

OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen

CURRICULUM VITAE

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OFFICE is an architectural practice founded by Kersten Geers (1975) and David Van Severen (1978). Since its establishment in 2002 in Brussels, OFFICE has been committed to the idea of architecture as a cultural undertaking aimed at improving the human environment. To that end, we see the increasingly pressing topics of sustainability, responsible sourcing, or future use, as a catalyst for shaping our urban and social realm, and architectural form as part of the solution. OFFICE is a collaborative practice, bringing together our colleagues, developers and experts from various disciplines, in order to assure quality of every project. The projects are at once pragmatic and innovative, while deeply rooted in diverse architectural histories. In its very essence, our work creates a framework within which life unfolds in all its complexity.

OFFICE projects differ in scale and type, ranging from furniture to urban design. Recent projects include Swiss Radio and Television building in Lausanne, Switzerland, as well as Aerospacelab Megafactory in Charleroi, Belgium and VRT Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, both currently under construction. This practice is combined with academic research and teaching, thus creating unexpected parallels between the two aspects of OFFICE's production. Kersten Geers is currently a Full Professor at the Academy of Architecture USI in Mendrisio, and both he and David Van Severen have previously served as Design Critics in Architecture at Harvard GSD. Additionally, they have taught at various institutions, including the Berlage Institute, TU Delft, Ghent University, Columbia University GSAPP, Yale School of Architecture, and EPF Lausanne. This academic output is documented under the monicker Office Without Office.

Diverse backgrounds and knowledge of our international team contribute to the unique voice of OFFICE. Since 2018, OFFICE is a partnership led by Kersten Geers, David Van Severen and Jan Lenaerts, together with associates Justine Rossillion, Alexander Smedts, Jacopo Lugli, Jelena Pancevac and Inga Karen Traustadottir.

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Awards & Nominations (selection)

2025

- EUMies Awards, nomination, for OFFICE 301: University Campus and OFFICE 316: 25 Columns

2024

- EUMies Awards, nomination, for OFFICE 280: Brewery

2023

- Brussels Architecture Prize, nomination – Extra Muros, for OFFICE 165: Crematorium

2022

- Staalbouwwedstrijd, laureate, category 'specific elements in steel', for OFFICE 227: Tondo
- EUMies Awards, nomination, for OFFICE 165: Crematorium and OFFICE 227: Tondo

2021

- Febe Elements Award, category 'Outstanding Precast', laureate, for OFFICE 164: Office Building (Kortrijk)
- Brussels Architecture Prize, nomination 'Small Intervention', for OFFICE 227: Tondo

2019

- Aga Khan Award for Architecture, laureate, OFFICE 133: Pearl Path
- EUMies Awards, shortlist, for OFFICE 130: Solo House

2018

- Staalbouwprijs (Steel Building Award), nominee, category 'Industry', for OFFICE 152: Incubator

2017

- EUMies Awards, nomination, for OFFICE 119: Villa Der Bau

2016

- Staalbouwprijs (Steel Building Award), laureate, category 'Elements', for OFFICE 78: Library
- Staalbouwprijs (Steel Building Award), laureate, category 'Industry', for OFFICE 117: Drying Hall
- Berlin Art Prize, laureate, category Architecture, for Oeuvre

2015

- Belgian Prize for Architecture, laureate, category 'Small Interventions', for OFFICE 78: Library
- EUMies Awards, nomination, for OFFICE 90: Agriculture school

2014

- Dixième Prix Européen d'Architecture Philippe Rotthier: Honorable Mention, for OFFICE 117: Drying Hall

2013

- Belgian Prize for Architecture, laureate, category 'Non-residential Private', for OFFICE 47: Computer Shop
- Belgian Prize for Architecture, laureate, category 'Single Family Housing', for OFFICE 56: Weekend House
- 'In Pursuit of Architecture': the 10 best buildings of the decade, for OFFICE 39: Villa, Buggenhout

2010

- Silver Lion at the Venice Biennial for Architecture, laureate, for 'Most Promising Young Practice', for OFFICE 85: Garden Pavillion (i.c.w. Bas Princen)

Solo Exhibitions

2025

- 'Four Five Six', A83, New York, US

2023

- 'Four Projects: Singular Architecture', Organised by the Art Academy of Latvia together with Sampling Architects, Riga, LV

2018

- 'E Depois, A Historia / Besides, History – Go Hasegawa, Kersten Geers, David Van Severen' Serralves Foundation, Porto, PT

2017

- 'Besides, History: Go Hasegawa, Kersten Geers, David Van Severen', CCA, Montréal, USA
- 'Everything Architecture', Architectural Association, London, GB
- 'Everything Architecture', Centre d'architecture arc-en-rêve, Bordeaux, FR

2016

- 'Drawings by OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen', ETH Zurich, CH
- 'Everything Architecture', BOZAR, Brussels, BE

