



PHILHARMONIC HALL, ESSEN, GERMANY

PROJECT. Located in the centre of Essen, the existing building was converted into a modern philharmonic hall for high-class concerts of all kinds. Achieving the volume required for the desired reverberation involved gutting the original hall completely and adding an extra base-ment storey. The ceiling was raised considerably. The new Alfried Krupp Hall now has raking stalls, a rear balcony, choir seating as well as three side balconies for an audience of up to 1,860.

ACOUSTICS. An indispensable prerequisite for good acoustics is to facilitate the necessary silence in the hall. This called for sound-insulating measures on facades, enclosing walls, roof constructions, floor constructions, entrance doors etc. Sources of noise outside the building such as traffic or noise from the nearby underground railway had to be taken into account in the acoustic design.

In addition to the wide range of classical music performed, electro-acoustically amplified jazz concerts take place, too. The room acoustics in the concert hall can be adjusted by way of variable measures in the form of sound absorbing curtains to achieve the acoustics required for amplified live music.

Next to the philharmonic hall (Alfried Krupp Hall), a new hall, the so-called RWE Pavilion, was built. This hall is provided with curtains for adjusting the acoustics as well as with mobile electroacoustical amplification systems. As a result, a multi-purpose usage of the hall, e.g. for receptions, festive events as well as for conferences and jazz concerts, is possible—good acoustics guaranteed.



CLIENT

Saalbau und Philharmonie in Essen GmbH & Co.
Realisierungsgesellschaft KG

ARCHITECT

Busmann und Haberer, Cologne

PROJECT DATA

Completed	2005
Gross floor area	21,700 m ²
Cost of construction	51 million euros

SERVICES RENDERED

Room acoustics, electroacoustics, audio/video technology, building acoustics
Measurements during construction, detailed design, site supervision, final acceptance tests, accompaniment of start-up period

1 Alfried Krupp Hall, stage and reflector
2 Alfried Krupp Hall, organ
3 Alfried Krupp Hall, auditorium
4 left: RWE Pavilion; right: foyer
5 Exterior view of building
Pictures: 1-4 Dieter Michel, 5 Müller-BBM