

Henning Larsen Firm Profile

Founded in 1959 by Danish architect Henning Larsen, whose name the practice proudly carries today, Henning Larsen is an international studio composed of highly specialized architects, designers, engineers, thinkers and doers. Since its founding, Henning Larsen has sought to create conditions for better living. The studio seeks to challenge, change and create physical environments – from cities, urban spaces and buildings to interiors – with design concepts that meet the challenges of tomorrow. Together, we explore the boundaries of design and its role in creating more sustainable, livable buildings and cities. Born from Scandinavian roots, Henning Larsen's fundamental ethos is to foster connection and wellness in the built environment. As the studio grows to serve global demand, it remains grounded in a commitment to local practice. Architecture is a tool of democracy, building the framework in which we lead better lives.

Scandinavian Approach

Rooted in the Scandinavian design tradition, Henning Larsen develops vibrant, sustainable architecture merges aesthetic, social, and intellectual design to provide lasting value to the community. The studio's architectural approach is based in curiosity and artistic audacity, resting on a solid foundation of knowledge-based design and attention to detail. Henning Larsen approaches design as a generous gesture, reaching out to meet local users within their context and allowing them to experience the unexpected.

Informed by Research

Henning Larsen blends this Scandinavian ethos with a research-based and context-driven approach. By approaching architecture from a base of quantitative research and broad design perspectives, the studio strives to produce designs that transcend the physical and visual impact of a project. In a world straining under urbanization, climate change and resource scarcity, Henning Larsen's collaborative design approach draws on cross-cultural understanding and scientific research to build solutions for today and foundations for a better tomorrow. The objective is always to achieve social spaces that encourage human activity and interaction. Henning Larsen's expertise lies in creating iconic cultural buildings, collaborative educational institutions, sustainable headquarters and community-focused masterplans. The studio takes ultimate responsibility and never compromises on quality, with a hand in all phases of complex construction processes.

From the very beginning, Henning Larsen's work has been defined by people, daylight, and space. The ideal is living architecture, design for people. Henning Larsen designed from a fundamental belief that daylight creates light and joy, and the studio still strives to bring ample daylight into every design, employing light as a tool for creating community, defining aesthetics and supporting sustainability. As architects, well-defined spaces are the foundation of Henning Larsen's work; designing spatial programs that continuously push the boundaries of what is possible.

In a time when buildings and construction account for 36 percent of global energy use, incorporating sustainability into our building processes has never been more important. Henning Larsen places a critical emphasis on creating integrated, energy-efficient solutions, and is a strong support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Henning Larsen draws on in-house sustainability experts and Ph.D. researchers from the beginning of the design process, with the ultimate goal of creating spaces that are enduring and resource-efficient to their core.

Henning Larsen employs approximately 300 people from over 30 different nations in seven offices globally: Copenhagen, New York City, Hong Kong, Munich, Oslo, Riyadh, and the Faroe Islands. Over 60 years, Henning Larsen has worked in over 20 countries, developing an international reputation as one of Denmark's most recognized architecture and design practices.

Award-Winning Projects

Henning Larsen's commitment to design excellence, knowledge-based design, and professionalism is embodied in catalog of award-winning projects, bright client evaluations and successful professional partnerships. In recent years, Henning Larsen has won over 35 design competitions worldwide, as well as a number of prestigious design awards. These honors include the 2013 European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award for the Harpa Concert Hall and Conference Center in Reykjavik, Iceland; the honor of the Præmium Imperiale Award to Henning Larsen in 2012; two AIA International Design Awards for the University of Southern Denmark, Kolding Campus and Moesgaard Museum in 2016; and the International Design Awards' 2011 Designer of the Year prize.