

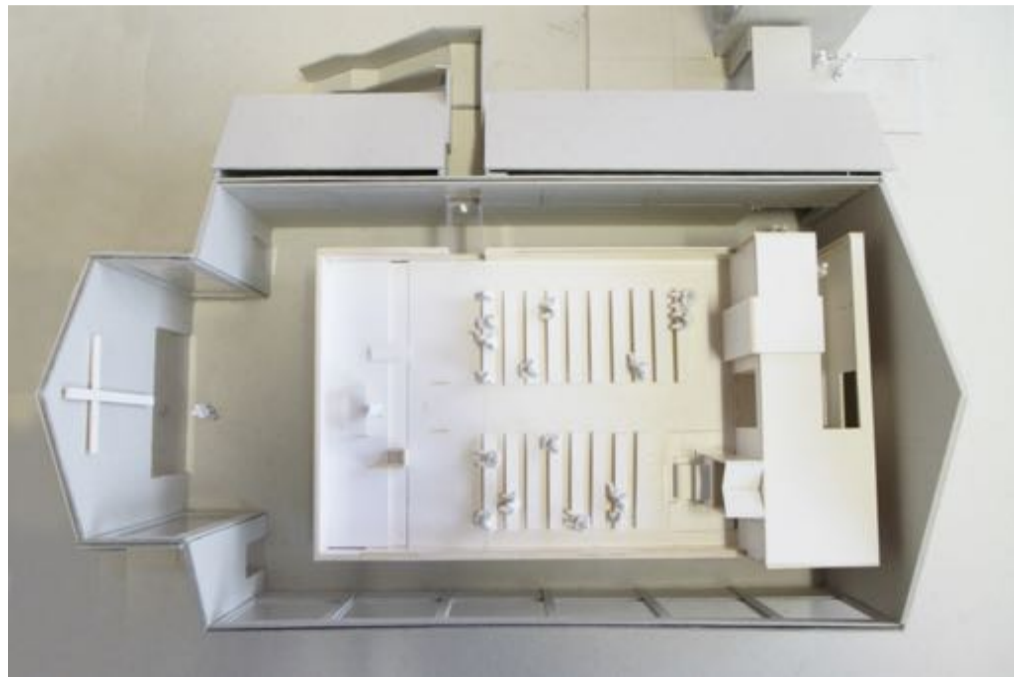
Conversion of the Martinskirche, Mannheim–Rheinau (south)

Since the building maintenance costs of the parish were disproportionate to its income, church properties, the old parish hall and the rectory were sold to finance and implement the renovation of the Martinskirche. The parish was able to maintain its independent church work by "downsizing".

The essential measures Installation:

"Intarsia" - the house-in-house concept

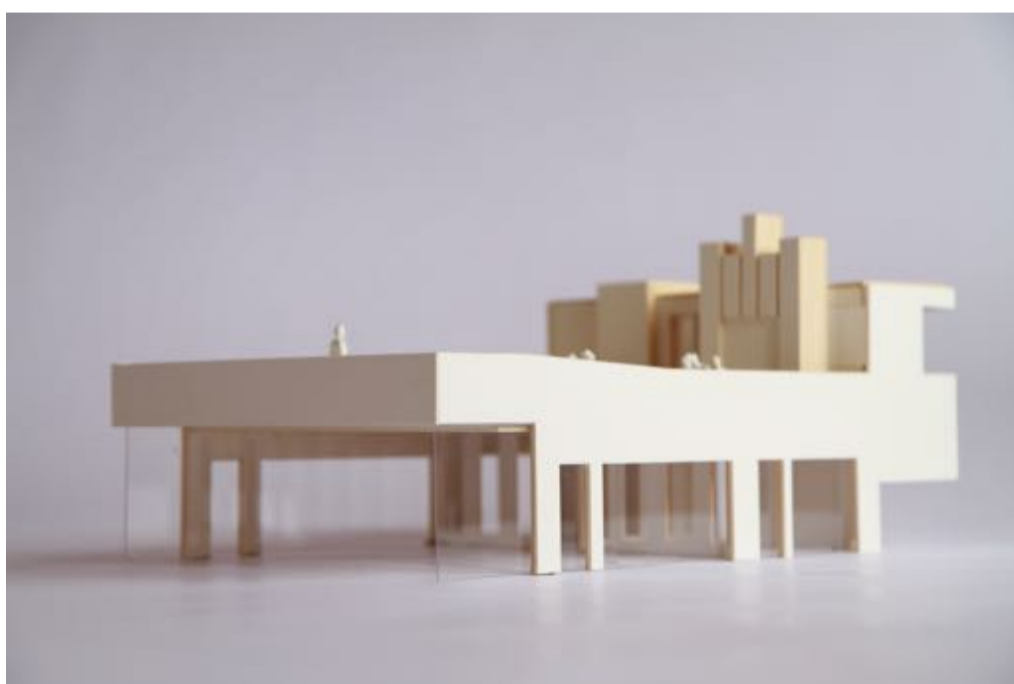
A calm, spatially complex wooden structure which can accommodate different uses and requirements of the parish was placed in the existing church space. A wooden structure from a subtractive-processed block of wood with a rudimentary, reduced shape was vividly created for the functions that give this installation its shape.



