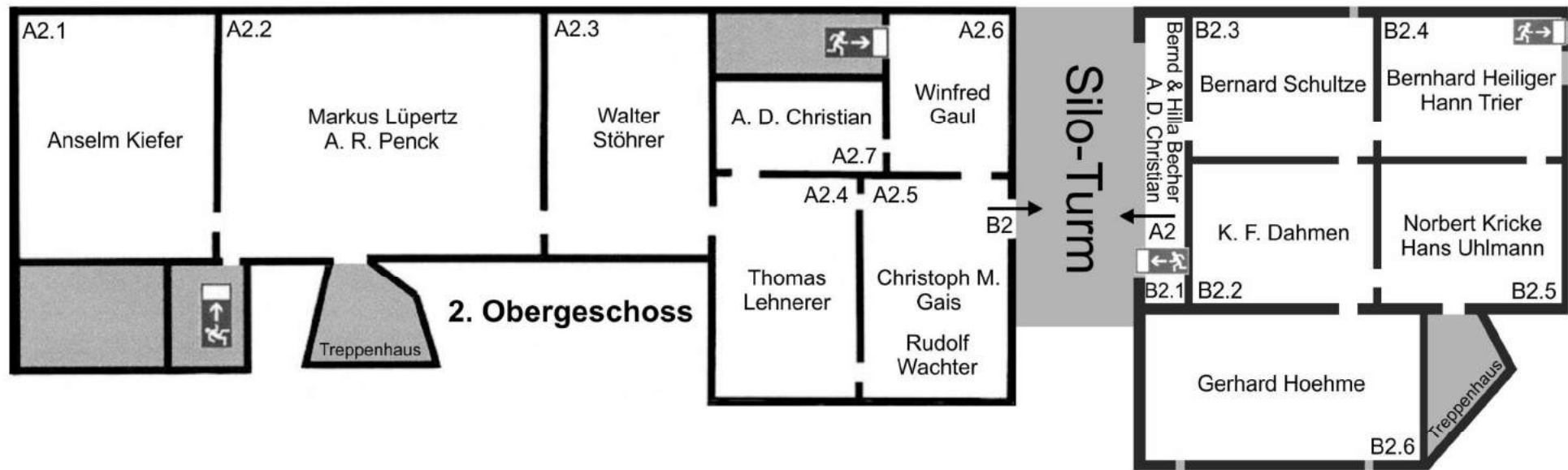
**THE NEW MKM –
Inauguration of the New Extension by Herzog & de Meuron
and New Presentation of the Ströher Collection**

ARTISTS

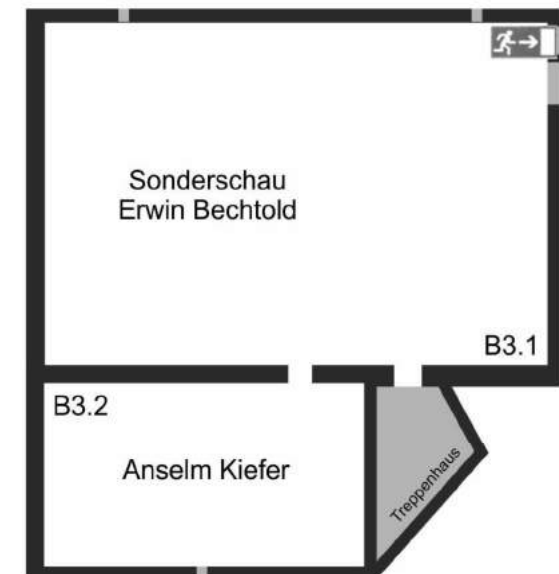
[inside former and extension building]

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|-----|---|
| 1. | Afro | 33. | Markus Lüpertz |
| 2. | Josef Albers | 34. | Georges Mathieu |
| 3. | Hans Arp | 35. | Brigitte und Martin Matschinsky-Denninghoff |
| 4. | Georg Baselitz | 36. | Georg Meistermann |
| 5. | Willi Baumeister | 37. | Manolo Millares |
| 6. | Bernd und Hilla Becher | 38. | Ernst Wilhem Nay |
| 7. | Erwin Bechtold | 39. | A.R. Penck |
| 8. | Anna und Bernhard Blume | 40. | Gerhard Richter |
| 9. | Jürgen Brodwolf | 41. | Jean-Paul Riopelle |
| 10. | Peter Brüning | 42. | Otto Ritschl |
| 11. | Alberto Burri | 43. | Reiner Ruthenbeck |
| 12. | Rafael Canogar | 44. | Giuseppe Santomaso |
| 13. | Abraham David Christian | 45. | Antonio Saura |
| 14. | Karl Fred Dahmen | 46. | David Schnell |
| 15. | Jean Dubuffet | 47. | Michael Schoenholtz |
| 16. | Jean Fautrier | 48. | Bernard Schultze |
| 17. | Adolf Fleischmann | 49. | Emil Schumacher |
| 18. | Günther Förg | 50. | Jaroslav Serpan |
| 19. | Christoph M. Gais | 51. | Heinrich Siepmann |
| 20. | Winfred Gaul | 52. | K. R. H. Sonderborg |
| 21. | Rupprecht Geiger | 53. | Pierre Soulages |
| 22. | K.O. Götz | 54. | Walter Stöhrer |
| 23. | Gotthard Graubner | 55. | Antoni Tapies |
| 24. | Otto Herbert Hajek | 56. | Fred Thieler |
| 25. | Hans Hartung | 57. | Hann Trier |
| 26. | Bernhard Heiliger | 58. | Hans Uhlmann |
| 27. | Ernst Hermanns | 59. | Emilio Vedova |
| 28. | Gerhard Hoehne | 60. | Maria Helena Vieira Da Silva |
| 29. | Anselm Kiefer | 61. | Rudolf Wachter |
| 30. | Imi Knoebel | 62. | Fritz Winter |
| 31. | Norbert Kricke | 63. | Wols |
| 32. | Thomas Lehnerer | | |





