

Convention Center, Garmisch-Partenkirchen (GER)

project **Expansion of the Garmisch-Partenkirchen Convention Center with the addition of a lobby area with event rooms and an underground car park**

awarding authority **Markt Garmisch-Partenkirchen (GER) / public client**

participation **2nd evaluation viewing, restricted competition**

services **WW+, Esch-sur-Alzette (LUX) / Trier (GER) architecture**

rendering **Stube 13, Zürich (CH)**

facts **- extension of the existing Convention Center
- event and exhibition areas
- reorganization of existing spatial and development structures
- transparent facade design**

dates and numbers

gfa **9.600 m²**

ufa **6.300 m²**

gv **30.000 m³**

total area **1,08 ha**

competition phase **01/2016 - 04/2016**

Design concept / guiding principle

The striking façade featuring metallic slats gives the entire Congress House a contemporary appearance. The roof shape refers to the surrounding mountain scenery. The clear building structure provides multiple views, both in and out, and stages the surrounding mountain panorama. At night, the building morphs into a shining jewel. The open floor plan allows for a range of usage scenarios and repurposes the existing spatial structures. The pleated façade guides the visitor from Richard Strauss Platz to the newly designed entrance on the east side.

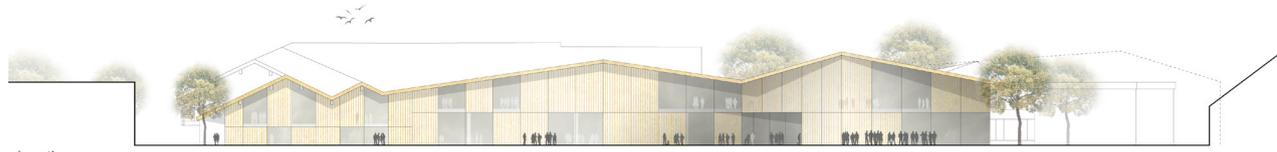
Functionality

The panorama foyer is planned as a two-storey building volume. With its 1000m² footprint, it provides a connection between the Richard Strauss foyer and the Werdenfels foyer. It is also used as a conference / lecture room, exhibition space and banquet room. The ground floor is on the same level as the Richard Strauss foyer and the Werdenfels foyer and can be accessed from both existing foyers. This ensures that the entire ground floor level of the Congress House is fully accessible. Thanks to mobile partition walls, two separate rooms of 200m² each or one large room of 400m² can be created within the panorama foyer. In doing so, the ground-floor connection between the Richard Strauss foyer and the Werdenfels foyer remains in effect. The use of mobile partition walls allows for a flexible use of the new premises, with several events able to take place simultaneously. The glass panels of the panorama foyer can for instance be darkened in the event of screenings. For large-scale events, the folding walls can be tucked into "pockets" designed for this purpose. Behind them is a service passage ("new passage"), which connects to the kitchen's dumb waiter and the goods lift and thus allows all the event areas to be serviced. All the event areas can therefore be supplied with mobile counter units independently of one another. The Werdenfels foyer, the panorama foyer and the Richard Strauss foyer can also be joined into one large surface. Even in such large-scale events, the gallery on the upper floor guarantees a junction-free connection between the areas of the GaPa tourism office and the Werdenfels foyer. The panorama foyer can furthermore be separated from the Richard Strauss foyer or the Werdenfels foyer.

