

STADTCASINO BASEL

Press release of 17 June 2020

THE BASEL STADTCASINO SHINES IN NEW SPLENDOUR BLOCKING PERIOD 17.6.20, 12 NOON

Exactly seven years ago, on 17 June 2013, Casino-Gesellschaft Basel presented the project study "Expansion of Stadtcasino Basel" together with Herzog & de Meuron. After four years of construction and renovation, the same protagonists today presented the concert house, which now shines in new splendour.

In the past, the Stadtcasino Basel has already experienced several new buildings, conversions and extensions. However, these extensions proved to be inadequate and have now been replaced by a generous extension. The magnificent building has thus not only been refreshed behind its neo-baroque front. The latter itself became part of an architectural coup by being preserved and rebuilt at the same time. The Stadtcasino Basel was also decoupled from the head building. Thanks to the newly created Konzertgasse, it now faces both the former cultural mile of the Steinenberg and Barfüsserplatz. Now it stands confidently on the square and appears next to the mighty Barfüsser Church as an equivalent building.

More space, more comfort

Cautiously extended from the outside and almost simply, the Stadtcasino Basel has a few surprises inside. Herzog & de Meuron have succeeded in combining neo-baroque, classicist and contemporary elements to create a new type of architecture.

In addition to the architectural highlights, both the public and the artists can enjoy more space and more comfort. Inviting foyers, opulent staircases and a new ventilation system make for a stay that is as impressive as it is pleasant.

Musiksaal remains the heart of the building

The Musiksaal and the Hans Huber-Saal, both listed buildings, were renovated with great care in consultation with the Historic Preservation Society. For example, the Musiksaal was restored to its optical condition of 1905. The Musiksaal of the Stadtcasino Basel is one of the oldest and most important concert halls in the world. Thanks to its incomparable acoustics, it occupies one of the top positions in the world. To ensure that this remains so, the Casino-Gesellschaft Basel has engaged specialists for room acoustics from Munich to accompany the reconstruction.

While acoustically preserving and maintaining the historical building fabric, the Musiksaal has received, among other things, a new floating wooden floor with integrated air supply system, as well as a new podium. The historic windows were uncovered and the hall seating was renewed. The tests carried out so far have shown that the excellent room acoustic quality of the music hall has been maintained. Both the room sound and other room acoustic criteria meet the highest musical demands.

Pride and anticipation

Casino-Gesellschaft Basel is proud of the new, expanded Stadtcasino Basel. Basel will once again have a concert hall which, thanks to the outstanding architecture by Herzog & de Meuron, will develop a special radiance and attraction. The anticipation of the forthcoming 2020/21 concert season is great, despite the restrictions imposed by Corona.

Further information

Christoph Gloor

President of the Casino-Kommission

christoph-gloor@bluewin.ch

079 358 24 44

stadtcasino-basel.ch

Stadtcasino Basel

The owner and supporting association is Casino-Gesellschaft Basel, a non-profit association founded in 1824. Its purpose is to serve the cultural and, in particular, the musical endeavours in Basel with the means at its disposal. With the Stadtcasino Basel, it offers halls and other services at the most favourable conditions possible in order to provide artists and event organisers with an affordable platform for their work.