



Press Release

Zurich, 31 March 2008

**Extension of Kunsthaus Zürich: participants in architectural competition selected, project loan approved by Zurich legislature**

**The preselection phase for architects competing for the Kunsthaus extension project in Zurich is now closed, and twenty applicants have been selected from a pool of more than 200. Seasoned offices and teams of promising young architects alike are now set to enter what is expected to be the final phase (briefing in April, selection of winning project in December 2008).**

With 214 applications by architects from 22 different countries, the Kunsthaus extension project in Zurich has awakened international interest. In early March, a jury of 20 led by Walter B. Kielholz, President of the Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft, selected twenty offices to take part in what is expected to be the final phase of the competition.

In addition to representatives of the Kunsthaus extension's partners, the jury also includes artists, collectors, and architects from various European countries; its decisions are consequently informed by international experience with major cultural undertakings, artistic talent, and curatorial expertise.

The participants selected for the final phase come from offices in Switzerland (9), Europe (8) and beyond (3). In early April, the teams – who will compete anonymously and include renowned and seasoned architects as well as two young talent teams – will be briefed.

**Municipal legislature approves project loan**

The city of Zurich supports the project. On 26 March, the CHF 6.5m project loan requested by the city's executive in the fall of 2007 (cf. press release of 29 August 2007) was approved by a solid majority of Zurich's legislature.

In addition to the extension itself, which will define and enliven the Heimplatz square, the project also includes a publicly accessible 'Art Garden'. The Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft intends to raise half the planned budget of CHF 150m from private donors. The extension is to be inaugurated by 2015.



### **Comprehensive competition brief driven by museum's content**

The competition brief for the Kunsthaus extension project formulates a vision of the New Kunsthaus and contains a concept for the museum's content as defined by the Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft. The needs of art and the general public both are central to this undertaking, and the brief sets out the project's tasks and goals accordingly.

The Kunsthaus extension's partners (the Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft, the city of Zurich, and the Stiftung Zürcher Kunsthaus) have made further stipulations with regard to cultural policy, urban planning and sustainability (the '2000-Watt Society').

The new building, which will constitute a significant contribution to Zurich's urban fabric, is to stand on the grounds between the Heimplatz square and the old cantonal school, and thus inaugurates implementation of the University District master plan.

### **Showcase for new offerings: Key requirements**

The extension will provide the Kunsthaus Zürich with a showcase for new offerings. As such, it must meet four key requirements. First, it must house new galleries with re-configurable suites of rooms that are flexible in function and appropriate for the display of new media, prints, drawings and photography. Second, it must also contain more classically designed galleries for the Bührle Collection, the basis of the museum's new focus on French painting, as well as accommodating examples of 19<sup>th</sup>-century art and classical modernism. Third, it must provide the setting for medium-sized exhibitions, staged without affecting the permanent collection. Fourth, the foyer must allow visitors to engage in a direct encounter with art as soon as they enter the building, while at the same time symbolizing the museum's greater and more welcoming openness. Together, the two striking buildings will constitute one museum: the New Kunsthaus, Switzerland's largest art museum.

The competition participants are listed in the appendices below, as are the competition jurors. More information is available at [www.kunsthaus.ch/erweiterung](http://www.kunsthaus.ch/erweiterung). Your contact (see below) will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

#### **Contact for media**

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## Appendix 1, Kunsthaus extension press release of 31 March 2008: The 20 participating teams of architects, landscape architects and civil engineers