3. Obergeschoss (nur Neubau)



Wasserseite

Andreas M. Kaufmann & Hans Ulrich Reck
 „U-Boot: Ich kann, weil ich will, was ich muss“, 2010
 Stahlblech (6mm), Medien, 16,6 x 7,3 x 6,3 m

unter den Platanen

Ansgar Nierhoff
 „Ohne Titel, 3 Polyeder“, 2006
 Stahl St 37, freiformgeschmiedet, Ø ca. 85, 90 und 110 cm

No. 433

MKM Museum Küppersmühle, Extension

Duisburg, Germany

Project 2013-2021

Küppersmühle

A grain mill was erected in 1860 on the site of the present Museum Küppersmühle by industrialist Wilhelm Vedder, one of the founding fathers of Duisburg's Inner Harbour. In 1900 the first mill using the most up-to-date technology went into operation in the Inner Harbour, which became known as the 'bread basket of the Ruhr district', and in 1908 the earlier buildings were replaced by the three-part structure now housing the museum. The business was taken over in 1912 by the Werner & Nicola works, who added a boiler house with chimney. The adjoining steel silos were constructed in the 1930s. In 1969 the company merged with the Küppers works of Homberg, which gave its name to the mill and the museum. The mill closed down in 1972.

The Museum Küppersmühle (MKM), a project by Herzog & de Meuron dating from 1999, was the first milestone in the transformation of the Inner Harbour into an attractive focus of urban life. As a museum, the former mill, with its historic brick elevations, became the centre of a new, high-grade, multi-use inner-city location. Since 1999 the Küppersmühle has housed an art museum, run by the Stiftung für Kunst und Kultur e.V. (a registered cultural association in Bonn), that contains one of the finest collections of German art from the 1950s to the present.

The Ströher Collection

The MKM Museum Küppersmühle presents key works and groups of works from the Ströher Collection, one of the most extensive private collections of German post-war art - to date on 2,500 m² of exhibition space. With over 2,000 works, the collection comprises central positions of art development in Germany, from the immediate post-war period to the present. The focus is on painting, but the collection also includes sculpture and photography. Over time, a desire for a building capable of housing all the works of art and displaying them in a manner worthy of a collection that includes many artists whose major significance is recognized internationally, among them Georg Baselitz, K. O. Götz, Jörg Immendorff, Anselm Kiefer, Sigmar Polke, Gerhard Richter, Fred Thieler and Rosemarie Trockel.

Extension project

An extension to accommodate the collection was to be erected in 2008 on top of the silo towers. Faulty work by the steel-working company involved, and the company's subsequent insolvency, meant that the steel-frame construction could not be installed. Construction work ceased and the project was abandoned owing to financing problems encountered by the client, the real estate company GEBAG. The building complex became the property of the Ströhers.

No. 433

MKM Museum Küppersmühle, Extension

Duisburg, Germany

Project 2013-2021

The extension project was activated in 2013, with the Ströher family as clients. A feasibility study undertaken by Herzog & de Meuron explored the potential of the site under current conditions. The resulting project constitutes a radical new start. The original idea of an illuminated cube balanced on the silo towers and visible from afar has been jettisoned. Instead, we propose to erect a building whose dimensions and materials accord with the sequence of historic brick structures lining the dockside. The new structure thus completes the existing museum complex in a visually appropriate way and forms a suitable conclusion to the row of buildings along the dock. At first glance it might seem as though the new building had always been there.

The new structure consists of three parts with a height of approximately 33.5, 30.5 and 27.5 metres respectively. In terms of mass, height and materials they take their cue from the existing buildings, continuing them and rounding them off to form a harmonious whole. Two parts contain the exhibition areas, the third provides access and houses utilities and art handling facilities. With five levels, one below ground, floor space amounts to some 4,900 square metres, in addition to exhibition areas of roughly 2,500 square metres.

Massing was crucially influenced by a ban on building within forty metres of the autobahn. Optimum use is made of the available area. The arrangement of the exhibition structures – the tallest of the three parts and the smaller one adjoining it – echoes the course of the building-free zone, while one elevation of the third part runs along its boundary. The additively composed parts remain distinctly legible. At its tallest point (the uppermost level of the larger exhibition component), the new structure is related in height to the main existing building.

