

# The Community House

Object no. 24 | Mírové náměstí, Teplice

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Karel Hubáček belongs to the few important personalities of Czech architecture who left their footprints in Teplice. The Community House was built according to his design between the years 1977 and 1986. The author, famous for his building of the transmitter and hotel in Ještěd, always found unusual technical solutions. And it was the same in Teplice. The whole design serves to the main purpose: excellent acoustics. It is clearly visible in the structure with its doubled walls, until then an unused solution for ceilings and the shape of the main concert hall which influences the shape of the roof. Hubáček's atelier, SIAL, even developed special acoustic facing for the Community House.

The experiment turned out perfectly. The concert hall is said to be the best in our country and serious music has been recorded there many times.

As Hubáček's motto said "We decorate only what is built wrong", the exterior of the building does not attract much attention. The austerity of the building was not only the result of Hubáček's intentions, but the aesthetics of the 1980s and strained budget which limited the realisation of some of his original ideas are also to blame.

The design of the Community House was awarded the main prize at the world biennale Interarch in 1989. Today it is the home of the North Bohemian Philharmonics which regularly gives concerts here and Teplice's only cinema is also housed there. The variety show stage serves for dancing courses and concerts.

The colonnade was designed by Otakar Binar, the author of the interiors in the Hotel Ještěd. It should have formed a new framework of the completely rebuilt spa town where whole streets of Classical houses were demolished. Instead, low quality, prefabricated blocks of flats were erected and, unfortunately, the Community House is the only example of quality architecture here.