



HOUSE OF ONE

THREE RELIGIONS. ONE HOUSE.





HOUSE OF ONE BERLIN A PLACE OF HOPE & PEACE

Our world needs places of peace more urgently than ever before. Martin Luther King once said in Berlin: places where “with this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair, the stone of hope” are places where we learn to live together in our “World House” – our House of One.

In 2011, Jews, Christians and Muslims set forth to plan and build a completely new type of sacral building, to foster understanding among religions and fill it with life:

› **ONE HOUSE OF EQUALITY**

in a city where Jewish emancipation began 200 years ago,

› **ONE HOUSE OF RECONCILIATION**

there, where the extermination of the Jews was planned 80 years ago,

› **ONE HOUSE OF BRIDGE BUILDERS**

in the city, which represented the symbol of a divided world after 1961,

› **ONE HOUSE OF PEACE**

in the city, where the religions contributed to a “peaceful revolution” in 1989 and the Wall fell.

Our world needs places of hope and peace. Our world needs people who join together to build such places.

THREE RELIGIONS ONE HOUSE

Something that has been globally unprecedented until now is being established in Berlin: Jews, Christians and Muslims are working together to build a structure that will house a synagogue, a church and a mosque under one roof. A house of prayer and interdisciplinary teaching. A place of encounter, for meeting and exchange among people of different faiths. It is also a house for all of those who do not belong to a religious community.



MINISTER **GREGOR HOHBERG**

“In Berlin, at the original birthplace of the city and on the site where its first church stood, the groundwork is being laid for a vision of the future. A new place of worship will arise from the foundations of the old churches, which will serve as a haven for many religions. The people who will worship here shall practice according to their own faith, draw from its strength and join each other and the city’s secular community to engage in peaceful dialogue. This house will be home to equality, peace, and reconciliation.”



RABBI **ANDREAS NACHAMA**

“House of One – three religions – three paths to God – together under one roof. Actually a House of One should have existed centuries ago – in fact, religion is being misused even today to justify violence. In the House of One we strive for peaceful coexistence, also in discussion with each other, and with varying positions in civil society – from agnostics or atheists, to those with completely different ideas about religious beliefs – to spark a dialogue, explore differences, identify points of disagreement, and build respect and mutual understanding in order to make religious intolerance vanish from our consciousness.”



IMAM **KADIR SANCİ**

“House of One is embodied by effective, heartfelt dialogue made manifest in an idea and a building. It’s our model for animated, interreligious dialogue; we’re making a contribution to world peace by forging a link between tradition and the present day. From establishing the best architectural language to setting up foundations that give equal weight to religion and society, our work has provided hope, moving and winning hearts worldwide. We are very grateful for the trust we inspire, which in turn instills in us a sense of responsibility.”

AN IDEA BRIMMING WITH LIFE

The overwhelming response to the House of One demonstrates how deeply people yearn for a symbolic place of learning and understanding, where the universal questions of humanity – including those relevant to religion – can be discussed with open minds and hearts. Although construction will only begin in 2019, the idea is already brimming with life. The highly dynamic growth of the project areas provides a sense of the purpose behind the House of One today and in the future.



Exhibition in Paris, showing the floor plan of the House of One on a 1:1 scale



Project "Young House of One" on the Petriplatz, Berlin, May 2017

ARCHITECTURAL PLANNING OF THE HOUSE OF ONE

Key question: How can the House of One become a place that promotes a new type of contemporary understanding of the strong cultural impact of religious beliefs in architecture, art and science, which has effectively existed for centuries? In this regard, how can the House of One become a "house of religious abundance"?

Here's how: Discuss the concept on international platforms, follow up on the design and execution planning of the building, cooperate with artists on the House of One interior design.

EVENTS

Key question: How can the concepts and themes of the House of One be communicated to an interested public audience before the building is constructed?

Here's how: With a wide range of event formats that offer a contemporary program for all target groups in the city, from panel discussions to audience participation formats on the Petriplatz square, through to public group pray-ins.



Joint peace prayer on September 11, 2016 with a live-feed on the radio and Facebook



Laying of the cornerstone of the House of Peace, Bangui, Republic of Central Africa



School project in St. Mary's Church, Berlin, 2015

SOCIAL MEDIA

Key question: How can the concept of the House of One launch communication of religious themes in social media beyond the largely religious fundamentalist occupation of the Internet?