The extension is to be linked directly to the existing exhibition spaces by bridges through the silos at the first and second upper levels, facilitating uninterrupted visitor access throughout the museum. Similarly, the height of the new exhibition areas takes its cue from the existing galleries. The silos will not only be converted into elements connecting the old with the new; they will also house distinctive exhibition spaces. Their original materials are to be retained, however, because the silos are an indispensable 'sculptural' component of the Küppersmühle as an industrial monument. Long reduced to this historical and aesthetic aspect, they acquire a new function through refurbishment as access links and display areas. Six inner silos had already been removed. Now, with the ground-floor ceiling opened up and the insertion of the bridges, the entire space will be visible to visitors. In addition, the silos can be seen from some of the exhibition areas.

As in the existing galleries, windows in the elevations facing the dock and Philosophenweg offer varied and striking views of the site and its surroundings. The material of the elevations echoes the brick of the existing buildings.

No. 433
MKM Museum Küppersmühle, Extension
Duisburg, Germany
Project 2013-2021

A staircase permits continuous visitor circulation and the arrangement of all the exhibits in a consecutive sequence. In conception and spatial context the staircase is related to that featured in the museum project of 1999.

The new exhibition areas echo the overall additive character of the Küppersmühle as a typical industrial facility of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In their architecture and interior design, the galleries echo the existing exhibition spaces. The uppermost display area, which is not directly accessible from the existing building, consists of a visible shed construction with top-lighting. All exhibition levels have a spatial arrangement facilitating flexible multiple use.

The silos are to be fitted out with a superstructure, as they were originally, in the 1930s. Featuring a viewing platform accessible from the dockside promenade, the superstructure will grant the silos yet another new function.

Herzog & de Meuron, 2021

No. 433

MKM Museum Küppersmühle, Extension

Duisburg, Germany

2013 - 2021

PROJECT KEY DATA

Project Number	433	
Project Official Name	MKM Museum Küppersmühle, Extension	
Location	Duisburg, Germany	
Project Phases	Schematic Design	Dec 2013 - Dec 2014
	Design Development	Jan 2015 - Jun 2015
	Construction Documents	Jul 2015 - Feb 2017
	Construction Services	Sep 2016 - May 2021
Milestones	Construction Start	01 Sep 2016
	Groundbreaking	05 Apr 2017
	Completion	31 May 2021
	Opening	23 Sep 2021
Permit	Baugenehmigung	25 Jul 2016
Client	MKM Stiftung, Berliner Allee 65, Darmstadt, DE	
Client Representative	Sylvia Ströher	

No. 433
MKM Museum Küppersmühle, Extension
Duisburg, Germany
2013 - 2021

PROJECT TEAM

Herzog & de Meuron
Project Team

Partners: Jacques Herzog, Pierre de Meuron, Robert Hösl (Partner in Charge)

Project Team: Roland Schreiber (Project Architect/ Project Manager)

Mikolaj Bazaczek, Juliane Brantner, Teodor-Octavian Cuciureanu,
Florian Hartmann, Sebastian Hefti, Măra Igaune, Susanne Kozlowski,
Hannah Reusser, Daniel Schürer

