

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Interiors

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images  
publishing



# Wittlinger Hahn Stern Radiology

Schorndorf, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

Ippolito Fleitz Group

This radiology practice is designed to address its patients' moods and situations in a highly sensitive way. The waiting rooms convey a sense of security, the orientation system is designed to make wayfinding straightforward and the technological apparatus remains largely hidden, providing patients with a greater sense of security. The layout of the practice is organised around the patients' waiting area, which is located at the centre. The functional areas for nuclear medicine, MRI and CRi, x-ray, mammography and ultrasound are grouped around it, making a labyrinthine system of corridors obsolete. Distances between the treatment rooms and waiting area are so small that a loudspeaker system is not required, making communication direct and personal.

The two reception areas are contained in partially enclosed units to the left and right of the entrance area, allowing maximum discretion. The central waiting area is characterised by four symmetrical columns that merge with the ceiling via a concave cavetto. The side walls are upholstered from floor to ceiling and curve into the room at their upper ends, thereby positively enclosing those waiting and giving them a feeling of protection and security.

Since no natural light enters the windowless waiting area, the freestanding walls that back onto the reception area have a secondary function as a light source. They are backlit and display black-and-white images of clouds, inviting visitors to meditate on the endless expanse of sky and providing a powerful symbol of hope. Moreover, the black-and-white design brings an archetypal x-ray image to mind.

Three consulting rooms are located behind the partition for private patients. To signal the open attitude of the doctors towards the patients, each one has a glass façade onto the corridor, which can be darkened if required.

This project won the iF communication design award 2008 and is nominated for the Design Award of the Federal Republic of Germany 2010.



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1 Reception

2 Freestanding walls backing onto the reception area function as a light source for the waiting area

3 Waiting patients can choose between a row of seating along one of the two sidewalls or a ring encircling each of the four columns

4 The waiting area is characterised by four symmetrical columns that merge with the ceiling via a concave cavetto



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- 5 Floor plan
  - 6 Wardrobe and reception station designed for more sensitive admissions procedures
  - 7 The colour concept supports the different functions of the individual areas
  - 8 Separate waiting area for private patients
- Photography: Zooney Braun



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