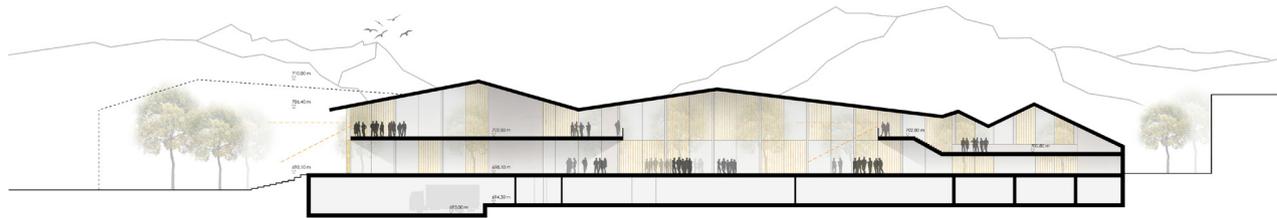


site plan

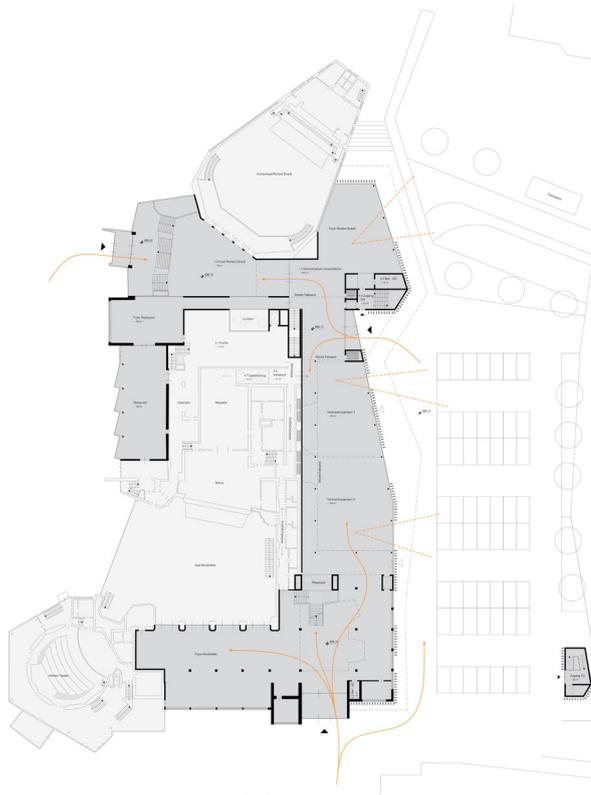




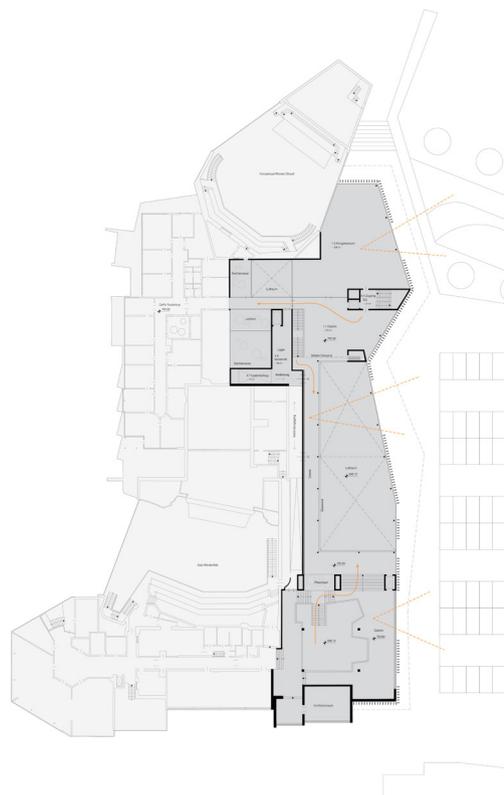
elevation



section



ground floor



second floor

Here too, a self-sufficient and junction-free connection is possible thanks to the gallery. The façade has openings that can accommodate large delivery items, exhibition pieces, etc. These openings are incorporated in the façade design and are concealed by slats. Via these large sliding openings, the panorama foyer can extend to the east to the newly designed forecourt. In large-scale events, a smooth transition from indoors to outdoors is thus ensured. The entire area (Werdenfels foyer, panorama foyer and Richard Strauss foyer) is accessible by car from the delivery zone. The gallery level houses the new conference room of the GaPa tourism office, which can be accessed via the gallery as well as the new stairwell. This is the main stairway for the GaPa tourism office staff. The kitchen area on the ground floor is extended to approximately 270m². Further ancillary spaces are assigned to the kitchen area in the basement. These are directly adjacent to the delivery zone located in the basement. Two goods lifts connect the two levels and enable the gallery to also be serviced through the kitchen. The lighting of the work areas on the ground floor as well as in the basement is provided by an inserted atrium. The storage and technical equipment areas in the basement are serviced by the delivery zone.