Architects	With landscape architects	and civil engineers
Barkow Leibinger Architekten, Berlin	Büro Kiefer, Berlin	Schlaich Bergermann und Partner, Berlin
Caruso St John Architects, London	Liza Fior muf architecture/art, London	Ove Arup & Partners, London
David Chipperfield Architects, Berlin	Wirtz International, Schoten (Belgien)	Ingenieurgruppe Bauen, Berlin
Diener & Diener Architekten, Basel	Rotzler Krebs Partner, Winterthur	Ernst Basler + Partner, Zurich
Max Dudler Architekten, Zurich	Vetsch, Nipkow Partner, Zurich	Leonhardt Andrä und Partner (LAP), Zurich
e2a eckert eckert architekten, Zurich	Müller Landschaftsarchitekten, Zurich	JägerPartner, Zurich
Andreas Fuhrmann / Gabrielle Hächler, Zurich	Beglinger + Bryan Landschaftsarchitektur, Mollis	JA Könz, Zerneß
Annette Gigon / Mike Guyer, Zurich	Schweingruber Zulauf, Zurich	Dr. Schwartz Consulting, Zug
ARGE Grazioli / Krischanitz, Zurich	w+s Landschaftsarchitekten, Solothurn	a.k.a. ingenieure – Beck Gengnagel v. Kameke Partnerschaft, Munich
Sebastian Irarrazaval Arquitectos, Santiago de Chile	Estudio del Paisaje Teresa Moller & Asociados, Santiago de Chile	Luis Soler P. & Asociados, Santiago de Chile
Arch. Di. Oskar Leo Kaufmann / Albert Rüt Ziviltchniker, Dornbirn. <i>Young talent team</i>	3:0 Landschaftsarchitektur, Wien	ARGE Mader/Flatz/Rissi, Brengenz/St. Gallen
Luis Mansilla y Emilio Tuñón Arquitectos, Madrid	vi.vo.architektur.landschaft, Zurich	GOGAITE, Madrid
Josep Lluís Mateo MAP Arquitectos, Barcelona	PLACEMEDIA, Tokyo	Brufau, Obiol, Moya & Ass., Barcelona
Mazzapokora, Zurich and Buchner Bründler AG, Basel. <i>Young talent team</i>	Jürg Altherr, Schlieren	Walther Mory Maier Bauingenieure, Basel
Marcel Meili, Markus Peter Architekten, Zurich	Vogt Landschaftsarchitekten, Zurich	Basler & Hofmann Ingenieure und Planer, Zurich
Miller & Maranta, Basel	J.S. Bihl-de Salis, Kallern (CH)	WGG Schnetzer Puskas Ingenieure, Basel
pool Architekten, Zurich and Aires Mateus & Asociados, Lisboa	ADR Julien Descombes + Marco Rampini, Genf	Betar Estudos e Projectos de Estabilidade, Lisboa
REX Architecture, New York	James Corner / Field Operations, New York	Magnusson Klemencic Associates, Seattle
Rüssli Architekten, Luzern and Steven Holl Architects, New York	Robert Gissinger, Luzern	PlüssMeyerPartner, Luzern
Sauerbruch Hutton, Berlin	Adelheid Schönborn, Munich	Arup GmbH, Berlin



## **Appendix 2, Kunsthaus extension press release of 31 March 2008:**

### **The competition jury**

#### **Client, community and specialist jurors**

- Walter B. Kielholz, President of the Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft (jury lead)
- Dr. Thomas Wagner, President Stiftung Zürcher Kunsthaus
- Dr. Christoph Becker, Director Kunsthaus Zurich
- Dr. Elmar Ledergerber, Major of the City of Zurich
- Kathrin Martelli, Head of the Department of Structural Engineering of the City of Zurich
- Dr. Christian Bührle, Board of Trustees Stiftung Sammlung E.G. Bührle, Zurich
- Peter Fischli, Artist, Zurich
- Prof. Dr. Klaus-Dieter Lehmann, President Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Berlin
- Dr. Maja Oeri, President Laurenz-Stiftung, Basel

#### **Technical jurors**

- Prof. Carl Fingerhuth, Architect, Zurich (jury facilitation)
- Franz Eberhard, Head of the Town Planning Office, City of Zurich
- Stefan Bitterli, Head of the Office for Building and Construction, Canton of Zurich
- Peter Baumgartner, Deputy of the Office for Preservation of Historical Monuments, Canton of Zurich
- Eraldo Consolascio, Architect, Bétrix & Consolascio, Zurich
- Prof. Christophe Girot, Landscape Architect, Atelier Girot, Zurich
- Prof. Francine M. J. Houben, Architect, mecanoo, Delft
- Prof. Hilde Léon, Architect, Léon Wohlhage Wernik, Berlin
- Daniel Niggli, Architect, EM2N, Zurich
- Prof. Laurids Ortner, Architect, Ortner & Ortner, Vienna
- Emanuel Christ, Architect, Christ & Gantenbein, Basel (replacement)