Here's how: Test new forms of communication with relevance to religious topics on the Internet, based on the House of One's national and international relationships. Have the social media team address themes regarding interreligious dialogue and report about House of One activities on various Internet platforms.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Key question: How can the concept of the House of One sustainably promote peace in other countries?

Here's how: Cooperative planning of House of One "subsidiary foundations" in other countries (Rwanda, Central African Republic, Austria); establish domestic and international support groups; partner with religious communities, universities, academies and political and cultural institutes.

EDUCATION

Key question: How can the concept of the House of One raise interconfessional competence among children, young adults and adults?

Here's how: Have the inter-confessional education team introduce the project history of House of One when working with school classes; develop new educational materials; establish international alliances with House of One partner schools.



ARCHITECTURE

The creation process for the innovative architecture of the House of One was only possible with the selfless commitment of the religions and the community during the House of One concept and planning phase. This process will continue, with each phase having an inherent value and visibly taking shape: There will be more than just talk; we'll be building together – and as a result of this mutual exchange, the “heart's blood” of all those involved will flow into the House of One. An investment in mutual understanding: “There is no better way to achieve this status than to join hands to build something that bridges the existing division. Only then will something that belongs to all of us be at stake, which we must protect and nurture as one.” (Kofi Annan). The result is collective participation in the House of One, in the iconic building and in the future appropriation of a symbol of peace as understanding between religions, not by mixing them together, but rather as “praise of diversity” (Navid Kermani).

MILESTONES

2012 › Globally tendered architecture competition with 208 applications from 14 countries, 38 entries, winning design by Kuehn Malvezzi Architects Berlin

2012 › Exhibition of the competition entries in the Parochialkirche, Berlin

2015 › Chicago Architecture Biennial “Models of the House of One” › Kuehn Malvezzi with Armin Linke and Marko Lulić

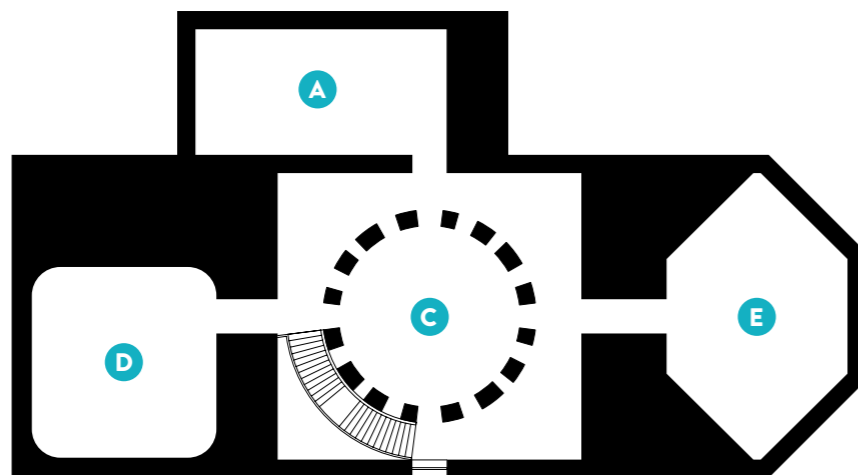
2016 › Exhibition “House of One” in Centquatre Paris and exhibition “House of One” in the Solo Gallery Paris

The design concept is based on the diversity between the interior and the exterior: outside, the harmonious sculptural structure that brings a remarkable addition to the cityscape, inside, the diversity of the variously shaped rooms; a miniature city that calls for discovery. Synagogue, church and mosque are arranged on top of the ancient church foundations, surrounding a central hall crowned by a cupola; it is completed by a municipal loggia.

