

QUALITY COLORS.

Case Study

Rosenplatz, Osnabrück, Germany



Color for Life.

COLORED CONCRETE WORKS®

An initiative of LANXESS

QUALITY WORKS.

LANXESS
Energizing Chemistry

RECONCILING URBANITY WITH MOBILITY.



■ Rosenplatz before renewal:
A utilitarian, gray traffic zone, devoid
of the qualities of a plaza.

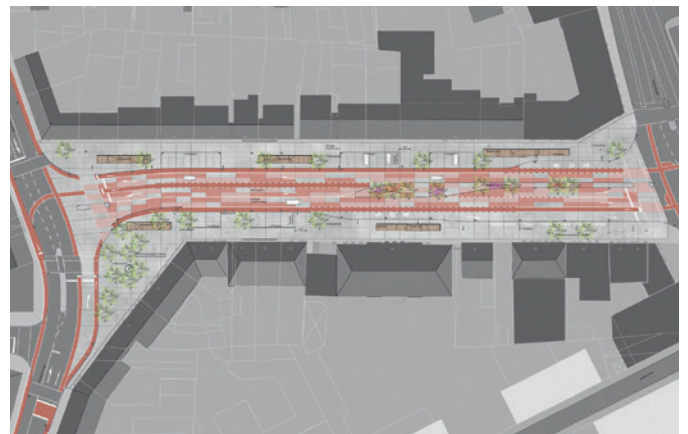


A street becomes an inviting plaza again.

They are a phenomenon found in many cities: urban spaces that are now “plazas” in name only. At best the name is reminiscent of the former purpose and value of these places, which today serve only as utilitarian, gray traffic zones. This also was true of “Rosenplatz” or “Rose Plaza” in Osnabrück, Germany. Adapted to the demands of heavy motor vehicle traffic, and its intensive use as a multi-lane thoroughfare, the space could no longer be called a plaza in any sense of the word. Neither the type of buildings lining the street nor the way the majority of the adjacent spaces were being used could be called typical of a plaza. What’s more, nothing was even faintly reminiscent of the former rose beds after which it was named.

The design by architect Oliver Bormann and landscape architect Martin Diekmann succeeds in a variety of ways in breaking and transforming its dominant character as a main urban road. By enhancing the space and adding new opportunities for using it, the new design has finally made Rosenplatz inviting once more. One of the core design elements used by the architects was concrete pavement integrally colored with **Bayferrox®** color pigments in different shades of pink.

- The layout shows the cast-in-situ concrete fields, integrally colored with varying pigment concentrations – a nod to the original rose beds.



DELICATE **RED SHADES** AND TREMENDOUS DURABILITY.



Precision in color & function.

In transforming the space, the architects worked on three levels: surface, object, margin. To design the surface, a color grid of long rectangles was placed on top of the roadway. The resulting color scheme recalls the original rose beds located in the center of the plaza. The 9 centimeter-thick, cast-in-situ concrete fields, integrally colored with different pigment concentrations in four different shades of pink, are paved over a 17 centimeter-thick base layer of concrete. The preparatory work, the actual paving and the curing of the concrete all required maximum precision.

The result of this precision planning is a first in Germany in terms of both design and technical implementation. Thanks to a two-layer concrete paving method, the highly unusual color scheme fulfills the high mechanical demands imposed on federal highways with heavy traffic.

- The color scheme and greenery restore the look of a plaza, while retaining the road's function as a main city traffic artery.



- A historical postcard shows Rosenplatz as a quiet and very green city park.



“USING INTEGRALLY COLORED CAST-IN-SITU CONCRETE FOR THE ROADWAY SURFACING MEANS: DURABILITY PLUS ATTRACTIVE COLORATION AND DESIGN.”

Oliver Bormann (yellow z) left
Martin Diekmann (lad+) right

Oliver Bormann, born in 1968, has been the proprietor of yellow z urbanism architecture zürich berlin since 2008. It was formed by the merger of process yellow architekten und stadtplaner, of which he had been co-owner since 2002, and Büro Z. His agency specializes in urban development concepts and strategies, urban design and landscape architecture.

Martin Diekmann, born in 1960, studied architecture and landscape architecture in Hanover, Germany. After working in London for a time, he established Büro lad+ landschaftsarchitektur diekmann in Hanover in 1991. His interdisciplinary agency specializes in designing public spaces and planning outdoor facilities surrounding public and institutional buildings.

■ The integrally colored and two-layer concrete pavement can even withstand high traffic volumes.



■ The color scheme, highly unusual for a road, fulfills all aesthetic and technical requirements.



LIKE RAFTS IN FIELDS OF ROSES.

Color that lasts.

At the edge of the rose-colored roadway, expansive wooden decks appear to sprout up from the ground, like rafts amidst the busy traffic. They provide new possibilities for using the space, serving as benches or even loungers, becoming anchor points and stages to diversify the use of the plaza. The decks and bus stops harmonize in terms of both form and material, being made from steel and thermally modified wood derived from native species. The pedestrian zone is illuminated indirectly by lighting elements in the bases. Trees planted at irregular intervals and islands of greenery, together with the integrally colored road surface, break up the monotonous look of typical traffic routes.

It creates eye-catching features noticeable even to through traffic, which should help to sharpen perception of the space.

With their design and the use of **Bayferrox® 130** and **Bayferrox® 160**, the architects created a space that is a hybrid of a road and a plaza. Rosenplatz in Osnabrück has been restored to its purpose as a plaza and regained its characteristic colors. **Bayferrox®** color pigments, with their outstanding light- and weather-stability, ensure that the plaza simultaneously fulfills all the competing demands imposed on a main road.

■ Wooden decks lining the plaza enhance the diversity of its use.



■ The wooden decks and bus tops lining the plaza harmonize in form and material.



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Visit our Internet site:
www.colored-concrete-works.com



PROJECT DATA

- Cycle paths are paved in a consistent, darker red.



Location

Osnabrück, Germany

Planning

yellow z urbanism architecture zürich berlin

lad+ landschaftsarchitektur diekmann

BPR Planen Beraten Realisieren, Hannover

Consulting for concrete paving:

BEVBE Rolf Werner, Dipl. Ing. HTL/STV,

Bonstetten (CH)

Principal

City of Osnabrück

Construction period

2011 - 2012

Form supplied

Powder in paper sacks

Supplier

Harold Scholz & Co. GmbH, Recklinghausen

Pigments



**Bayferrox® 130
in white cement**



**Bayferrox® 160
in white cement**