No. 433
MKM Museum Küppersmühle, Extension
Duisburg, Germany
2013 - 2021

PLANNING

General Planning

Drees & Sommer Schweiz GmbH, St. Alban-Vorstadt 80, Basel, CH

HVAC Engineering

Drees & Sommer Advanced Building Systems, Habsburgerring 2, Köln, DE

Structural Engineering

Drees & Sommer Advanced Building Systems, 11 Obere Waldplätze, Stuttgart, DE

Construction Management

Diete + Siepmann Ingenieur GmbH, Rathausstrasse 3, Kaarst, DE

Landscape Architect

Vogt Landschaftsarchitekten AG, Stampfenbachstrasse 57, Zürich, CH

SPECIALIST / CONSULTING

Fire Protection Consulting

HHP Berlin, Hamburg, 20 Kurze Mühren, Hamburg, DE

No. 433
MKM Museum Küppersmühle, Extension
Duisburg, Germany
2013 - 2021

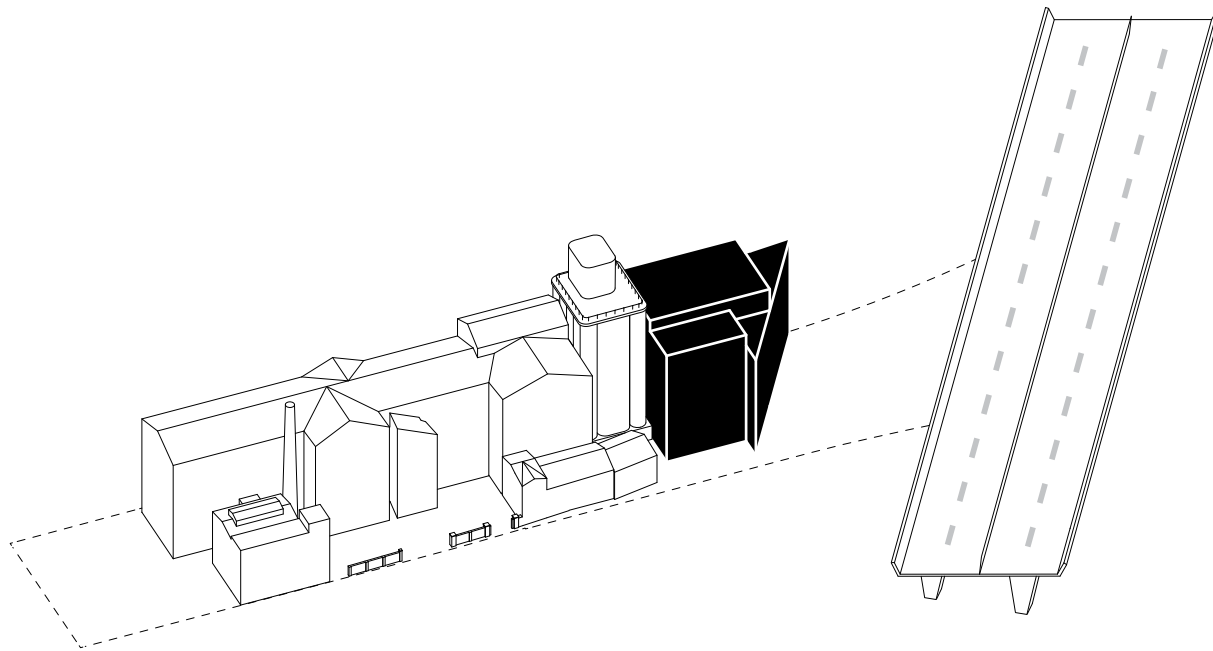
BUILDING DATA

Site Area	96'875 sqft	9'000 m ²
Gross floor area (GFA)	53'819 sqft	5'000 m ²
GFA above ground	44'670 sqft	4'150 m ²
GFA below ground	9'149 sqft	850 m ²
Number of levels	5	
Footprint	9'149 sqft	850 m ²
Length	177 ft	54 m
Width	82 ft	25 m
Height	104 ft	32 m
Gross volume (GV)	1'306'643 cbft	37'000 m ³
Facade surface	43'055 sqft	4'000 m ²

No. 433
MKM Museum Küppersmühle, Extension
Duisburg, Germany
2013 - 2021

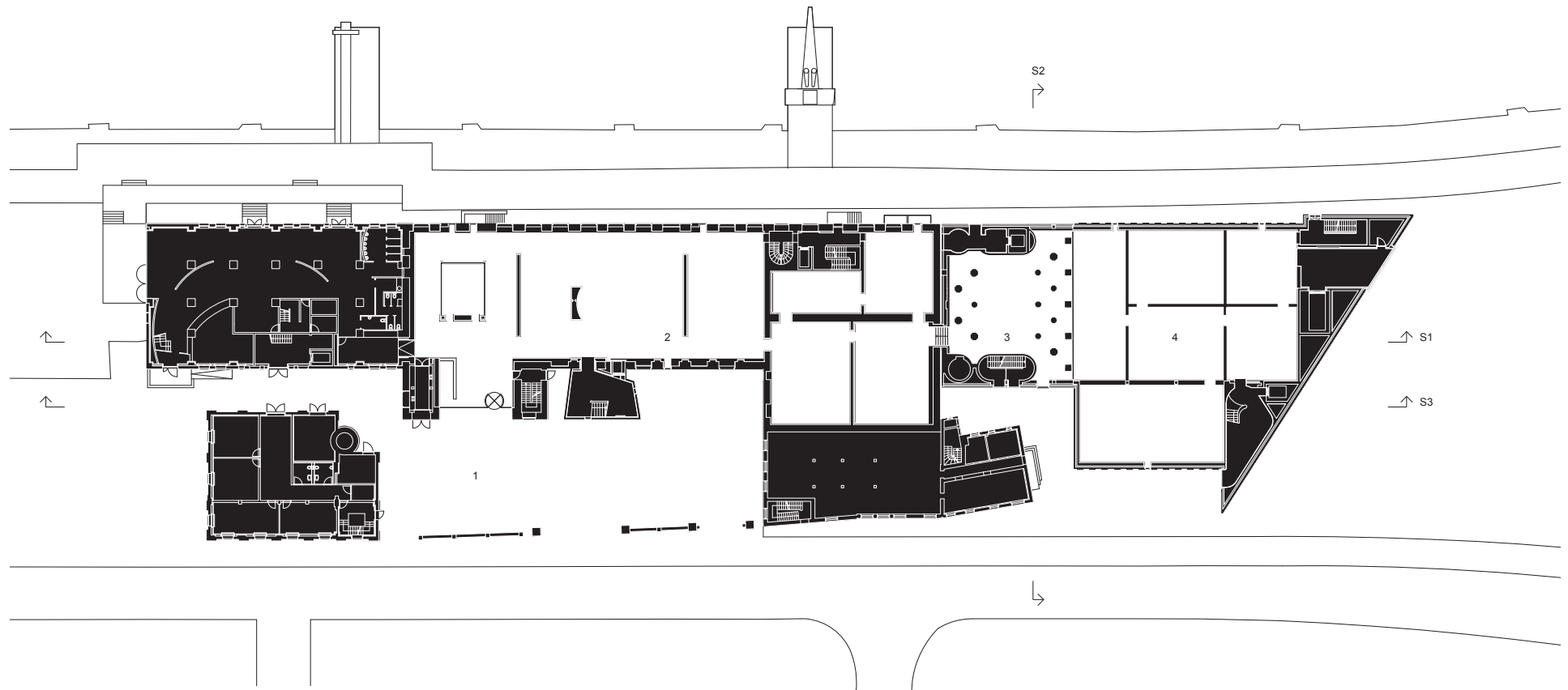
Use / Function

Cultural
Museum



Axonometry

- 1 Innenhof
- 2 Ausstellung (Bestandsgebäude)
- 3 Siloraum
- 4 Ausstellung (Erweiterungsgebäude)

