



Drawing by Thanong Poonteerakul

1. Sony Center
2. Bürohochhaus
3. IMAX Cinema
4. Marlene-Dietrich-Platz
5. Debis Haus
6. Tiergarten Tunnel access
7. National Library
8. Potsdamer Platz Arkaden
9. Philharmonic Hall
10. Musical Theatre

Figure 8.47 The Potsdamer Platz precinct in 2002.

designed by Hans Kolhoff. The two buildings form a high-rise entrance to Potsdamer Platz.

The Kolhoff building steps down to a lower height away from the platz. Across Alte Potsdamer Strasse are the Weinhaus Huth and a complex of three office-commercial-residential buildings designed by Richard Rogers. The 3-storey Potsdamer Platz Arkaden, links them. Daimler City is a complex of buildings including an IMAX Theatre, the DaimlerChrysler Services Building, a Musical theatre, the Berliner Volksbank and the Neue Staatsbibliothek (National Library).

The district draws in 100,000 people daily and tourists flock there. It is a very different place to the conventional European square and represents a new type of increasingly common civic space – one controlled by private interests. While the buildings are clearly part of the global economy and architecture, considerable effort has been made to make them environmentally responsible. Roofs are grassed, rainwater is used to irrigate the landscaping and some grey water is recycled. The buildings have been designed to consume 50% less energy than conventional air-conditioned buildings.