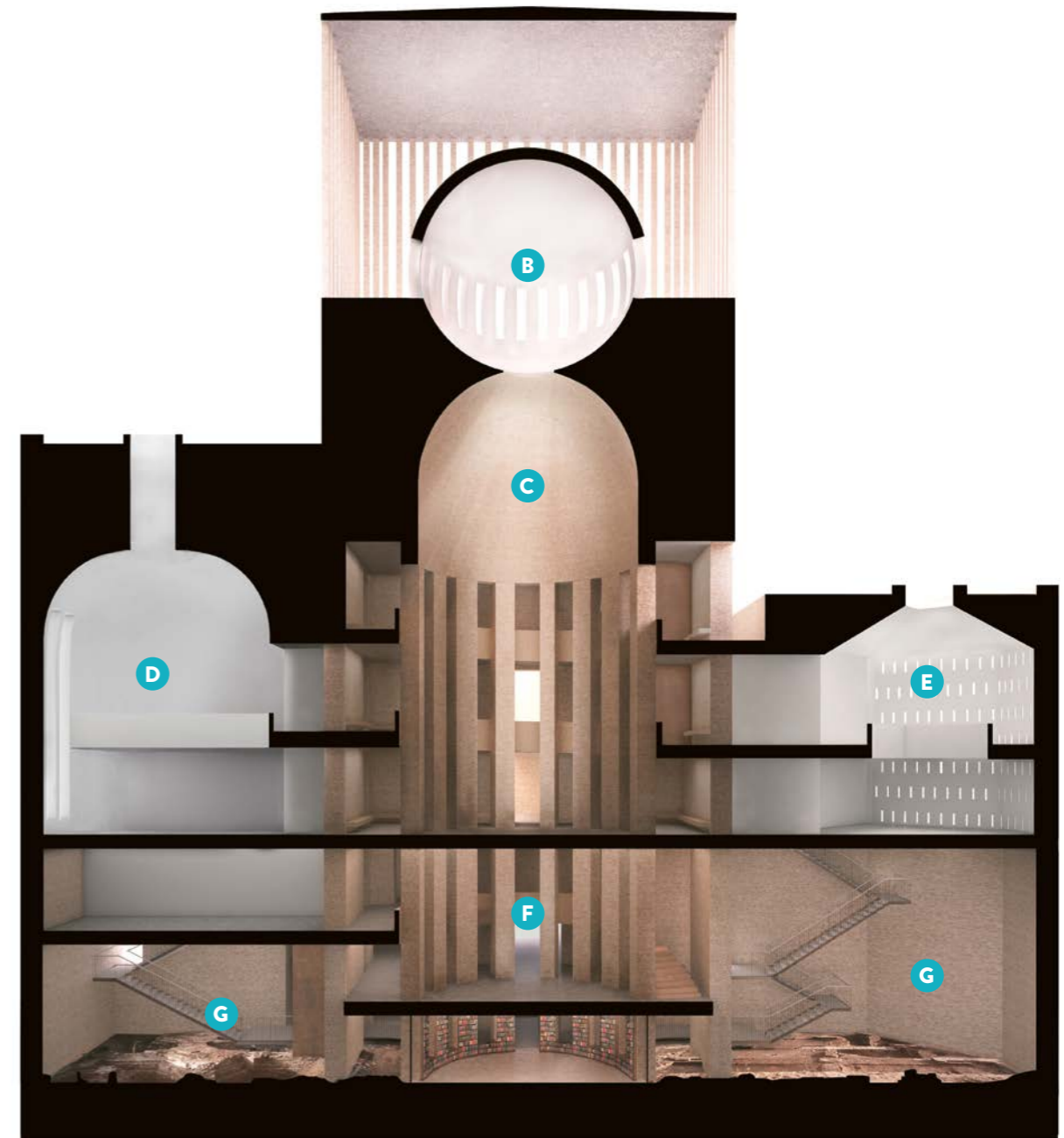
A series of exhibitions and publications have since acclaimed the status and exceptional quality of the design.