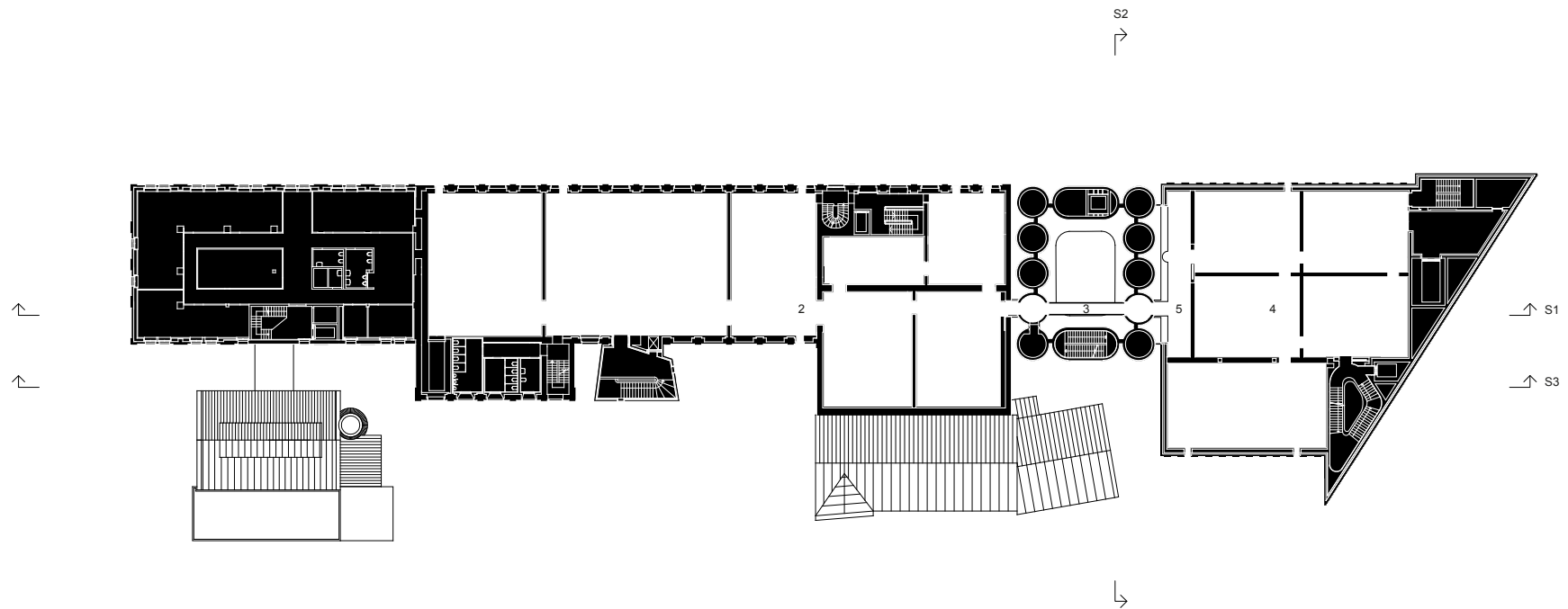


EG

M 1:750



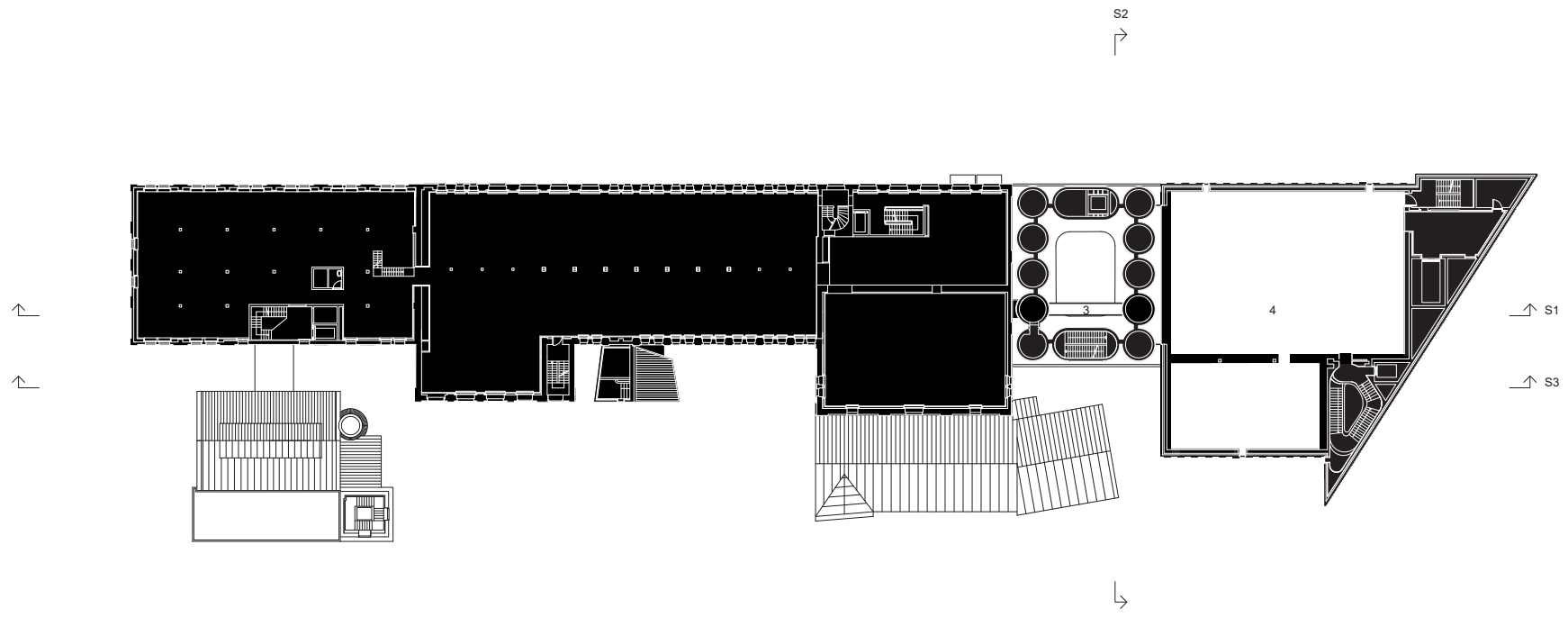
- 2 Ausstellung (Bestandsgebäude)
- 3 Siloraum
- 4 Ausstellung (Erweiterungsgebäude)
- 5 Brüstungsgalerie



2.0G

M 1:750



