

CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE

BARS & RESTAURANTS



LINKS

Ippolito Fleitz Group & i_d buero

T-O12

Stuttgart, Germany

Ippolito Fleitz Group is a multidisciplinary, internationally working studio for design located in Stuttgart. The studio received a challenging task, to create a new club which would stand out from the rest at Stuttgart's bar and club mile, the Theodor-Heuss-Strasse, named after Germany's first president. This new club was to be built in the three floors of a former music academy.

The name of the club, T-O 12, reads like the German pronunciation of Theo, an abbreviation of Theodor, while the number 12 refers to the club's street number.

Designed as homage to Germany's first president, known for his political achievements but also as a bon vivant with a fine sense of humor, the club pays tribute to the regeneration of the boulevard in which it is situated. A strong and distinctive visual appearance was developed. A black and white, urban theme combined with mirrors and dramatic, white illustrations.

On the ground floor is the main bar and two smaller lounges; a second bar and a large dance floor can be found on the upper level, and a second dance floor in the basement. A horizontal lighting element made of large Perspex boxes was created, making the club visible from the street and guiding the guests into the bar's entrance, slightly hidden beneath the arcades of the building. Inside, the main bar space welcomes the guest with a freestanding, U-shaped bar made of white Corian and a backdrop of black-stained, brushed wood with large, white, painted illustrations. The illustrations are surreal adaptations of urban themes, juxtaposed with street-life objects such as a real streetlamp. The ceiling is covered with hexagonal mirrors, giving extra height to the space.

Two smaller lounge areas are found at the back of the ground floor. The first is a polygonal room with mirrored walls. Reflections from the mirrors in combination with a ceiling dotted with LED lamps make the space appear never-ending. The second lounge provides a perfect counterpoint: a black, leather-clad space enfolds a white, illuminated table beneath a mirrored ceiling.

The upper floor is dedicated to a large dance floor and a long bar. A large ceiling illustration receives the guests and visually draws them towards the bar, where bottles on chrome steps create a broad and inviting backdrop. Seven circular, mirrored openings in the ceiling throw spots of light on to the ground and dance floor. The latter is enclosed by a fictitious panorama of the Theodor-Heuss-Strasse displaying all the clubs. An intimate third lounge on this upper floor gives guests the chance to retreat from the mêlée.

The basement houses another smaller dance floor and bar, as well as the cloakroom and toilets. Wall and ceiling motifs display images of insects and carnivorous plants that are commonly found in warm and dark places.

The staircase serves as a connective element and features hedonistic quotes from the club's namesake, Theodor Heuss.

Photographs:

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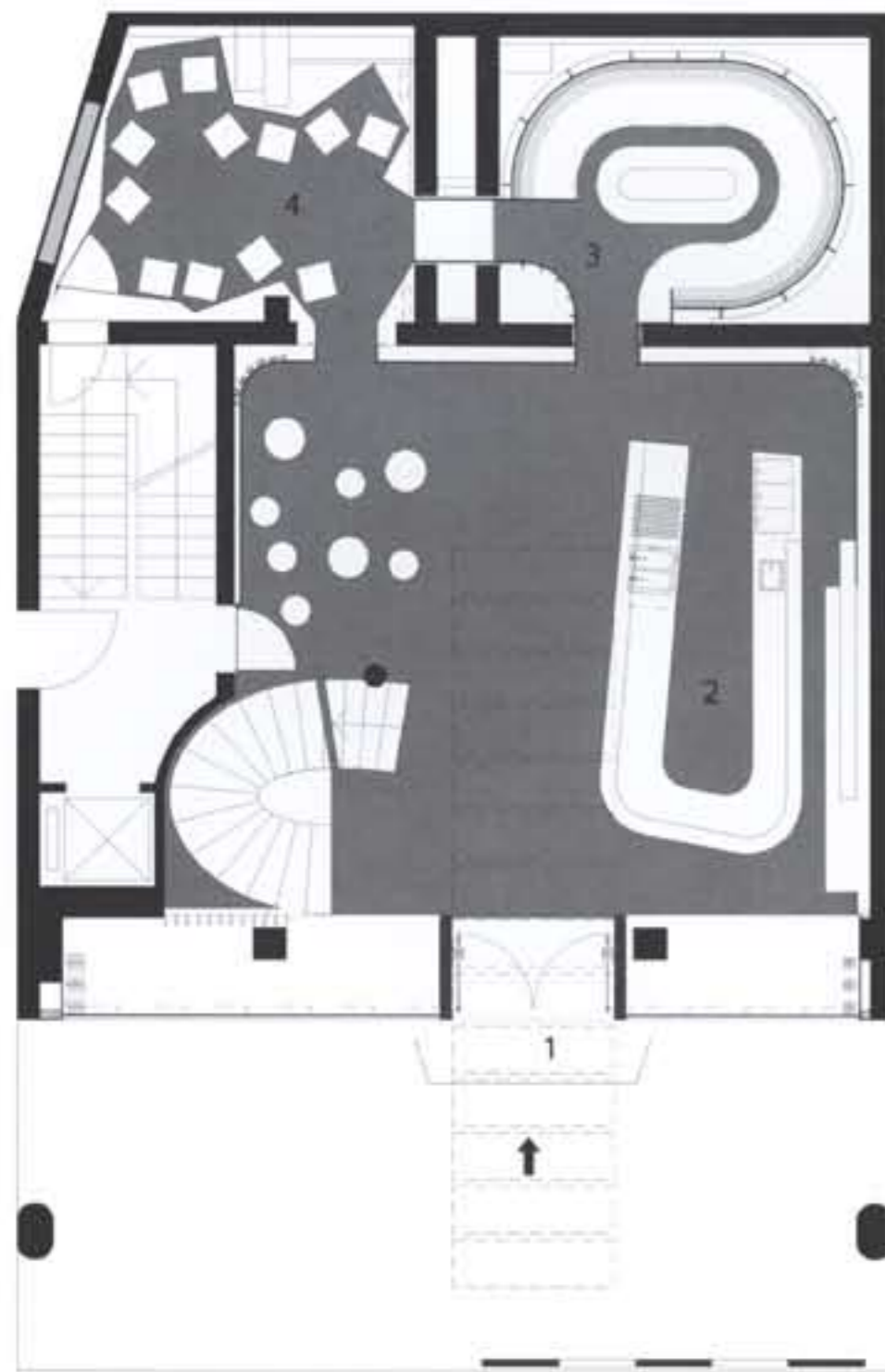




