

Press Release for immediate distribution

Spiesergasse revitalized by ksg

After more than half century of being used as a residential and business building, and then as offices by the Gerling Group, Spiesergasse 20 has now been converted and revitalized by ksg.



Revitalization of the Gerling Office Building ©ksg; Photos: Veit Landwehr, Cologne

Cologne, 14.03.2013 – Spiesergasse 20 is located in the immediate vicinity of the Gerling premises. This town house was constructed as a corner building in the Cologne city center by the engineer, Winand Müller in 1955. The Gerling Group then used it as a residential and business building and later as a location for offices. The building has now been converted and revitalized by ksg, with work being sponsored by a private investor.

To maintain and gently transform the existing character and atmosphere of the 1960s architecture of the building, the architects integrated all new fittings and modifications into the existing architecture of the structure.

In the course of conversion work, nearly all dividing walls on the levels were removed. The resultant four loft levels and the attic level can now be used as representative, spacious office area which can be organized flexibly.

Each level was equipped with multi-functional built-in furniture at room height which covers the entire length of the floor plans and which forms the backbone of the new structure. This includes media technology, spacious storage areas and access to the stairwell as well as access to the pantry and toilets.

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The former Gerling building also has a new external appearance: frameless window elements accentuate the quality of the existing natural stone facade on account of their minimalist, unobtrusive design.

Project partners

Principal: A & B Solo Grundstücks- und Vermögensverwaltungs GmbH,
Gummersbach
Architects (WP 1-5): kister scheithauer gross architekten und stadtplaner, Köln (ksg)
Draft/Partner responsible: Prof. Johannes Kister
Project Manager: Gabriel Mörsch
Construction
management (WP 6-9): Breuer Bauconsult, Erfstadt

Technical planners in the draft and execution phase

Structural Analysis: Dr. Naumann Ingenieurgesellschaft mbH, Köln
TGA: GESA - Ingenieurgesellschaft für Technische Gesamtplanung
mbH, Brühl
Building Physics: Ing.-Büro für Bauphysik Heinrichs, Hürth-Efferen
Fire Safety: BFT Cognos GmbH, Aachen

Project Data

Work period: 2010 - 2012
Start of construction: 07/2011
Completion: 09/2012
GFA: 970m²
Work phass: WP 1-5
Building costs: 1.5 million €

about ksg

kister scheithauer gross architects and city planners (ksg) believe in intensive discussion about location and typology. With this overriding context, the studio develops actual building sculptures from abstract visions.

Around 60 employees in studios based in Cologne and Leipzig handle the realisation and transformation of building construction, the development of urban concepts and creating surveys, including for DGNB (the German Sustainable Building Council).

In 2012, ksg celebrated its 20th anniversary. Some exemplary projects from the studio's history include the double-church in Freiburg, the 'Siebengebirge' (Seven Mountains) in Cologne, Campus 2000 in Dessau, the 'Händelhaus' in Halle/Saale and the master plan for the Gerling plot in Cologne.

In September 2012, ksg consigned the research building for light and optical technology, or LION, in Bremen. Following this, two projects in Leipzig were completed in October: the translation centre for regenerative medicine and the public library. The official consignment of the synagogue in Ulm adds a further milestone to the studio's history.

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