HOUSE OF ONE FLOOR PLAN

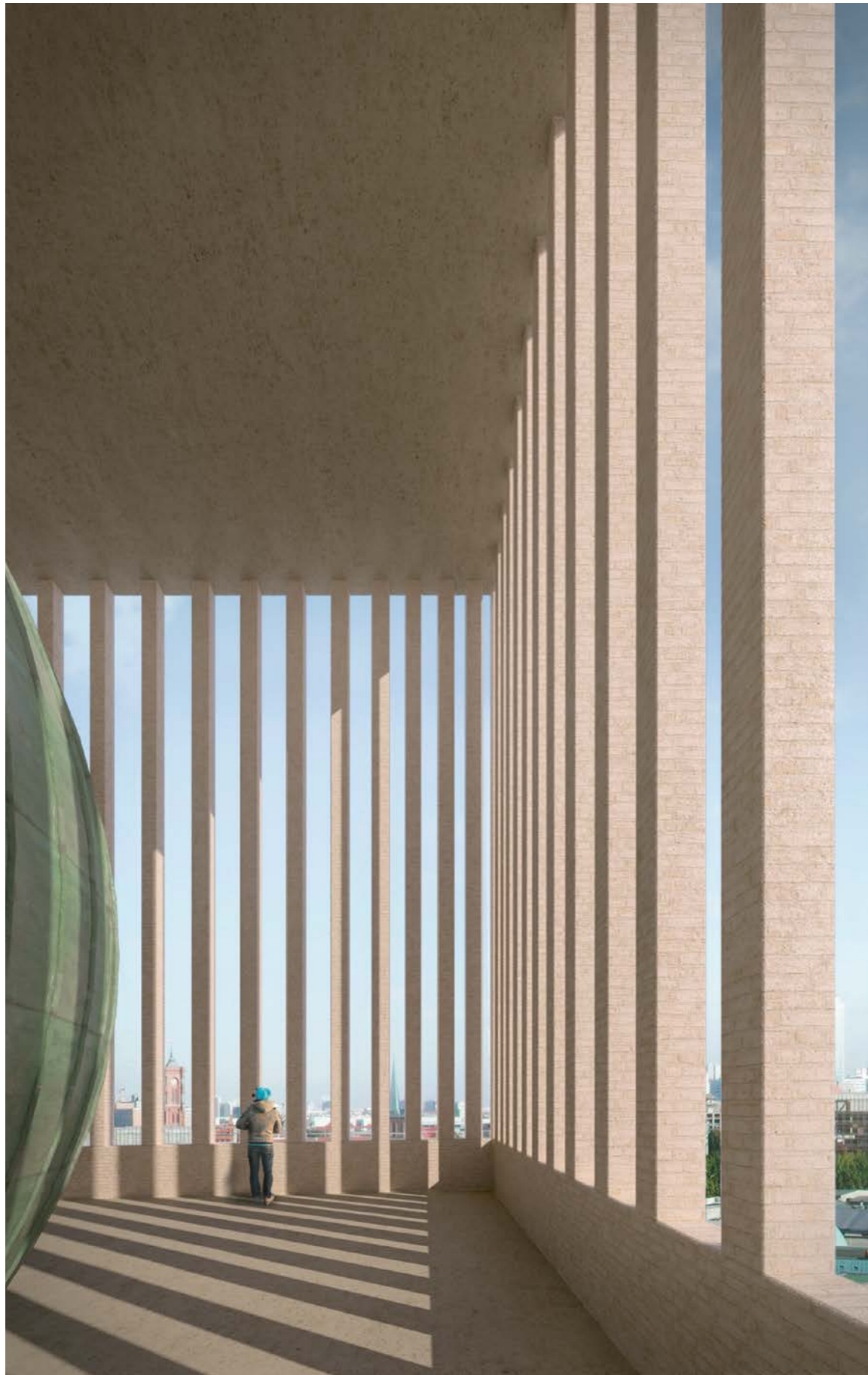
- A** Church (not shown in the section to the right)
- B** Municipal loggia
- C** Central meeting place
- D** Mosque
- E** Synagogue
- F** Reception area
- G** Archeological findings, library, and event space



