

press release 09/2025

Renovation of the Künstlerhaus Nuremberg

Careful changes to a listed cultural building

In 1910, the Künstlerhaus was built on parts of the historic city wall of Nuremberg. While the southern part had already been extensively renovated around 2000 to fix damage from the war, with the front section being constructed at the same time, the undamaged northern part remained true to its varied use until just a few years ago. From 2019, the Munich-based firm Florian Nagler Architekten took on the general renovation of this third construction section. Its subtle, almost imperceptible changes are now leading the building into a new era in its eventful history. Fire protection elements from Forster Profile Systems play a role in this and bring together precisely this combination of historical charm and modern functionality.

The Künstlerhaus at Königstor is an important part of cultural and social life in Nuremberg. It offers space for exhibitions and concerts, for conferences, cinema, workshops and gastronomy. At the same time, the institution acts as a framework for civic initiatives, as a laboratory for creative industries and as a place to meet and discuss topics.

Sensitive handling of the existing building

Starting in 2019, the listed building was modernised on behalf of the Nuremberg Hochbauamt (Building Authority). The main task was to adapt the building to meet today's standards in terms of technology, building regulations and construction. At the same time, the interior was upgraded functionally, with, for example, rooms used for similarly noisy purposes clustered together and the room configuration to be reorganised. While some of the old layers and traces of the past were deliberately kept on view, some areas were designed from scratch. These include, for example, the altered entrance, a tower annexe as a gable in front of the north facade and additions to the works yard. Thanks to careful changes to the fabric of the building and the sensitive addition of new elements, the original character of the building is retained throughout. At the same time, the technical and functional improvements represent significant added value for future use.

Filigree design in harmony with the preservation of a listed building

The structural fire protection requirements necessitated fire and smoke protection doors to be installed in the area of the stairwells, corridors and in the basement. These should integrate as inconspicuously as possible into the existing structure, have slim profiles and use as little material as possible. The elements made of coated steel and glass are also designed in accordance with the specifications of the listed building. The anthracite-coloured tubular frame doors follow the geometric specifications from the existing building and are individually adapted to the shape of the vaulted ceilings or the room heights.

Room-specific versions of the fire protection elements

A total of ten project-specific elements based on the forster fuego light door series ensure fire protection in the refurbished Künstlerhaus Nuremberg. For example, double-leaf doors are

installed to the prestigious staircase in the entrance area, which are topped off with special fanlights in a basket-handle arch shape. The historical style is reflected in a fire-resistant door with fixed glazing in the symmetrical sidelights and with striking vertical transoms in the arch. Other versions, for example with segmental or round arches, particularly high ceiling connections or straight lintels, can be found at the transitions to corridors, stairwells and in the basement. Fire protection regulations range from T30 RS fire-retardant doors to T90 RS fire-resistant doors. Individual approvals were required in three cases due to the overall height being exceeded, the height of the T90 leaves, the permissible size of the fanlight filling and the special connections in the existing building. Box profiles are installed above the actual elements, which ensure static support and skilfully create the transition to the special existing architecture. Bearing witness to more than 100 years of eventful contemporary history, the outdated structure of the northern part of the building has been sensitively renovated to once again meet today's requirements.

For further information, please visit www.forstersystems.com

Project information

Products:	forster fuego light T30 and T90 fire and smoke protection doors
Architecture:	Florian Nagler Architekten, Munich, Germany
Metal construction:	MAB Metall- und Anlagenbau GmbH, Wittenförden, Germany Hüther Objektüren GmbH, Hedemünden, Germany
Client:	Hochbauamt (Building Authority) of the City of Nuremberg, Germany
Realisation:	2024
Photography:	Uwe Mühlhäußer

Forster Profile Systems – Steel is our nature.

Forster Profilsysteme AG develops and produces secure and energy-efficient solutions made from steel and stainless steel for doors, windows and facades. Forster is a partner in the property sector and offers individual advice and project support on site around the globe. The products and system solutions from Forster for the building shell and interior applications meet the most stringent requirements and standards, with heat insulation and safety features such as fire protection, burglary resistance and bullet resistance. The portfolio is rounded off by accessories and comprehensive services for customers and business partners in architecture, planning and the construction industry.

Forster works with its own subsidiaries in more than 20 countries – and exclusive sales partners in around 10 other countries from Europe and the Middle East to Asia and North America.

