

A university building that plays all the tunes

The Future Art Lab is a technical, acoustic and atmospheric all-rounder

The architecture of a university building is always a statement. Built by the Bundesimmobiliengesellschaft (BIG) for the mdw – University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, the Future Art Lab with its striking architecture and characteristic façade is the latest element in the development of the campus and adds yet another notable highlight to the mdw campus in Vienna.

Designed by the architects Pichler & Traupmann, the building houses a sound theatre, an arthouse cinema, a recording hall, and a concert hall with 100 seats – four halls that technically, acoustically and atmospherically play all the tunes. The façade of the Future Art Lab is made of aluminium composite panels, which create the characteristic shimmer. Inside the building, exposed concrete is used as a sober counterpart to the "gleaming" façade and a wall cladding in metallic violet. A sunken courtyard provides natural lighting for the sound

control rooms in the basement, while the two spacious terraces create a connection to the green campus courtyard. The new building is almost 30 metres high, of which 12 metres are below ground.

By using a room-in-room construction method for the sound theatre and the recording hall, the Future Art Lab meets the special acoustic requirements of a music university. A two-layer concrete shell prevents acoustic emissions from traveling between the rooms.

Ventilation systems in the halls and recording studios operate almost soundlessly so as not to disrupt performances and recordings. Geothermal energy to support heating and cooling, waste heat recovery, building component activation, night cooling and energy-saving lighting systems all contribute to energy efficiency and climate protection.

Start of construction

February 2018

Construction completed

March 2020

Start of operationWinter semester 2020

Net floor area

6,200 m²

Investment 24 million euros

Developer and project execution

Bundesimmobiliengesellschaft m.b.H. Trabrennstraße 2c, 1020 Vienna, Austria

Project management

Thomas Breitsching

Asset management

Christian Wagner

Tenant and user

mdw – University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna Anton-von-Webern-Platz 1, 1030 Vienna, Austria

Architecture

Pichler & Traupmann Architekten ZT GmbH Weyrgasse 6/4, 1030 Vienna, Austria

Local construction supervision

Architekt Stolz Ziviltechniker GmbH Sonnenweg 115, 1140 Vienna, Austria







