

Harpa - Reykjavik Concert Hall and Conference Centre

Reykjavik, Iceland

Operator and owner: Harpa – Portus Group

Architects: Henning Larsen Architects and Batterið Architects

Artist: Olafur Eliasson

Landscape architect: Landslag efh.

Engineers: ArtEngineering GmbH, Mannvit, Hnit Consulting Engineers, Efla Engineers, Artec Consultants and Rambøll

Contractor: IAV hf. and Iceland Prime Contractor Ltd.

Sub-consultants: ASK Architects, Almenna Consulting Engineers, Verkis Consulting Engineers and Verkhönnun Engineers

Artistic consultants: Jasper Parrott and Vladimir Ashkenazy

Gross floor area: 28,000 m²

Type of assignment: First prize in international PPP competition, 2005

Employees from Henning Larsen Architects

Responsible Partner: Peer Teglgaard Jeppesen

Architect and Design Manager: Ósbjörn Jacobsen

Project Manager: Klavs Holm Madsen

Facade Specialist: Steen Elsted Andersen

Team of architects: Andrea Tryggvadóttir, Birthe Bæk, David Garcia, Debbi Hedeham Thuesen, Diana Arsovic Hareskov Nielsen, Elizabeth Balsborg, Filip Lyders Francati, Hannibal Hink, Helga Vilmundardóttir, Ina Borup Sørensen, Ingela Larsson, Jørgen Olesen, Katja Brandt Lassen, Kristian Svejborg Olesen, Lars Harup, Leif Andersen, Leonardo Paes Resende, Lisbeth Leth-Sonne, Martha Lewis, Matthias Lehr, Mette Kynne Frandsen, Mette Landorph, Merete Alder Juul, Morten Hauch, Niels Gravergaard, Rasmus Haak and Vanda Oliveira.

Background

The competition for the master plan and design of Reykjavik's new concert hall and conference centre was launched in 2004 as a so-called PPP – Public Private Partnership – competition.

Due to the complex form of competition, no more than four teams were able to tender for the project – among these, the newly established cooperative Portus Group consisting of Henning Larsen Architects, Batteríð Architects, Olafur Eliasson, the engineering companies Rambøll, Hönnun and Hnit, Landsafl hf., IPC Iceland Prime Contractors, the operating company Nýsir hf. and the investor Landsbankinn.

The other teams participating in the competition were represented by schmidt hammer lassen from Denmark, Norman Foster from England and Jean Nouvel from France. Portus Group was selected as winner of the competition in 2005.

Description

The 28,000 m² Concert Hall is situated in a solitary spot with a clear view of the enormous sea and mountains surrounding Reykjavik. The arrival area and foyer are situated in the front part of the building, the four music and conference halls in the centre and the backstage area with offices, administration, rehearsal and dressing rooms in the rear end of the building.

The three large halls are placed next to each other with public access from the south side and backstage access from the north. The fourth floor is a multifunctional hall with room for more intimate shows and banquets. Seen from the foyer, the halls form a mountain-like massif that forms a stark contrast to the expressive, open facade. The largest hall of the building, the main concert hall, is situated at the core of the massif.

Harpa – Reykjavik Concert Hall and Concert Centre forms part of an extensive development of the east harbour area in Reykjavik, starting four years ago. Henning Larsen Architects is behind the master plan and Concert Hall.

Henning Larsen Architects

Henning Larsen Architects is one of the most international architecture companies in Denmark. The company was founded by Henning Larsen in 1959 and today has 170 employees.

Henning Larsen Architects has designed cultural buildings for many years and currently works on Palacio de Congressos in Lanzarote, Spain,

Moesgaard Museum in Aarhus and Calabar International Conference Centre in Nigeria.

In Iceland, Henning Larsen Architects has designed the new university, Reykjavik Háskólinn, situated on the outskirts of the city.

Henning Larsen Architects is managed by CEO Mette Kynne Frandsen, Design Director Louis Becker and Design Director Peer Teglgard Jeppesen.

Henning Larsen Architects A/S

Vesterbrogade 76
1620 København V
Denmark

Tel: +45 8233 3000

Web: <http://www.henninglarsen.com/>

E-mail: info@henninglarsen.com