

Bregenz Festspielhaus Forecourt Platz der Wiener Symphoniker

Client

Amt der Landeshauptstadt Bregenz, Hochbau

Architecture

Dietrich Untertrifaller Architekten, Bregenz

Work stages

Competition 2005: 1st prize; all work stages

Period

2005–2006

Area

21'000 m²

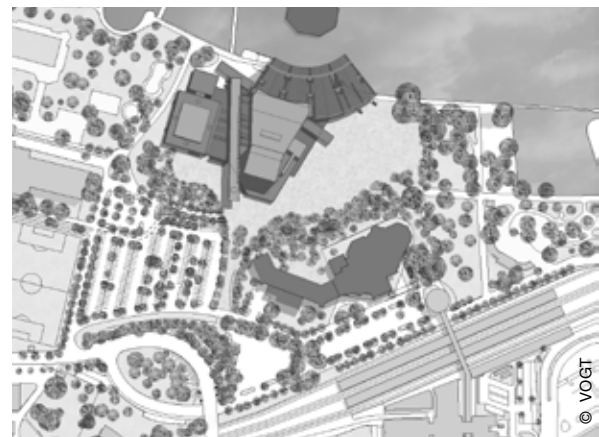
The square in front of Bregenz Festspielhaus is part of a conglomerate of spaces between the town of Bregenz and Lake Constance, differing in form, typology and use. Public life on the square itself varies. That's why the concept of the square creates a space appropriate to its different capacities of high urbanity during the festival and use as a park providing a fluent atmospheric exterior space in everyday life. The design reacts to the extreme variety in use, creating a multilayer place that recreates and strengthens the typologies of park, square and promenade.

A continuous ground cover defines a wide, open square in the centre, around the building and up to the lake shore. The greyish-brown smooth-looking asphalt reveals its rich texture at a closer look. The material refers to the stamped clay-floors in old Rome. A tree volume reminding of a park landscape borders the square. Each group of trees creates a specific atmosphere due to the varying choice of indi-

genous trees. This way the entire tree volume becomes a rich collection of species reminding of an arboretum. The use of indigenous species creates a familiar image and connects the square to the surrounding landscape.

The light concept causes an interesting inversion of spatial perception in the night: The square, a wide and clear common space in daylight, is darker than the space under the trees at night. This way the focus of a nightly visitor changes to the spaces under the trees, lying in the shadows at daytime.

The spatial concept with an open centre and the tree volume surrounding it, does not only provide a high-quality public space, but also creates a high degree of transparency with regards to orientation and accessibility.



Plan view





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