Fotography of the architectural model "house-in-house"
white: Installation
grey: existing church space

Through the "house-in-house concept", space had been created for the spatial separation of the sacred and profane areas. The sacral space was raised and the (profane) space created below was designated for the community.

The orientation of the entire wooden structure is based on the original orientation of the church interior and is detached from the outer walls all around the existing building. Thus, the church interior can still be perceived and experienced as a continuous sacral space.



Fotography of the architectural model "Installation"

Interior substance:

Rear wall opening in the choir

In the area of the former apse, the above-mentioned opening was created to strengthen the exterior-space connection of the ground floor or secular communal rooms.

Reconstruction of the gallery, extension of the bank placement area and altar platform

For the installation of the wooden structure, the gallery, bench placement area and altar platform were removed.



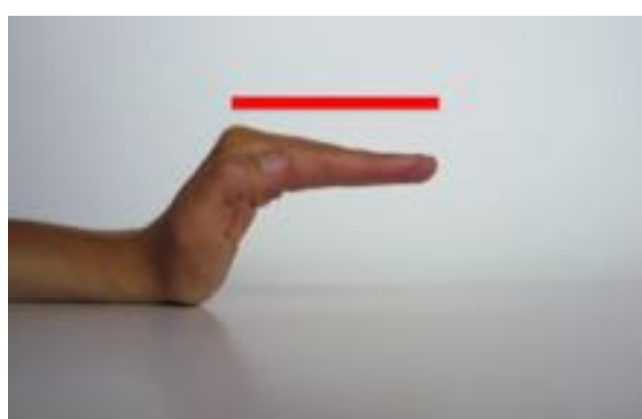
Fotography of the architectural model "Installation"

Materiality:

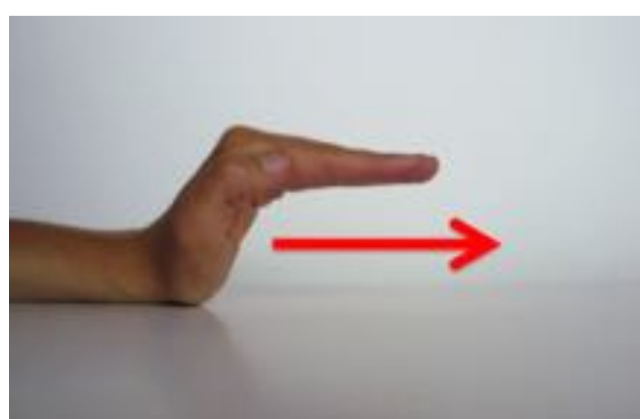
The defining material of the existing building, such as plaster and stone, were juxtaposed with a wooden cube made of silver fir for a cosy atmosphere and spatial warmth. The homogeneity of the wooden construction and the brightness of the silver fir stand in stark contrast to the dark floor coverings of mastic asphalt and quartzite on the ground floor. The choice of the silver fir for the new principles of the sacred space additionally emphasises the homogeneity and the resulting calm and restraint of the powerful wooden structure.



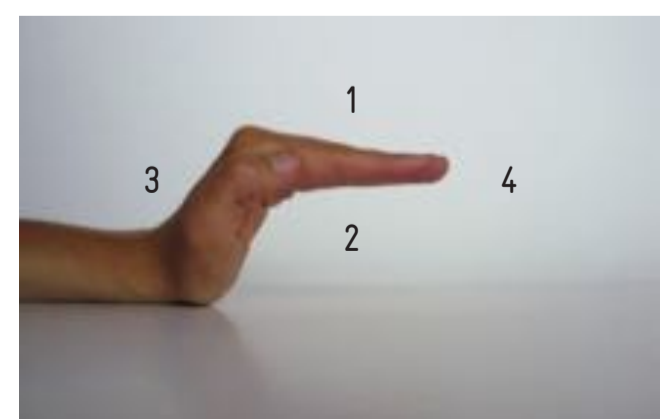
Fotography of the architectural model "wooden Installation"



sacral layer in raised position / upper floor



profane use on bottom / ground floor



1. sacral space
2. profane section
3. agglomeration by functional installations (stair, elevator, etc.)
4. widening to the void