

## Kö-Bogen II Düsseldorf



### Location

Gustaf-Gründgens-Platz 1, Düsseldorf, Germany

### Built

Construction period: 2017–2020

Competition: International competition 2014, 1st prize

GFA office building: 41,370 m<sup>2</sup>

GFA underground parking garage: 23,000 m<sup>2</sup>

## 8 Kilometres of Hornbeam Hedges – Europe’s Largest Green Facade

8 kilometres of hornbeam hedges, over 30,000 plants – Europe’s largest green facade is complete. The facade is an essential element of the Kö-Bogen II commercial and office building by ingenhoven architects. The ensemble marks the conclusion of an extensive urban renewal project in the heart of Düsseldorf. It also represents a paradigm shift: from an urban perspective, it signals a departure from the automotive era and a turn towards people-oriented planning. And with Europe’s largest green facade, it offers an urban response to climate change. Giving back as much green as possible to the city is a task that ingenhoven architects have been working on for decades and across different climate zones. With its **supergreen®** concept, the office is taking a comprehensive approach to sustainability. Düsseldorf’s new city centre Today, where an elevated motorway once dominated the landscape, the Hofgarten has moved back into the heart of the city. Kö-Bogen’s sloping green facades face one another in a composition inspired by Land Art. The new building complex oscillates in a deliberate indeterminacy between city and park. The two structures form a dynamic entrance to Gustaf-Gründgens-Platz, which opens up the view to icons of post-war modernism – the clear austerity of the Dreischeibenhaus (1960) and the buoyant lightness of the

Schauspielhaus (1970), whose renovation was also undertaken by ingenhoven architects. Kö-Bogen II is a contemporary response to these two historic landmarks, without competing with them. With studies, urban planning concepts, and concrete projects, Christoph Inghoven has been pursuing the idea of redesigning the centre of Düsseldorf since 1992. Going green The hornbeam was intentionally selected as a native hardwood species that keeps its leaves in winter. A comprehensive phytotechnological concept was developed together with Prof. Dr. Strauch, Beuth University of Applied Sciences, Berlin, to incorporate the hedges into the building design. The greenery improves the city's microclimate – it protects against the sun's rays in summer and reduces urban heat, binds carbon dioxide, stores moisture, attenuates noise, and supports biodiversity. The ecological benefit of the hornbeam hedges is equivalent to that of approximately 80 fully grown deciduous trees. This integration of nature into architecture offers a contemporary urban response to climate change.

## Awards, Nominations

2022

DGNB Platin (Degree of fulfillment 93,2)  
DGNB Diamant

2021

Immobilienmanager Award 2021 – Category "New Project Development"  
Green GOOD DESIGN Award 2021  
Design Educates Awards 2021 – Gold Prize  
Gold Winner – Grand Prix Du Design 2021, Categories: Architecture + Climate Change, Commercial Building  
Shortlist DAM-Preis 2022  
Nomination MIPIM Awards 2021 – Category "Best Mixed Use"  
Shortlist WAF Awards 2021 – Category "Mixed Use"  
Shortlist WAN Awards 2021 – Category "Mixed Use"  
Shortlist ABB Leaf Awards 2021  
Shortlist Deutscher Nachhaltigkeitspreis 2021  
ICONIC Awards 2021 – Best of Best  
Prix Versailles – The World Architecture and Design Award, Category: Shopping Malls – Special prize Exterior  
AMP Awards 2021 Winner - Best of Best Green Architecture

2020

Architekturpreis Düsseldorf

2019

Polis Award 2019, 1st place in the "Reactivated Centers" category

2016

MIPIM Architectural Review Future Projects Award - Mixed-Use, recognition

## Team

Client

Düsseldorf Schadowstraße 50/52 GmbH & Co. KG;  
CENTRUM Projektentwicklung GmbH, Düsseldorf; B&L Group, Hamburg

Architect

ingenhoven architects, Düsseldorf

Team ingenhoven architects

Christoph Inghoven, Peter Jan van Ouwerkerk, Cem Uzman, Mehmet Congara, Ben Dieckmann, Patrick Esser, Vanessa Garcia Carnicero, Yulia Grantovskikh, Tomoko Goi, Olga Hartmann, Jakob Hense, Melike Islek, Fabrice-Noel Köhler, Christian Monning, Daniel Pehl, Andres Pena Gomez, Peter Pistorius, Lukas Reichel, Jürgen Schreyer, Susana Somoza Parada, Jonas Unger, Nicolas Witsch, Dariusz Szczygielski, Stefan Boenicke, Thanh Dang

Project management

AIP Bauregie GmbH, Düsseldorf

Structural planning

Schüller-Plan Ingenieurgesellschaft mbH, Düsseldorf

Development plan

Heinz Jahnen Pflüger – Stadtplaner und Architekten Partnerschaft, Aachen

Geotechnical consulting

ICG Düsseldorf GmbH & Co. KG

Facade planning – green facades and green roofs

ingenhoven architects, Düsseldorf Werner Sobek AG, Stuttgart

Phytotechnology – building greenery

Prof. Dr. Strauch, Beuth University of Applied Sciences Berlin, Department of Life Sciences and Technology

Consultation on vegetation ecology

Prof. Dr. Reif, Albert Ludwigs University Freiburg, Chair of Site Classification and Vegetation Science