MUSEUM LIAUNIG, Carinthia
Opening of the expanded museum on 26th of April 2015

Client: HL Museumsverwaltung GmbH, Dkm. Herbert Liaunig
Architects: querkraft architects, www.querkraft.at
Museum, 1st phase of building, 2008: 5000 sqm
Expansion, 2015: 2.500 sqm

Museum Liaunig by querkraft architects, a receiver of multiple awards and a class listed monument since 2013, was expanded by 2500 sq meters and will be opened to the public on the 26th of April, 2015. The existing exhibition spaces, a viewable storage area, a wing for paintings and sculptures, a 160m long hall for temporary display (2000 m2), a room for graphic art (500m2) and another room for the renowned gold collection (350m2), are being expanded by new, mostly underground situated components.
In addition to storage areas and the sculpture garden, a new space for temporary exhibitions has been added by the main entrance. The big, triangular room impresses the visitors with its sculpture-like concrete ceiling with skylights that generates an exquisite atmosphere of light and materiality.

A long, underground corridor connects the existing sculpture storage area built in 2012 with the rest of the museum. Attached to the gold collection room, the new underground rooms for glass and miniature collections have been added and made accessible through a long ramp.

Ein langer, unterirdischer Gang bindet nun auch das bereits 2012 errichtete Skulpturendepot an das Museum an. Im Anschluss an die Goldsammlung wurden eine Glas- und eine
“the goal, to develop potent, iconographical architecture that provides art with the necessary free space has with the expansion only been invigorated.”
states Jakob Dunkl, the co-founder and partner of the Viennese architecture office querkraft.

With the new measures it was important to create a relationship to the outside, providing the visitors with an experience related to the surrounding scenery as well as the building itself. With that in mind, the selective skylights, a glass gate on the end of the long corridor and the triangular atrium are an important part of the concept. The drawn-out gallery wing, the only part of the building visible from the outside, contributes greatly to the experience with the views of the landscape from its two terraces on each side of the structure. The rest of the museum is situated underground. An overall very compressed building orientates itself greatly on the terrain and despite its lengthiness amazes with the dramaturgy and the strict concept of its traffic pattern. All in all, this building is an example of a well-constructed interaction between art and architecture, where the contents and the representation alternately complement each other to be manifested in an individual work of art.
About querkraft architects
Jakob Dunkl, Gerd Erhartt and Peter Sapp

The architecture office located in Vienna exists since 1998. Numerous projects have been realised nationally and internationally. By orders of well-known clients almost 100 projects have been realised since its foundation. Jakob Dunkl, Gerd Erhartt and Peter Sapp work with a team of about 35 employees. Regarding their philosophy ‘give people space’ the architecture office is one of the most experienced and prestigious in residential construction in particular. Querkraft was awarded the state prize for “architecture and sustainability” by the Ministry of Life in 2013, for the project U31 (Vienna). Querkraft has also realised projects in the areas of office and special purpose property, like museums.

Current projects: Hoerbiger headquarters (Vienna-Aspern), Museum konkreter Kunst (Germany, Ingolstadt), City Gate residential high rise and Leopoldtower (Vienna), Residential block and school (France, Paris) etc.
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