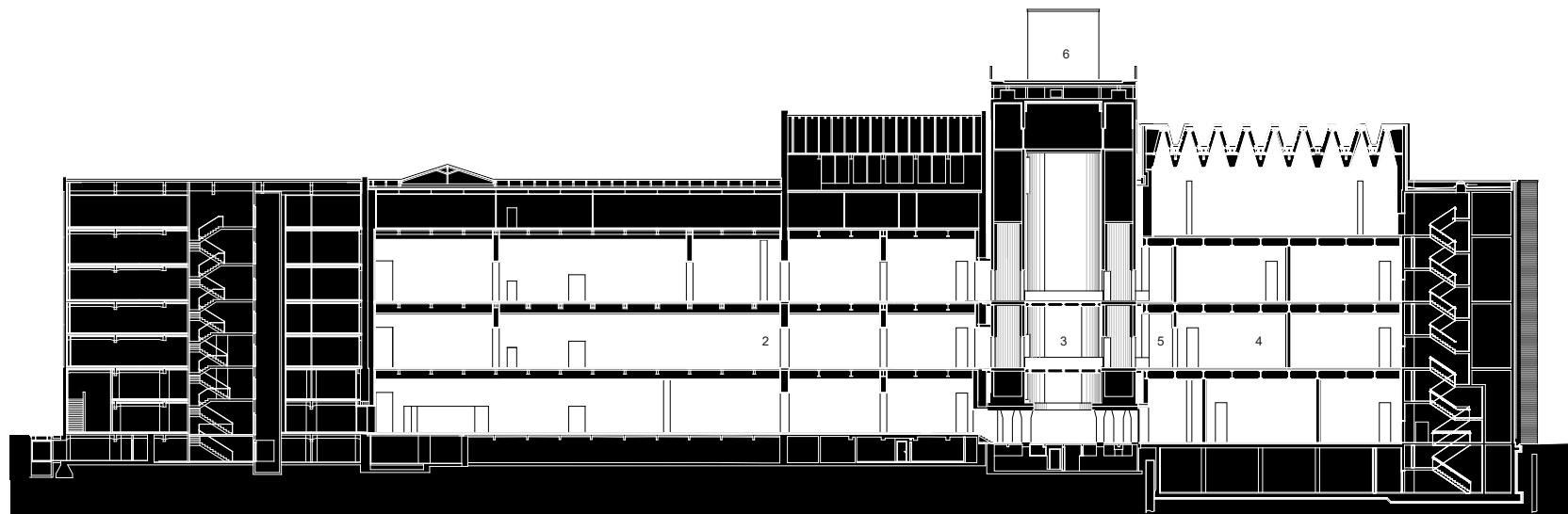


3.OG

M 1:750

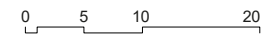


- 2 Ausstellung (Bestandsgebäude)
- 3 Siloraum
- 4 Ausstellung (Erweiterungsgebäude)
- 5 Brüstungsgalerie
- 6 Siloaussichtsplattform

