

# Press Release

## **Festive foundation stone ceremony for the Marienturm and Marienforum in Frankfurt's CBD**

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Frankfurt, Feb. 24, 2017 – In the heart of Frankfurt's CBD, at the so-called Marieninsel, the two foundation stones for the Marienforum and the Marienturm have now been laid. Project developer Pecan Development is realizing the new office ensemble on the Marieninsel on behalf of the Perella Weinberg Real Estate Fund II LP (PWREF II). There, by early 2018 the 40-meter-high Marienforum with 10 stories and 11,950 square meters of rentable space will be commissioned, followed in early 2019 by the approx. 155-meter-high Marienturm with 45,450 square meters of space for tenants, spread across 38 stories. The architectural design was created by Berlin's Thomas Müller Ivan Reimann Architekten. The face of the lobby and the public areas is being decisively defined by Milan's renowned interior designer Patricia Urquiola – it is her very first office property project in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Alongside the ultimate standards for the architecture and the interior design, the high-rises will also comply with the highest standards for sustainable and eco-sound buildings. To this end, the developers seek to obtain LEED Platinum certification for both, with pre-certification having already been achieved.

With work in the prior months having focused on completing the site's pit, the developer had invited some 250 guests from the worlds of politics, business, the media, and potential tenants, not to mention the construction companies involved, to witness the festive laying of the foundation stones at the construction site on Taunusanlage in an appropriate setting.

Together with the developers, the project partners and Lord Mayor Peter Feldmann, and in the presence of the guests and the international press, the copper time capsules and the base wall were lowered by crane into the pit and sunk into the ground. Then, a singing flash mob arranged specially for the occasion surprised the guests – in cooperation with Stage School Hamburg.

Project developer Markus Brod declared on the occasion of the foundation stone ceremony: "We very consciously chose an international design team and have from Day One set out to achieve the goal of creating a new world of work that will

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inspire, where pride of place goes to appreciating the users and underscoring their well-being. Work time is a precious part of life, that should be spent in a stimulating, aesthetically discerning and comfortable setting, and this emphasis is reflected in the design and the usage mix for the two office buildings. We have given our ambition the title 'Cultivating Work' and will be realizing it at Europe's leading financial center with its unique mix of entrepreneurial spirit, culture and quality of life."

In her speech, interior designer Patricia Urquiola emphasized that people express themselves above all through their work and that well-being at the place of work arises through interaction with the setting. For this reason, special attention was paid in the Marienforum to creating spaces for encounters. "We feel comfortable when proportions, visual perception, materials, light and sound harmonize, thereby generating intense atmosphere and elegance. We have realized this perfectly at Marieninsel and summed it up in 'Cultivating Work.'"

Architect Thomas Müller pointed out that upgrading the adjacent urban fabric was from the very outset one of the most important criteria underpinning the design work when developing the architectural concept for the Marienforum. "The building stands out as an elegant office building with its own feel and mood. The Marienplatz, directly bordering on the Marienforum, specifically wants to set the tone and with hospitality and retail outlets emerges as a new magnet for the general public. By contrast, the Marienforum blends fluidly with its surroundings and becomes a distinctive part of the city of Frankfurt. Its clear and poignant shape lends it elegance and significance. Interacting with the high-rises in Frankfurt's CBD it will in future have a unique position in Frankfurt's skyline."

The Marienforum, located at Taunusanlage 9 – 10 and in the vicinity of the two Deutsche Bank towers, is in the immediate neighborhood of the Marienforum, located at Mainzer Landstrasse 1. Alongside the office spaces, the Marienforum will also boast a public restaurant, a childcare center and a health club. In the outdoors zone, the appealing Marienplatz in the Marienforum offers the CBD an enriching new place for encounters and communication. With turnkey of the two buildings, the district round Marieninsel will be complete.

[www.marieninsel.de](http://www.marieninsel.de)

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<https://goo.gl/dXMbyP>

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#### **Marienturm and Marienforum**

##### **Pecan Development**

The developers Markus Brod, Rüdiger Lehmann and Jan Kunze established Pecan Development in 2015. The property company plans and realises developments in inner-city locations and sees itself as driving urban development in a responsible manner through the creation of urban living and working space. Apart from developing office properties, business properties and residential projects, the young company also focuses on innovative revitalization projects and the planning and realisation of urban district development projects. The experienced team headed by the managing partners pools a wealth of expertise in the field of development for German and foreign clients.

[www.pecan.de](http://www.pecan.de)

#### **Perella Weinberg Real Estate Fund II**

Perella Weinberg Real Estate Fund II LP (PWREF II) is a private investment vehicle established to invest in real estate and real estate related opportunities in Europe. PWREF II is capitalised with over €1.3 billion in aggregate equity commitments, made by a group that includes some of the world's most prominent institutional investors. Aermont Capital LLP ("Aermont Capital") acts as investment adviser to PWREF II.

#### **Thomas Müller Ivan Reimann Architects**

Is a partnership led by Thomas Müller and Ivan Reimann. Thomas Müller and Ivan Reimann established their office in Berlin in 1988. A team of about 50 employees is working on projects across Germany and abroad. Thomas Müller Ivan Reimann Architects have designed a wide range of projects from the small scale of a private home to the large scale of urban design. While many of their projects are highly recognized like the Federal Foreign Office or the Federal Ministry of the Interior in Berlin, they have also completed several distinguished projects including apartment buildings and offices e. g. on Leipziger Platz or Hackesches Quartier, as well as public projects, such as the faculties of the Goethe University Frankfurt/ Main. The practice has been awarded numerous prizes including the German Natural Stone Award in 2011 and 2015, the German Facade Award FVHF in 2015 and the Architecture Prize of BDA-Berlin in 2000.

[www.mueller-reimann.de](http://www.mueller-reimann.de)

#### **Studio Urquiola**

Born in Spain and presently resident in Italy, Patricia Urquiola is one of today's leading designers. She has received numerous accolades as Designer of the Year from various international magazines and trade fairs and has won numerous awards for her products. She founded her "Studio Urquiola" in 2001. Patricia Urquiola designs furniture, lamps and carpets for leading manufacturers such as Agape, Alessi, Axor Hansgrohe, B&B Italia, Boffi, Driade, Flos, Haworth, Kartell, Kvadrat, Louis Vuitton, Moroso and Rosenthal. Recent interior design projects include the Stue Hotel in Berlin, the spa of the des Four Seasons Hotel in Milan and the London headquarters of office furniture manufacturer Haworth. She has designed showrooms and installations for BMW, Missoni, Moroso and Molteni, for example. Patricia Urquiola has been art director for Cassina since September 2015. The interior design for Marieninsel is her first office property project in the German-speaking countries.

[www.patriciaurquiola.com](http://www.patriciaurquiola.com)