



Nickl & Partner Architekten AG

On a constant quest for the brand-new

Award-winning architect's office Nickl & Partner Architekten AG stands for innovative healthcare buildings and research premises, which give architecture a human dimension. The company based in Munich, Berlin, Frankfurt and Zurich, puts a special emphasis on maximum planning quality and realisation of unconventional ideas right down to the last detail.

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“Our work involves the constant search for the brand-new – almost like researchers do – and the critical analysis of our completed building structures,” Prof. Christine Nickl-Weller, says. Having gained expert knowledge since 1979, the architects always remain flexible to be responsive to future developments. “Especially in the area of healthcare- and research buildings, this means sustainability. Flexibility is the central theme for all of our designs,” Prof. Nickl-Weller explains.

“Our designs are created on the basis of observation. We ask ourselves: What is the situation for the patient in the hospital and how can we improve this? What requirements would we have in his position? We see the task of an architect as improving the traditional and conventional,” Prof. Nickl-Weller continues.

Focusing on the human dimension and future-orientated creativity, a recently completed research building is the Helmholtz-Institute of the University of Ulm. A distinctive modern façade design refers to the topics of chemistry and physics and the architect's office managed to intelligently connect the new research building, which specialises in electrochemical energy storage, with another campus area to foster exchange.

Another prime example is the Clinical Research Centre Hannover, which was completed in 2014. Intelligently located close to the university, the centre for early clinical research, blends perfectly with the surrounding urban building structures, while bringing together different research laboratories and office areas as well as treatment, common and overnight rooms for study participants.

Main image: Helmholtz Institute, University Ulm HIU (Germany). Photo: Werner Huthmacher

Far above: Centre for Stroke and Dementia Research CSD, Munich (Germany). Photo: Belu Tec Vertriebsgesellschaft mbH

Above: Clinical Research Centre Hannover CRC (Germany). Photo: Stefan Müller-Naumann

The Centre for Stroke and Dementia Research in Munich brings together the partner institute of the National Centre for Neurodegenerative Diseases and the Institute for Stroke and Dementia Research under one roof. It aims for a direct exchange of fundamental- and application-oriented research through the integrative research approach. The transparent square impresses with flexibility, a clear building geometry and characteristic expressiveness, while open laboratories provide ideal conditions for research and space for communication. “We try to encourage ‘informal communication’, which describes spontaneous meetings that lead to an exchange of ideas among the researchers,” Prof. Nickl-Weller says.

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Prof. Christine Nickl-Weller (left) & Prof. Hans Nickl (right)