

## Mendelssohnufer River Bank

**Location:** Leipzig, Germany **Designer:** GFSL Clausen+Scheil Landscape Architects **Photographer:** Gunter Binsack **Completion date:** 2007 **Site area:** 7,500 sqm



1. Grass
2. Planting Area
3. Seating Area
4. Concrete Paving Stones
5. Recommended Location of Mendelssohn-memorial
6. Column Lights

The redesign of the green space known as the "Mendelssohnufer" commemorated the former Gewandhaus choirmaster and founder of the first German music conservatory with a bust and the expression of the access down to the waterway as musical staves with the theme of the E-minor violin concerto. The old Gewandhaus, which was destroyed in the war, stood on the same spot as the music academy that today bears his name.

Before the redesign, the square in front of the former Reichsgericht and the old Gewandhaus sites was a triangular lawn area surrounded by traffic and was generally unused or just treated as somewhere to walk the dog by the local population. The construction of the new Humanities centre has transformed the area where the destroyed Gewandhaus once stood.

The introduction of the underground car park and the repositioned entry and exit routes reduced the impact of traffic in this residential district. By redesignating road space as green space, the location becomes a much a more pleasant place to sit or linger.

More details:

- By rearranging the traffic flows using traffic calming measures on the residential area.
- The creation of a landscaped park to form areas for relaxing and communication
- Opening of a further length of the Pleiße, which had been culverted in 1950s
- Formation of a wide planted bank zone with access to the water by appropriately shaping the buried structure of the underground car park.
- Commemoration of the old Gewandhaus destroyed during the war by the inclusion of the Mendelssohn bust.

Right: The open space includes the watercourse bank with its step seating as musical staves and cubes as notes in its design