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Figures



The Künstlerhaus Nuremberg has borne witness to more than 100 years of eventful contemporary history – this momentous history ranges from being a party home for the National Socialists to a club for the American armed forces and a self-managed youth club. Photo: © Uwe Mühlhäuser



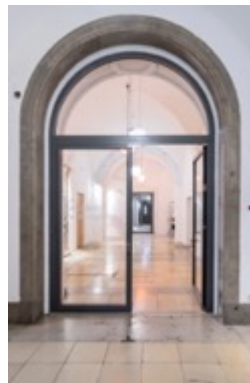
The Künstlerhaus Nuremberg is currently used for a wide range of cultural offerings, all of which will be retained even after the latest measures. Photo: © Uwe Mühlhäuser



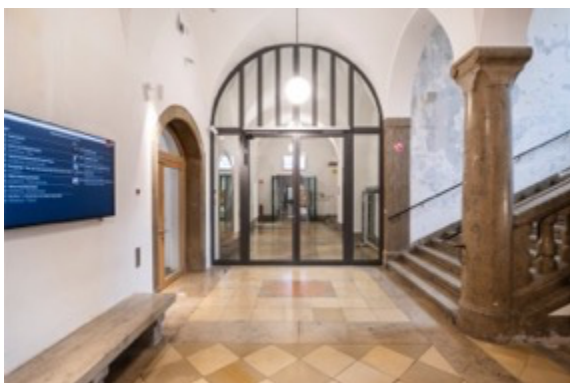
The northern part of the Künstlerhaus, which mainly houses workshops and event rooms, was carefully renovated by Florian Nagler Architekten. A key change is the redefined entrance, which provides an opening to Nuremberg's urban space. Photo: © Uwe Mühlhäuser



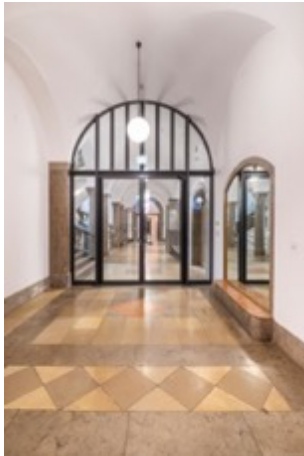
On the ground floor, fire-resistant doors from the forster fuego light profile system with static profiles and curved fanlights with custom panes mark the transitions to the corridors on both sides of the prestigious stairwell. Photo: © Uwe Mühlhäuser



The simpler version of a double-leaf door T30 RS in forster fuego light with fanlight in the shape of a round arch picks up on the special geometry of the room. Photo: © Uwe Mühlhäuser



Facing the south, there is a double-leaf door 90 RS in forster fuego light with glazed sidelights and a large fanlight, which required individual approval due to its special design. Photo: © Uwe Mühlhäuser



The filigree profiles and vertical transoms in the forster fuego light system reflect the style of the time when the building was created. However, today's fire protection requirements are also met as a T90 RS fire-resistant door. Photo: © Uwe Mühlhäuser



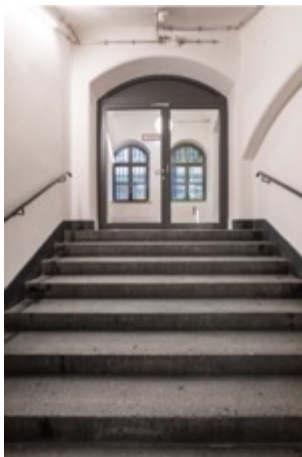
Traces of the past have been deliberately preserved by the architects. Modern elements such as the newly installed fire and smoke protection closures stand alongside the original jambs or more recent wall designs. The face widths of the simple single-leaf doors also match the profile dimensions of the large elements. Photo: © Uwe Mühlhäuser



Versions with a T30 RS round or segmental arch in forster fuego light can also be found on the ground floor. Photo: © Uwe Mühlhäuser



On the first floor, a curved T90 RS fire-resistant door with forster fuego light marks the entrance to the Filmhaus. A sophisticated round arch element has been fitted into the asymmetrical basket-handle arch, which ends at different heights on both sides. Photos: © Uwe Mühlhäuser



In the basement, the noisy rooms were restructured and divided up by the fire-resistant doors. The good sound insulation properties of the Forster profile systems made of steel play their part in this. Photo: © Uwe Mühlhäuser



The transitions to the stairwells and corridors are marked by door variants with a segmental arch or straight lintel, also provided in T30 RS forster fuego light. Photo: © Uwe Mühlhäuser