

German Design Award for Simone Ferrari and Claudia Witte

Interior architecture design of the international guest house of Hochschule Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences receives award



Back yard view of the guest house after the renovation with Histolith in close coordination with the Historic Sites Protection Authority

(Picture: Caparol paints, enamel, protection of buildings/ Blitzwerk and photographer Thomas Ott)

(PresseBox) (Ober-Ramstadt, 25.10.2013) The interior architecture design of the international guest house of the Hochschule Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences (h_da) has received the German Design Award 2014 in the category "Architecture and Interior Design" from the German Design Council. The award "Special Mention in the category Architecture and Interior Design" honours works, in which design is particularly successful regarding partial aspects or solutions - a valuable recognition of the outstanding commitment of companies and designers. The design was developed and implemented by interior designers Simone Ferrari and Claudia Witte from Seeheim-Jugenheim.

The international guest house of the Hochschule Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences, built as a private residence in 1931/32, was extensively renovated inside and outside by Thomas Grüninger Architects, Darmstadt, in collaboration with Simone Ferrari und Claudia Witte. Since the end of 2012 the house accommodates domestic as well as the international guests of the h_da in six single room apartments and three two-bedroom apartments on a total of three floors and an area of 550 square meters. At the same time it is also been used as an international meeting point for events of Hochschule Darmstadt.

Simone Ferrari describes the objectives of their work: "The challenge in the interior consisted of creating an integrated room and a furniture concept for the structurally very different apartments and to create a comfortable atmosphere without altering the white walls".

The design of the nine guest apartments therefore followed a clear principle: the preservation of the individual character and the existing structures of the individual rooms is predominant and is supplemented by discreet built-in components and furnishings. The design of the furniture is quiet, easy, and straightforward. A specially developed modular closet system adjusts to the completely different spatial situations and thereby imparts all apartments an uniform duct.

The clean lines in the furniture are complemented by accented color fields that oscillate between green and blue and emphasize the individual character of the apartments. These areas in lime-

smoothing technique with straw inserts are unique craftsmanship and were donated by the company Caparol and implemented by the FarbDesignStudio. They are applied in large format on the walls and correspond to the furniture coverings, which are held in similar tones. The public rooms on the ground floor are held in representative red.

The German Design Award awarded by the German Design Council is one of the most important German design and interior architecture awards. It is awarded in nine categories annually. In early August 30 design experts from business, academics and science assessed a total of 1,900 submissions and decided about the awarding of the prestigious prize. The awarding ceremony as well as the opening of the exhibition for the German Design Award 2014 will take place on February 7th in Frankfurt in the framework of the international consumer goods fair "Ambiente". The ceremony is, with over 1,000 guests from politics, business, design, and press, one of the most important design events of the year. More information about the award can be found on the website: www.german-design-council.de