

NEW RELEASE 2026

Stadthalle Heidelberg

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For over a century, Stadthalle Heidelberg has shaped the cityscape along the Neckar. Behind its striking historicist façade lies a place where architecture, culture, and urban history are inextricably intertwined. Celebrating its 2026 reopening as a modern cultural center and concert venue, this publication dedicates itself to the story of this Heidelberg landmark.

The opening section follows architectural historian Oliver Sukrow as he investigates archival sources as well as the history of the building's development. In the second section, architects Felix and Sibylle Waechter provide insights into the landmark-compliant restoration: How does one reestablish a historic monument to meet contemporary acoustic, technical, and cultural demands? A contemporary photo essay by architectural photographer Brigida González completes the behind-the-scenes perspective.

From the foreword by

Prof. Dr. Eckart Würzner, Mayor of the City of Heidelberg

For the people of Heidelberg, the Stadthalle has always held a special significance. It is home to spectacular concerts by the Heidelberg Philharmonic Orchestra and the Heidelberger Frühling Festival. Many citizens have also experienced festive events or their children's graduation balls here. The Stadthalle serves both as a venue for internationally renowned cultural events and as a home for local clubs and community initiatives. In short, it is Heidelberg's "good parlor."

Now that our "good parlor" has been renovated, it shines anew as a modern concert hall that has preserved its historic charm. Even more, in many areas the Stadthalle has been restored close to its original condition. (...)

The renovated Stadthalle is a true gem that will bring great joy to all of us and will remain of special importance to the people of Heidelberg well into the future.

Prof. Dr. Sandra Meireis, is an architectural theorist and author. She has taught architectural history and theory at various universities since 2010 and, since 2024, has held the Chair of Architectural Theory and Architectural History at TU Darmstadt.

Dr. Oliver Sukrow has been a research associate at the ATW department of TU Darmstadt since 2023. He holds a PhD in art history from Heidelberg University and previously worked at TU Vienna.

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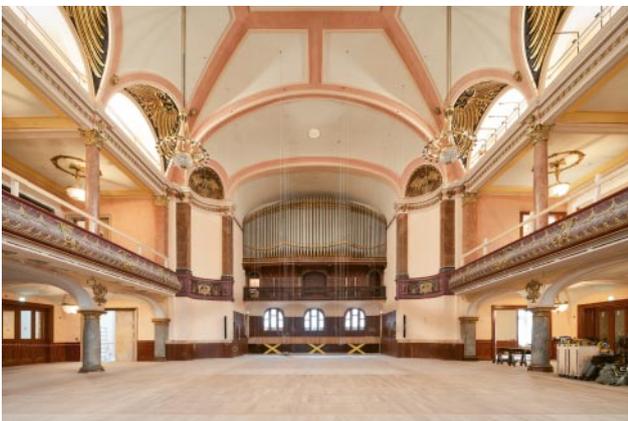
02_Stadthalle renovation and conversion, main hall, 2025.
© Brigida González



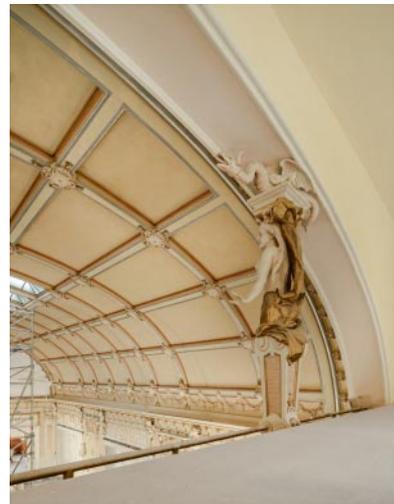
03_Stadthalle renovation and conversion, main hall, floor-level circulation, 2025. © Brigida González



04_Stadthalle renovation and conversion, main hall, side of mezzanine, 2025. © Brigida González



05_Stadthalle renovation and conversion, main hall, organ gallery, 2025. © Brigida González



06_Stadthalle renovation and conversion, ballroom gallery, 2025.
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07_Stadthalle renovation and conversion, restoration of ceiling light fixtures, 2025. © Brigida González



08_Stadthalle renovation and conversion, Hölderlin Hall, 2025. © Brigida González



09_Stadthalle renovation and conversion, ballroom, 2025. © Brigida González



10_Stadthalle renovation and conversion, Kammermusiksaal, 2025. © Brigida González



11_Stadthalle renovation and conversion, restoration of original windows, 2025. © Brigida González



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