

ELBPHILHARMONIE

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There cannot be many people in Germany who have not heard of the Elbe Philharmonic Hall given the bumpy, prolonged and pricey nature of its genesis. Its many mad-cap attributes notwithstanding, the Hall still has much to commend it. Besides the impressive architecture of the new concert hall, this undoubtedly has something to do with its unusual inception. The idea of installing a world-class concert hall in a derelict warehouse by the river Elbe came from a member of the public in 2001. Alexander Gérard expounded his idea to Swiss architects Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron and a first blueprint was drafted that surmounted the building with a kind of coxcomb.

A public plaza affords access not just to those with concert tickets but to anyone who's interested. The impressive facade, which along with the crowning glory of the roof has made "Elphi", as the building has been lovingly dubbed, a new landmark in the city of Hamburg, is a quite astounding architectural feat. 66,000 square feet in size, almost 365 feet up at its highest point, incorporating a thousand tonnes of steel, the whole thing is literally rounded off by 6,000 circular sequins respectively 3 feet and 3 feet 8 inches in diameter. Despite its airy, elegant looking undular shape, the roof is required to be able to bear 8,000 tonnes. The constructional engineer was on site for 4 years instead of the scheduled 6 months in the end.

Much consideration and work went into producing the large concert hall. Its acoustics are amongst the best in the world, partly on account of tests conducted on a full-scale model. The Japanese specialist Yasuhisa Toyota, who has coordinated the acoustics in some of the best halls in the world, magisterially optimised the hall designed by Herzog & de Meuron to the point where the audience have the feeling of sitting between the instruments. FSB was turned to for all the window and door handles in the building, some equipped with its M 300 electronic access management system.

The building plays out the idea of a skyscraper, the top in the form of semicircles, which seem to be "eaten", hidden behind the clouds, is especially interesting. The Philharmonic is grand in scale and imagery - the structure resembles a ship that moves. In addition, the architects took as a basis the silhouette of the roof of the Berlin Philharmonic (in the tradition of German brutalism of the 1960s), thus creating a tradition.

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MODERN ARCHITECTURE OF SPORTS COMPLEXES FOR THE LESS MOBILE GROUPS OF THE POPULATION

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The beginning of the third millennium forced us to turn to a number of issues, without answering which it is impossible to solve the urgent problems of a modern city. These issues include the problem of ensuring the needs of the less mobile population to use the full range of services that a modern city provides, especially in socialization and sports that assign a sense of fullness to their lives.

Today, the issue of social adaptation for the less mobile groups of the population (LMGP) is being updated in the world. The category of LMGP includes pregnant women, parents with wheelchairs, elderly people, and people with disabilities. According to the World Health Organization, more than one billion people have some form of disability, which accounts for 15 % of world's population. Therefore, we will consider in more detail the socialization of the people with disabilities, because everyone of us can be included into this group at least once during our lifetime, for example, after trauma, or during pregnancy, or when we become young parents or elderly retired people.

Modern architects and design specialists use all advanced technologies to create a complete environment that can satisfy the less mobile groups of population: it is impossible to imagine a building project without a ramp and an elevator, a public building without special premises, taking into account the standards for the low-mobility group. Thus, by creating comfortable conditions, caring for and paying great attention to the functions of different types of building, taking into account all measures for the people with disabilities, architects and designers make the structure of a modern city inclusive and the environment accessible.

Currently, urbanization processes have become extremely intensive, the pace of life and production processes have intensified. A modern city grows and