2010

- 'OFFICE 85: Garden Pavilion', 12th Biennale of Architecture, Venice, IT
- '7 Rooms / 15 Tables', TU Eindhoven, NL

2008

- 'OFFICE 50: After The Party', 11th Biennale of Architecture, Venice, IT
- 'Seven Rooms', deSingel, Antwerp, BE

2006

- '35 m2', deSingel, Antwerp, BE

AWARDS & EXHIBITIONS

Group Exhibitions

2025

- 'Restless Architecture' curated by Diller Scofidio + Renfro, MAXXI, Rome, IT
- 'Cities' exhibition curated by Nina Bassoli, as part of the 24th International Exhibition, Triennale Milano, Milan, IT

2023

- Building Pedagogy, Architecture Faculty of Liège University, Liège, BE
- Hollein Calling, Architecture Without Content 2, Vienna, AT
- Hand and Machine, Architectural drawings, Oslo National Museum, Oslo, NO

2022

- Composite Presence, curated by Dirk Somers of Bovenbouw Architectuur, Z33 House for Contemporary Art, Design & Architecture, Hasselt, BE
- Arboretum, Arc en Rêve Centre d'Architecture, Bordeaux, FR
- Shaping Space, Building Center, London, GB

2021

- The Fabricated Landscape, Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburg, USA
- Models and Types exhibition, Art Room, Brussels, BE
- Composite Presence, Belgian Pavilion Venice Biennial curated by Dirk Somers of Bovenbouw Architectuur, Venice, IT
- Muharrag, Bahrain Pavilion Venice Biennial curated by Noura Al Sayeh and Ghassan Chemali, Venice, IT

2020

- Summer Residency, MANIERA at Huib Hoste's De Beir House, Knokke, BE

2019

- 'Maniera 01 & 19', MANIERA, Brussels, BE
- 'Duos et Débats – OFFICE & Éric Lapierre',

Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine, Paris, FR

- 'Dichtelust: Forms of Urban Coexistence in Switzerland', Swiss Architecture Museum, Basel, CH

2018

- 'The Hull of a Large Ship', Barbican Centre, London, GB
- 'Readymades Belong To Everyone', Swiss Institute, New York, US
- 'Inscriptions: Architecture Before Speech', Harvard GSD, US
- Chicago Architecture Biennial, Chicago, US

2017

- Chicago Biennial: Make New History, Chicago, USA
- Canadian Centre for Architecture: Besides History, Go Hasegawa, Kersten Geers, David Van Severen, Montreal, CA
- The Pearl Path, Bahrain National Museum, Bahrain, BH
- 'Maniera 01 & 11, MANIERA, Brussels, BE

2015

- De Wonderjaren in maquettes, Thirty years of architecture in Flanders, Cultuurcentrum Scharpoord, Kortrijk, BE
- Palladian Design: The Good, the Bad and the Unexpected, RIBA, London, GB
- Chicago Biennial: The State of the Art of Architecture, Chicago, USA

2014

- A Small Museum for the American Metaphor, REDCAT gallery, LA. USA
- Labo des Héritiers, Grand Hornu, Mons, BE
- 'Maniera 01 & 12, MANIERA, Brussels, BE

2013

- Oasis, urban project on the Biennial, UAE

- Shenzhen Biennial of Urbanism/Architecture, Wall Pavilion, Shenzhen, CN

2012

- Collaborations, installation with San Rocco at the Venice Biennale of Architecture 2012, IT
- XX Models: young Belgian architecture, Office 45 at Bozar, Brussels, BE

2011

- OFFICE 113, Garden & Pavilion, installation, by invitation of Kazuyo Sejima at MOT, Tokyo, JP

... – 2010

- OFFICE 85, Garden Pavilion, by invitation of Kazuyo Sejima, i.c.w. Bas Princen. Winner of the Silver Lion, 12th Architecture Biennial, Venice, IT, 2010
- West-Arch: A New Generation in Architecture, in the Ludwig Forum, Aachen, DE, 2009
- Office 51, 25 Rooms by invitation of Territorial Agency. Art Basel, CH, 2009
- OFFICE 71, Strategy for a Lost Landscape, at Watou Art Festival, BE, 2009
- OFFICE 50, After the Party, 11th Architecture Biennial, Venice, IT, 2008
- OFFICE 35, Cité de Refuge, in A Portrait of the Artist as a Researcher, Vienna, AT, 2007
- Office 35, Cité de Refuge, 3rd Architecture Biennial, Rotterdam, NL, 2007
- Office 27, 10th Architecture biennial, Venice, IT, 2007
- OFFICE 17 in Gent Morgen, Ghent, BE, 2007
- New trends in Europe and South East, traveling exhibition in Tokyo, Patras, Sydney and Luxembourg, 2007
- Wonderland, Young European Architects, traveling exhibition, Amsterdam, Paris, Venice, Zagreb and Ljubljana, 2005

