

Disclaimer: This is an excerpt from the Henning Larsen monograph, *It Begins with Curiosity*. This document *must not* be copied and is not for direct release. Any quotations from this document should be attributed to Mette Kynne Frandsen, Partner and CEO and Louis Becker, Partner and Design Principal. Questions can be directed to Katherine Eloise Allen at kal@henninglarsen.com

Studio Statement

When Henning Larsen founded his studio in 1959, the world—both in architecture and in general—was very different. The traditions of a society that now feels archaic were still in place, though often in the midst or on the cusp of their own dismantling. Since then, the scope and responsibility of architecture has expanded, if not exponentially, then at least well beyond what we might have imagined.

It is perhaps banal to speak about change, but with our culture of curiosity, we have had the unique opportunity to chart the changes of the world alongside the changes in our practice. These things happened gradually at first. A studio of one became a studio of a couple, then of a few, then of many. Work focused close to home, then further afield, then truly far away, in locations as far flung as Kenya and Greenland and Australia. The steady drip of change became a stream, and suddenly we find ourselves on a path we did not realize we had set out upon.

Today, as we publish this book to mark 60 years of collective practice, we are more than 300 people in seven locations across the globe. Our work spans expertise and fields, and we work closely with even more. Where we are separated by distance and time zones, we are united in culture and vision. It is a remarkable thing, and something we are enormously proud to be part of.

We wanted to publish this book as a way to stick a flag in the moment; to mark a point that feels, again, like a changing of the guard. Just as in 1959, certain traditions are fading away. The responsibility of architecture is one that is broadening: where once we were builders, now we are also conductors of a vast and technical orchestra, directing all pieces to play in harmony. In the future we anticipate, we add a new and critical responsibility: to be representatives of our shared sustainable future.

The twelve projects featured in the following pages encapsulate these personae past and present, and point towards our future. They are works that have required the full expertise of our office, from landscape and design to construction and sustainability (and more). They are works of many contexts, of countless communities, and of immense knowledge. And they are works that we believe mark the shift between our past and our future.

We are proud to share with you our past. We hope you'll join us in our future.

Mette Kynne Frandsen, Partner and CEO
Louis Becker, Partner and Design Principal