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Autor: Loderer, Benedikt

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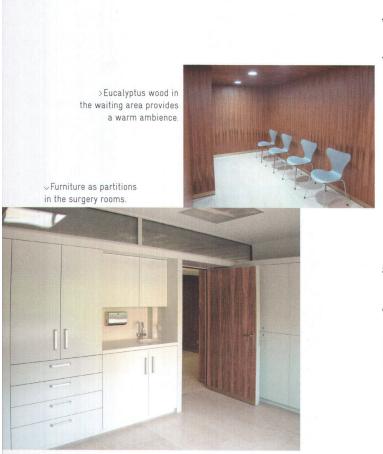
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the bend, and the furniture follows suit

A LARGE PIECE OF BUILT-IN FURNITURE

An office building of the 1950s, built by architect Winkler, one storey with an elegantly bowed façade and with little depth: these were the parameters for the installation of a joint medical practice for specialists. A row of individual patient examination rooms is hidden behind a wooden wall, separating the rooms from the long corridor. Is it a wall? In fact, it is a large piece of built-in furniture, a unit with doors, washbasins and storage space integrated in it. There are some high windows set in between the ceiling and the wooden wall which enhance the cubic appearance of the unit. The slightly recessed doors create the same effect. The wall follows the facade's curvature: on the side facing the corridor it exudes elegance, whereas it is functional and medical in the surgery rooms. The eucalyptus wood on the front is flawless and almost antiseptic as you would expect a doctor's surgery to be. Author: Benedikt Loderer, photos: Lucius Ueberwasser

HIRSLANDEN CARDIO-VASCULAR SURGERY CENTRE. ZURICH 2007

- > Address: Seestrasse 247, Zurich
- > Client: Hirslanden, Zurich
- > Architecture: Lucius Ueberwasser, Bern; Conex Architects, Bern, Thomas Fuhrer, Silvia Jenni

THE OPEN BANK

It would be most inappropriate for a bank referred to as "simply open - simplement ouvert" to receive its customers in a strong-room. That is why Heinz Müller of Atelier 5 chose a different scenario: a bright, open reception area on the ground floor of a 1970s building with shops and flats. People entering the building are gently guided to one of the two open rounded counters the vestibule has been shifted by 15 degrees. The bank staff sitting behind the counter in front of a shining greenish-black wall welcome their customers at eye level. "In the reflection of the shining wall, customers can see who enters the bank after them," explains Heinz Müller. Alternatively, customers can watch shots taken by the Fribourg photographer, Michel Roggo, on a screen on the wall. There is more to the back wall than meets the eye: a storage unit from floor to ceiling separating the lobby from the back offices, incorporating statement printers and fax machines in the lower part. To the right and left of the two counters, a small oak frame separates the conference room from the corridor. Author: Meret Ernst, photo: Gaston Wicky



AAA 0 0 ^Ground plan

^Lobby with a shining greenish-black wall in the background.

BANK BRANCH REBUILDING PROJECT, FLAMATT, 2004

- > Address: Bernstrasse 18, Flamatt > Clients: Freiburger Kantonalbank, Fribourg
- > Architecture: Atelier 5, Berne
- > Kunst-und-Bau: Michel Roggo, Fribourg
- > Procedure for conversion project: Direct order
- > Procedure for interior fit out: Public tender