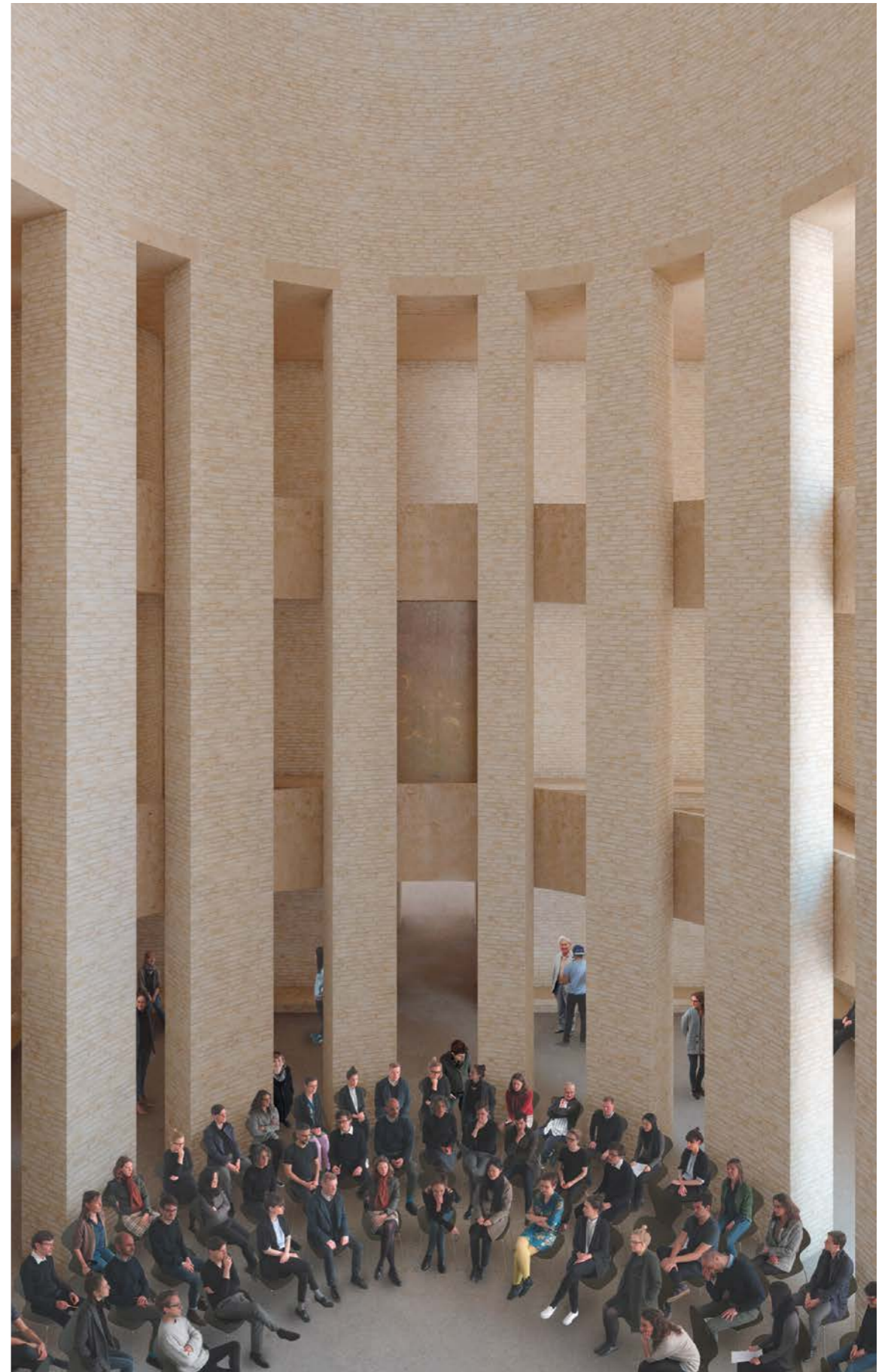
FLOOR PLAN



CROSS-SECTION OF THE BUILDING



City loggia



Domed central hall



Foundation Board of the House of One

THE FOUNDATION

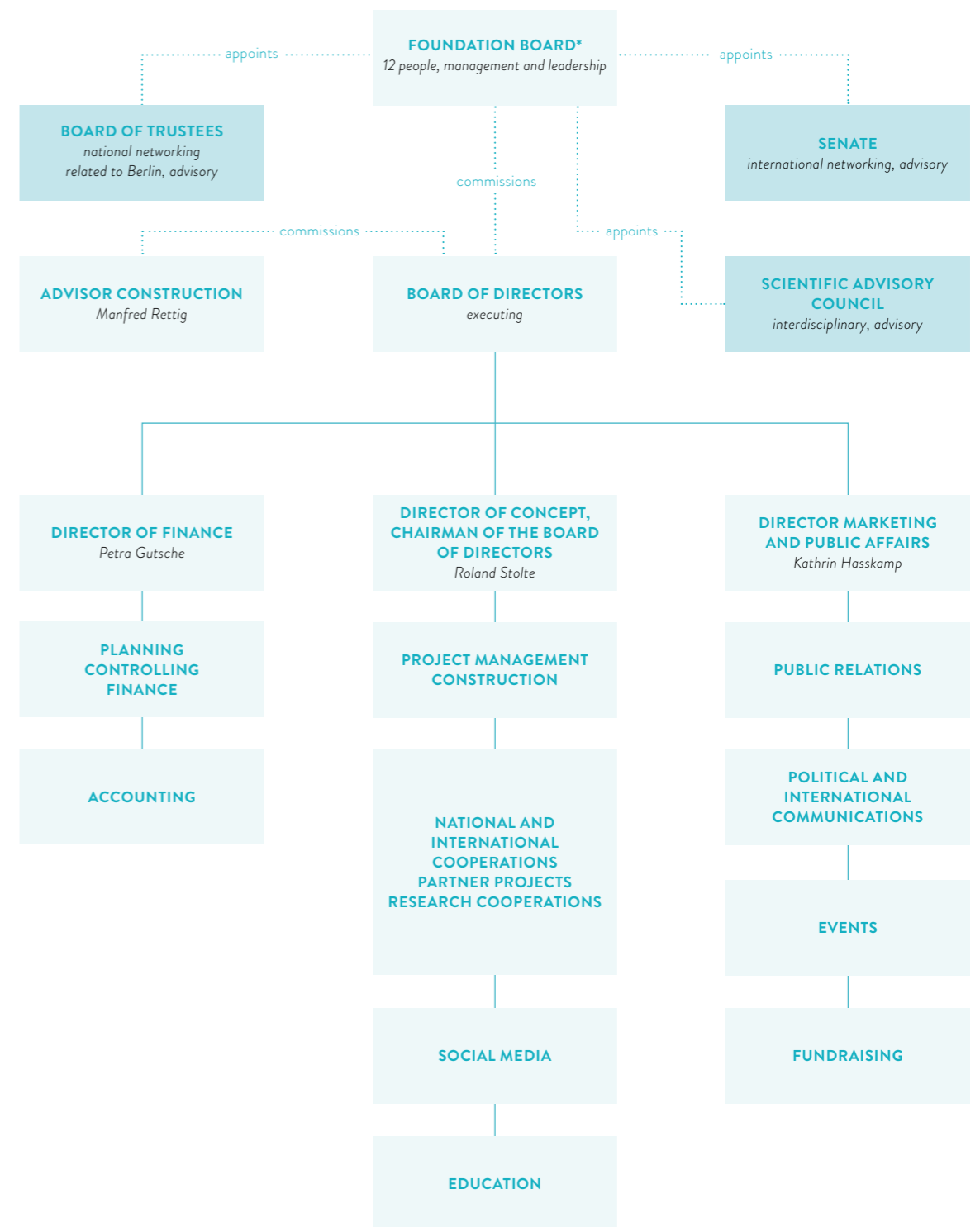
The fundamental concept of the Foundation Charter encourages open-mindedness not only between faiths, but also within itself as a legally binding self-commitment for all parties: The founding institutions stand for their religions not exclusively, but merely in a representative function. The character diversity of the respective religions is consequently retained in the House of One – the pulse of the project is contingent upon the fact that the House of One is for Liberal and Orthodox Jews; for Protestant, Catholic and Orthodox Christians and for Sunnites, Shiites and Alevis. This invitation is extended to all, even those who do not follow any faith or view religion with skepticism. “People and nations and confessions will remain separate, will continue to exist in their uniqueness, but they will know that they are one, part of one humanity that was created to live together on this earth, beholding each other and understanding each other and, when necessary, helping each other.” (Leo Baeck)

MILESTONES

2011 › Founding of the registered association House of Prayer and Learning Berlin

2016 › Founding of the House of One Foundation as organizational structure and consequently as permanently established long-term fundamental concept of the House of One

FOUNDATION STRUCTURE



*FOUNDATION BOARD

Pastor Gregor Hohberg (Chairman) / Imam Kadir Sancı (Deputy Chairman) / Rabbi Prof. Dr. Andreas Nachama / Barbara Witting / Renate Franke / Celal Findik / Süleyman Bag / Karl Hermann Blickle / Dr. Dirk Fischer / Prof. Dr. Dirk Pilz / Dr. Gerrit Popkes / Mike de Vries

PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

The strength and influence of the House of One religious peace project grows with every individual who adopts and takes ownership of the concept. There are various ways to become part of the House of One anywhere in the world:

BE A "HOUSE OF ONE"-CO-BUILDER

Getting closer to peace, brick by brick!
Share the idea, build with us and donate symbolic bricks for the House of One.