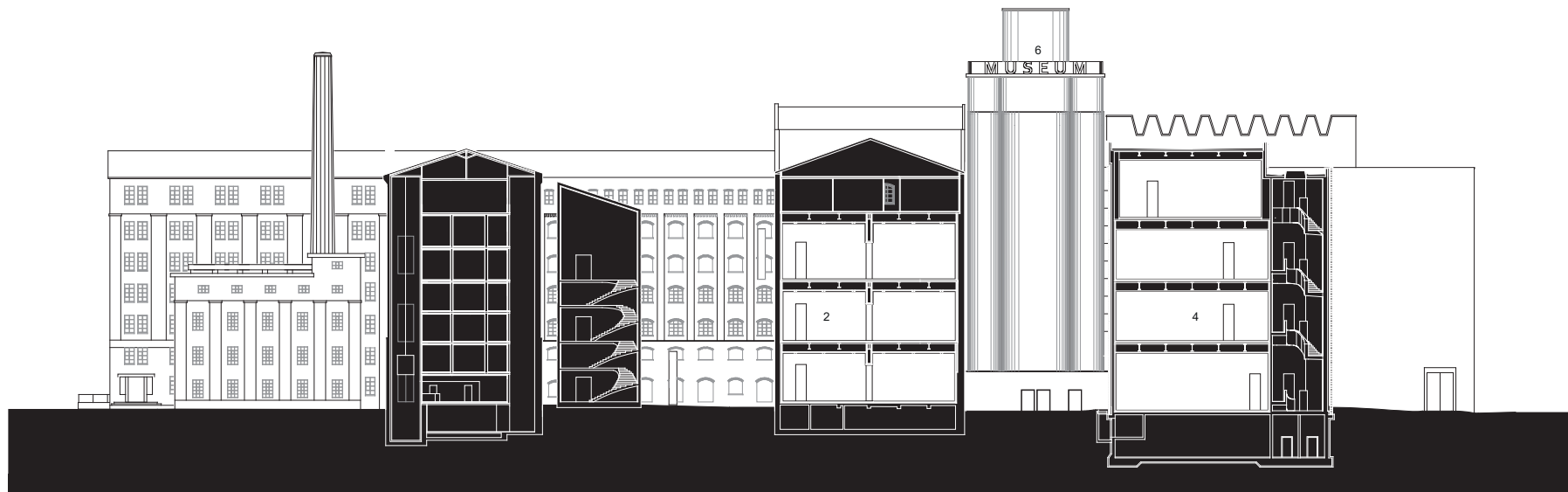


Schnitt S1

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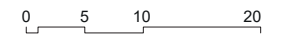


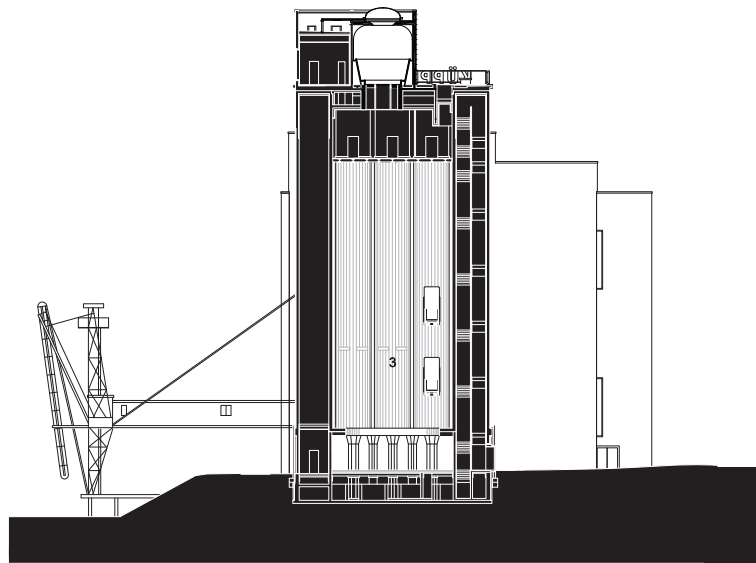
- 2 Ausstellung (Bestandsgebäude)
- 4 Ausstellung (Erweiterungsgebäude)
- 6 Siloaussichtsplattform



Schnitt S3

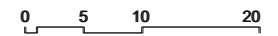
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Schnitt 2

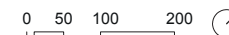
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Lageplan

M 1:10000



THE NEW MKM – Inauguration of the New Extension by Herzog & de Meuron and New Presentation of the Ströher Collection

PRESS IMAGES

Press photos are available for download after registration (as of 23.9.) at:

<http://www.stiftungskunst.de/kultur/presse/>

Publication free of charge is only permitted in connection with reporting on the extension of the MKM Museum Küppersmühle, Duisburg.

Please note the credit details/photographers! The thumbnails are not colour binding.



MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Perspective Inner Harbour

© MKM Duisburg / Herzog & de Meuron
© Photo: Simon Menges



MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Perspective Philosophenweg

© MKM Duisburg / Herzog & de Meuron
© Photo: Simon Menges



MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Facade, detail

© MKM Duisburg / Herzog & de Meuron
© Photo: Simon Menges



MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
View into the silos

© MKM Duisburg / Herzog & de Meuron
© Photo: Simon Menges



MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Installation view
Brigitte and Martin Matschinsky-Denninghoff
(Sculpture) / (r.) David Schnell

MKM Duisburg / Herzog & de Meuron
© For the works of David Schnell: The artist and
VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn, 2021
© Photo: Simon Menges



MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Installation view
K.O. Götz / Brigitte and Martin Matschinsky-
Denninghoff (Sculpture)

MKM Duisburg / Herzog & de Meuron
© For the works of K.O. Götz: VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2021
© Photo: Simon Menges



MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Installation view
Erwin Bechtold
With a view into the room of Anselm Kiefer

MKM Duisburg / Herzog & de Meuron
© Erwin Bechtold / Anselm Kiefer
© Photo: Simon Menges



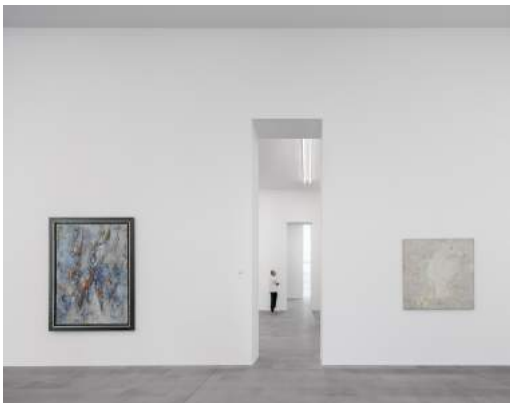
MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Installation view
Brigitte and Martin Matschinsky-Denninghoff
(Sculpture) / (l.) Rupprecht Geiger, (m.) Josef Albers, (r.)
Adolf Fleischmann

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MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Installation view
Peter Brüning (with a view to K.R.H. Sonderborg, r.)

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MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Installation view
Gerhard Hoehme

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MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Silos (detail), Gallery

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MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Silos (detail), Gallery

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MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Staircase

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MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Staircase, detail

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MKM Museum Küppersmühle of Modern Art
Duisburg
Extension building 2021
Staircase, detail

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WHO IS BEHIND THE KÜPPERMÜHLE MUSEUM?

Since its inception in 1999, the MKM Museum Küppersmühle has been operated by the Bonn-based **Foundation for Art and Culture**. The Foundation conceives and organises the exhibitions and supervises the Ströher Collection in the MKM.

WHAT DOES THE FOUNDATION DO FOR ART AND CULTURE?

Launched as a private sector initiative in 1986, the Foundation has since served as a thinktank, and as a driver and organiser of activities embracing the entire spectrum of contemporary art. Its main focus lies in the conception and staging of exhibitions, curating collections, holding public discussions on cultural policy and shaping the public space, be it in Bonn, Berlin, Duisburg or Salzburg. The overarching objective of the Foundation is to actively foster art and culture as an essential, stimulating and integral part of our civil society, to promote discourse and to honour its mission statement of seeking to "help shape society", to paraphrase Joseph Beuys.

Among our key pillars are the close links forged between culture and industry/commerce, which have enabled us to mount a host of major and minor exhibitions, art projects in the public space, cultural events, artists' talks, round-table discussions, produce catalogues, hold benefit auctions and, of particular importance, to launch projects to encourage creativity among young people - totalling over 300 art projects to date.

EXHIBITIONS

The Foundation has also staged landmark theme-based exhibitions, showcased the art scene of specific countries and mounted solo and group exhibitions, featuring, among others artists, Tony Cragg, Anselm Kiefer, Gilbert & George, K.O. Götz, Jörg Immendorff, Markus Lüpertz, Gerhard Richter, Sean Scully, and Günther Uecker, to name but a few. Among the most ambitious projects were the exhibitions *60 Years. 60 Works. Art from the Federal Republic of Germany from 1949 to 2009*, *ARTandPRESS* (2012) in Berlin's Martin-Gropius-Bau, *CHINA 8* (2015), held simultaneously in nine museums throughout the Ruhr region, as well as *Deutschland 8*, shown at 8 venues across Beijing (2017), *Art from the Holocaust. 100 Works from the Yad Vashem Memorial Centre*, presented in Berlin's German Historical Museum, and the 2017 exhibition *Luther and the Avantgarde, Contemporary Art in Wittenberg, Berlin and Kassel*. With the show, *Homage to Jannis Kounellis*, staged in 2018 in the Museum Küppersmühle, the Foundation participated in the inter-city exhibition project *KUNST & KOHLE (ART & COAL)*, organised collectively by the RuhrKunstMuseen to mark the end of coal mining in the region. In 2021, it has devised the exhibition *Diversity United. Contemporary European Art*, which is currently on view in Berlin's Tempelhof Airport, and which, featuring around 90 artists from 34 countries, sets out to showcase the artistic face of Europe.

ART IN THE PUBLIC SPACE

Over a period of 10 years, and in collaboration with the Salzburg Foundation, the Foundation initiated the "*Walk of Modern Art*", a unique sculptural tour through the city of Salzburg. A total of 12 works by highly-acclaimed contemporary artists, ranging from Anselm Kiefer to Erwin Wurm, are now freely-accessible to the public in the historical Old City (www.salzburgfoundation.at). The Foundation has also been promoting art in the public space nearer to home, through its *Bonn Art Project*, which since 2014 has seen it commission an array of international contemporary artists to fashion sculptures for the "urban museum" of Bonn.

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