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Publications (selection)

2025

- 'OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen, Volume 4 – 6', Verlag Walther und Franz König

2024

- El Croquis 226: OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen – 'cuadrando los círculos' / squaring the circles'

2023

- Architectural Works by OFFICE for the 21st Century: The Incomplete Rationalism of OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen, 2023, Roberto Gargiani

2022

- Picture Window Frame, 2022, Stefano Graziani
- OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen Richard Venlet: Dixit #03 – Still Life / Nature Morte, 2022, Claudia Mion, Juliette Pochard, Simon Campedel

2021

- Kersten Geers: Without Content (2G Essays), 2021, Koenig Books
- AV Monografías Monographs 232 (2021), 2021, 'OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen'

2019

- A+U 591, Dec 2019, 'OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen'

2018

- 'Besides, History: Go Hasegawa, Kersten Geers, David Van Severen', CCA, Walter König and Kajima Institute, May 2018
- 'Defining Criteria', Quart Publishers Lucerne, June 2018

2017

- 'OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen, Volume 1 & 3', König Books / Kajima Institute Publishing 2016
- El Croquis 185: OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen – 'Acciones Primordiales / Primary Actions'
- 'OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen, Volume 2', Exhibition Catalogue, BE, Walther König

2015

- Conversations With European Architects, Feb 2015. Kersten Geers and David Van Severen, Go Hasegawa

2012

- 2G #63, ES. 'OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen', Gustavo Gili.

2009

- Hatje Cantz, 2009, DE. 'Seven Rooms', international re-issue of the exhibition catalogue.
- deSingel Publishers, Antwerp, BE. 'Seven Rooms', Exhibition Catalogue.

2008

- 'Ruskin, A fictional travel novel around the work of Office', by Christophe van Gerrewey, Vlees en Beton, Ghent, BE

Academic Publications

- Itsuko Hasegawa: Shonandai – Exposing The World, 2025, Verlag Walther und Franz König
- Giancarlo de Carlo: Experiments in Thickness, 2023, Verlag Walther und Franz König
- Aldo & Hannie Van Eyck: Excess of Architecture, 2022, Verlag Walther und Franz König
- From Brussels with Love (catalogue), 2022, OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen – USI Accademia di architettura
- From Brussels with Love (book), 2021, OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen – USI Accademia di architettura
- Madama, 2022, OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen – Stefano Graziani – USI Accademia di architettura
- The Urban fact | A Reference Book on Aldo Rossi, 2021, Verlag Walther und Franz König
- The Difficult Whole | A Reference Book on the Work of Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown, 2016, Park books

PUBLICATIONS

Architecture without Content

- 33 Architecture as Theme, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2019
- 32 America Deserta – II, GSAPP Columbia University, 2019
- 31 America Deserta – I, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2018
- 30 The Club of Rome, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2018
- 29 The American Club, GSAPP Columbia University, 2018
- 28 Architecture as a Theme, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2019?
- 27 Conventional Wisdom, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2017
- 26 The Frugal Palazzo, Harvard GSD, 2017
- 25 Trouble with Classicists, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2017–2018
- 24 Abstract Technology, GSAPP Columbia University, 2017
- 23 Trouble with Classicists, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2017
- 22 College Portrait, Oxford University, 2016
- 21 Trouble with Classicists, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2016
- 20 Communes, Harvard GSD, 2016
- 19 Almost Classicism, Yale School of Architecture, 2016
- 18 Metropolitan Architecture, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2016
- 17 Metropolitan Architecture, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2015
- 16 Neon Palladio, Harvard GSD, 2016?
- 15 Neon Palladio, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2015
- 14 Roman Architecture, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2015
- 13 Boxes for America, Harvard GSD, 2015
- 12 The Model and its Double, Slipakorn University, 2014
- 11 Roman Architecture, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2015

- 10 Roman Architecture, Porto Academy, 2014
- 9 The Difficult Double – II, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2014–2016
- 8 Places of Accumulation, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2014
- 7 Attributed Perspectives, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2014
- 6 Without Ventri, Tokyo Institute of Technology, 2013
- 5 Places of Accumulation, FORM ENAC EPFL, 2013
- 4 Necessary Architecture, GSAPP Columbia University, 2013
- 3 The Urban Paradox, TU Graz, 2012
- 2 Contemporary Monuments, Università della Svizzera Italiana, 2011
- 1 The Big Box, GSAPP Columbia University, 2011

Everything – Università della Svizzera Italiana

- The Large City: Everything (XXI–XXIV)
- A Modernist Ending: Everything (XV–XX)
- Everything (XI–XV)
- Everything (VI–X)
- Everything (I–V)

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