Access

The access of the Congress House via Richard Strauss Platz in the south will remain unaffected and will be extended by an additional imposing access from Parkstraße in the east. An undercut in the façade clearly and unambiguously defines the new entrance way, which acts as the main access to the new panorama foyer as well as an entrance to the Richard Strauss foyer. This new access furthermore creates a connection to the Adlwärth restaurant and a passageway to the Kurpark. The existing stairwell, currently providing access to the GaPa tourism office, is to be dismantled. An access block adjacent to the new entrance includes access for the GaPa tourism office staff. For visitors to the Congress House, this stairwell serves as a connection between the ground floor and the underground car park. From the ground floor onwards, the use of this stairwell is reserved to the GaPa tourism office staff. An integrated lift ensures that all levels are connected in a fully accessible manner. An additional passenger lift in the transition area from the panorama foyer to the Richard Strauss foyer improves the accessibility of the Congress House. A goods lift connects the storage areas and the delivery zones in the basement with the panorama foyer and the props area of the Werdenfels room. In the basement, the new construction of the panorama foyer connects to the underground car park. This is designed as a split level and has 200 parking spaces on two levels. The entrance to and exit from the underground car park is located on the northeast end of the planning site and connects to Parkstraße, adjacent to which there is a separate access for truck deliveries. The level of the delivery zone is approximately 1.5m lower than that of the parking spaces. The underground car park has two separate exits. One exits straight onto the new main entrance to the panorama foyer. The other allows visitors to exit the underground car park in close proximity to the Olympia room. This eases the departure process after the conclusion of an event. The exit building is similar to the panorama foyer in terms of form and materials. It embodies a visual conclusion to the square and features surfaces for displaying any necessary external communication. A newly designed square is located above the underground car park. This square is defined by a row of trees towards the direction of the street and the underground car park exit and connects to the panorama foyer in a fully accessible manner. In addition to being a parking lot, the square also serves as the forecourt for the new panorama foyer. In large-scale events, it can be used and accessed from the new panorama foyer as well as the Olympia room. A uniform surface creates a smooth transition between the existing Richard Strauss Platz and the square in front of the panorama foyer. Both squares form a visual unity and guide the visitor from the Richard Strauss Platz to the entrance area of the panorama foyer, respectively the Richard Strauss foyer.

Materials and construction

The panorama foyer is designed as a reinforced concrete frame construction. Reinforced concrete slabs serve as a storage mass and are part of the energy concept. The sustainable extensive green roof also has a positive effect on the indoor climate. An interior sun protection allows distinct areas to be individually darkened. Interior ceiling slats ensure good room acoustics. The integrated lighting system provides ambient lighting. Depending on use, this can be supplemented by additional lights so as to produce individual lighting scenarios. The glass façade consists of a post-and-beam construction with solar control glazing. The posts and beams are made of anodised aluminium and consequently are very low maintenance. The exterior gold-coloured vertical slats are also made of anodised aluminium. They provide constructive sun protection, as does the projecting roof. To provide a framework for the building's many uses, great emphasis was placed on a reduction of materials. The interior is dominated by warm and light colour tones. The robust and at the same time sophisticated micro terrazzo ground finish can accommodate vehicles and as such can be used in a variety of ways. The underlying under-floor heating allows for the high-ceilinged rooms to be optimally heated.