INITIATE A "HOUSE OF ONE"-FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Start your own fundraising campaign in your family, among friends or colleagues: go to www.house-of-one.org for further information, or contact us! We will be happy to supply you with the necessary materials for you to promote your fundraising campaign.



BE A "HOUSE OF ONE"-PROJECT AMBASSADOR

Share the House of One concept! You can organize your own events or be engaged as a speaker for other events – you will be officially appointed by the Foundation Board. Please contact us if you are interested!



BE A "HOUSE OF ONE"-COMPANY

Have your company join the House of One as a partner to promote a corporate culture aligned to the principles of inter-religious sensitivity and ethical business practices!
We welcome your interest.



BE A "HOUSE OF ONE"-PATRON

Make a substantial donation to become a House of One patron with a wide range of options to honor your commitment.



DONATION ACCOUNT

online at
www.house-of-one.org

or per bank transfer
Stiftung House of One – Bet- und Lehrhaus Berlin
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft
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THE GLOBAL PEACE MOVEMENT

The House of One project started with an idea from small religious communities in Berlin. It began in the awareness that when different faiths join for the benefit of everyone's future in our "one world house", we would need to engage actively – not in a clash of fundamentalist positioning – but rather in encounters of different perspectives that would enrich each other. Now, six years later, the House of One has become an international religious peace project – with a network that communicates the intention of the House of One to the world and welcomes all people to engage in creating peace as part of the House of One.

MILESTONE

2014 › launch of the global fundraising campaign, which has led to donations and reporting in over 50 countries



May the God of Abraham, Isaac and Ishmael bless the House of One and all those who are working on it.

Prof. Dr. Malkhaz Songulashvili
Metropolitan of Tbilisi, Georgia and House of One Project Ambassador



I pray to God, the Merciful Father, to give His blessing to all those from near and far who are working on this project and to fulfill them with His goodness.

Imam Oumar Kobine Layama
Bangui, Central African Republic, Director of the "House of Peace", Winner of the Aachen Peace Prize 2015 and House of One Project Ambassador



The House of One, the collective building shared by the three monotheistic world religions in the oldest center of Berlin and neighboring Humboldt Forum, can become a true symbol for diversity and tolerance in the German capital.

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Hermann Parzinger
President Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation



In a world in which religion frequently causes division, the once divided city of Berlin will be home to the House of One. With your support, we are determined to ensure tolerance, understanding, and peace among the monotheistic religions. Please help us to build this house of peace in the heart of Berlin.

Catherine von Fürstenberg-Dussmann
Entrepreneur



In times of increasing conflicts and growing intolerance, House of One sends a powerful message straight from the heart of Berlin that advocates for the communication between, and peaceful coexistence of world religions.

Dr. Peter Wittig
US ambassador for the Federal Republic of Germany

INITIATORS

The House of One was launched in 2011 as a project by small ecclesial communities. This deep-rootedness, the “grassroots character”, will continue to significantly influence the project even as it grows. The founding institutions are the Evangelical Congregation St. Peter – St. Mary, the Jewish Community of Berlin and the Abraham Geiger College along with Forum Dialog.



IMPRINT

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Edited by: Roland Stolte, Kathrin Hasskamp

Design: formdusche – Studio für Gestaltung

Printing: Gallery Print, Lützowstr. 107, 10785 Berlin

Photo Credits:

Architecture Images: © Kuehn Mavezzi Architekten Berlin

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Gefördert durch:



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KUEHN MALVEZZI





HOUSE OF ONE SITE

WWW.HOUSE-OF-ONE.ORG

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have any questions or would like to have
further information!**
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