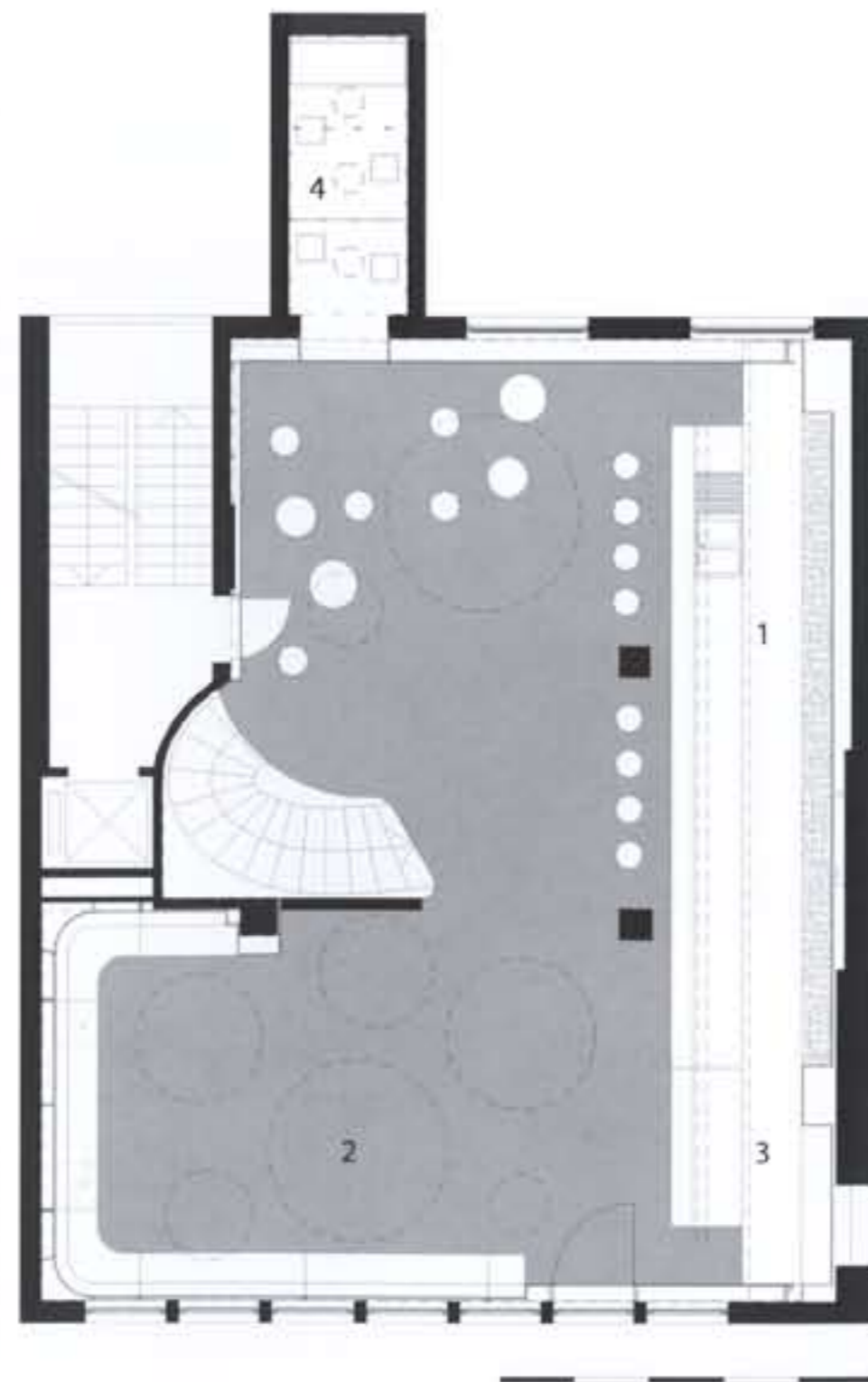


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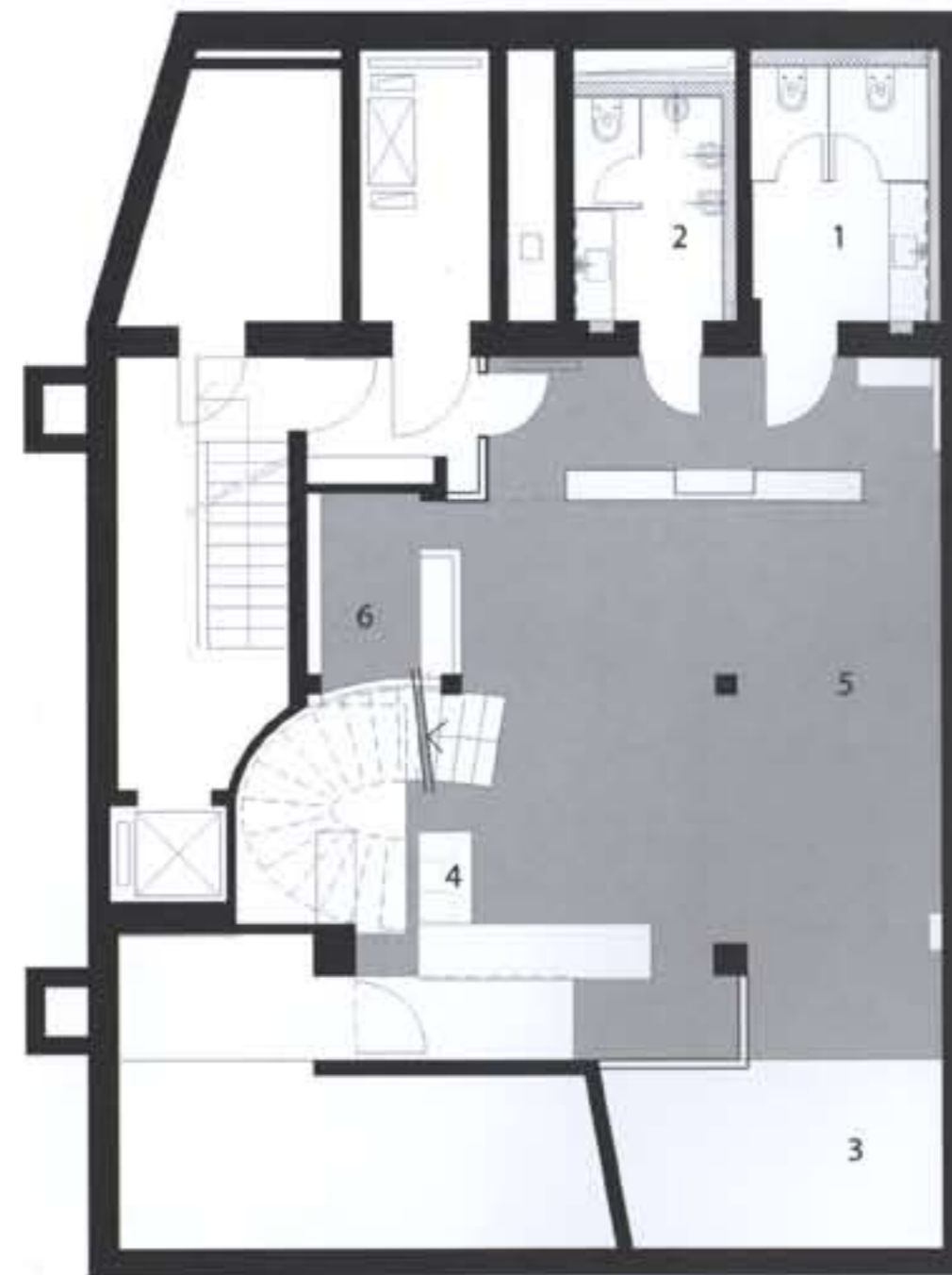




Ground floor plan
 1. Entrance
 2. Bar
 3. Bolster lounge
 4. Mirror lounge



First floor plan
 1. Bar
 2. Dancefloor
 3. DJ
 4. Lounge



Second floor plan
 1. Wc women
 2. Wc men
 3. Wardrobe
 4. Discjockey
 5. Dancefloor
 6. Bar



