

Depot Boijmans Van Beuningen is designed by MVRDV**MVRDV**

The Rotterdam-based international architects MVRDV provide contemporary architecture, urban design and landscaping solutions all over the world. MVRDV was founded in 1993 by Winy Maas, Jacob van Rijs and Nathalie de Vries. It uses a multidisciplinary approach and applies innovative and sustainable technologies. This has resulted in distinct, pioneering projects that pave the way to a better future for our cities and landscapes. Every year MVRDV's 250 architects, designers and support staff work on some 145 creative projects with a broad scope, from buildings of all sizes to masterplans and visions, and from building service systems to exhibitions. MVRDV's working practices are based on the Building Information Model (BIM) and there are in-house BREEAM and LEED certification assessors. MVRDV and Delft University of Technology run The Why Factory, an independent think tank that focuses on the city of the future. MVRDV's work is published worldwide. The monographs *FARMAX* (1998), *KM3* (2005) and *Buildings* (2015) illustrate the firm's output. MVRDV's design for the Depot Boijmans Van Beuningen is based on the smallest possible footprint (40 square metres) and a round building whose unique shape does not compete with the surrounding architecture. The depot's mirrored façade and roof garden at a height of some 35 metres mean that the building blends in with parkland and city. It's become a work of art in its own right, a canvas for other artists.

These initiatives and artists work on the interior of the depot**MTD landscape architects**

MTD landscape architects is a design agency for landscape architecture and urban design based in 's-Hertogenbosch. The office works on plans for both rural and urban areas at various scales. There is always a search for initiating and creating plans. MTD is an agency with a history. Pieter Buys established himself as a landscape architect in 's-Hertogenbosch around 1954. In the first years he worked together with Hans Warnau, among others, and later with Bob van der Vliet within Buys & Van der Vliet. In 1998 the firm was continued under the name MTD landscape architects by Frank Meijer, Han Thijssen and Ruud Dubbeld. The agency is aware of its heritage. The bureau has an interdisciplinary composition; approximately 25 urban planners, landscape architects, ecologists, spatial designers, communication experts and civil and cultural technicians work together in compact teams. The choice of materials, technical detailing and budgeting play a large role from the first sketches; this creates integrated and feasible plans. We work with an unambiguous assignment formulation as a starting point and a clear, widely supported vision as the end result. MTD designed the roof landscape and the immediate surroundings of the collection building in collaboration with MVRDV and was responsible for the technical development.

Concrete Amsterdam

Rob Wagemans is one of the founders of Amsterdam-based architects Concrete Amsterdam, whose fifty-strong multidisciplinary team develops architecture, interior, urban development and brand development concepts. The firm designed citizenM, the apartment living concept URBY in New York, New Jersey and Texas, Hotel Andaz in Munich, Neni and happyhappyjoyjoy in Amsterdam, The West Residential in New York and Skypark Mongkok in Hong Kong. The team designed the roof restaurant on the sixth floor for Rotterdam and the depot. The restaurant's goal is to create an interior that serves the multifunctional use of the space and any art that is exhibited there. Concrete designed a flexible layout based on ten permanent long tables that can be folded up vertically into the walls. This dynamic use of art and designer objects that are of practical use reflects the Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen ethos. The space can be transformed at the flick of a wrist to create a completely different atmosphere for a different function.

**Editors' Notes:**

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Marieke van Diemen

Marieke van Diemen is a Dutch visual artist who studied at St. Joost Breda and at the Rijksakademie Amsterdam. She exhibits internationally and is the recipient of several prestigious art awards. In her autonomous work Van Diemen investigates her fascination for 'displaying' and the spectators perception of the museum as an institute. Fascinated by everyday objects, Van Diemen composes installations using objects from her private collections. She also photographed museum windows (Museum View) for years, a framed vibrant rectangle that usually remains overlooked by museum visitors. In addition to commissioned work, such as the installation of old white marble busts of Dutch dignitaries for the House of Representatives in The Hague (2001-2018), Van Diemen designs spaces for museums and in doing so she creates conditions for the configuration of exhibitions. In 2008 she designed the Printroom and visible depository for Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen. With her artistic and conceptual vision Marieke van Diemen made an important contribution to the design for the Atrium. Since the Depot will not be an exhibition space, the most important question is: 'how not to exhibit?'. Van Diemen developed the concept of a 3D maze: the opposite of 'guided observation'. This has been translated, in cooperation with MVRDV, into a design with floating display cases to show works in a non-hierarchical way. It is characterised by many different, unregistered routes, visitors determine their own journey. The display cases offer a dynamic view of the space using its full height and width. A total of thirteen enormous display cases in the Atrium can be viewed from countless angles from the floors and zigzag stairs.



John Körmeling

John Körmeling is an architect. He has executed many commissions in public spaces and shown work in exhibitions in the Netherlands and other countries. Körmeling read architecture at Eindhoven University of Technology and invariably comes up with surprising ideas outside the box. In 1999, for instance, he devised a drive-in Ferris wheel for cars in Utrecht. Körmeling can often harmonize shape and content in such a way that both become clear at a glance. Work by Körmeling was exhibited in 1998 in Museum De Pont in Tilburg, in 1999 in the Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven and in 2004 in The Power Plant in Toronto. In 2006 he created a pavilion for the Middelheim Open Air Sculpture Museum in Antwerp. He designed Happy Street, the Dutch pavilion at the Shanghai World Expo in 2010, and he was responsible for Watchtower in Takamatsu, Japan. He also made the Argus Mast on the Sand Motor and the birdwatching platform on Prins Hendrikzandijk, Texel. Körmeling developed the interior of the depot's entrance hall. Lockers, shop, bar, cash desk. In order to keep the floor at the entrance as unobstructed as possible for visitors, where the space widens there is a balcony with lockers, which are either on the balcony or suspended beneath it. The wall of the shipment area, where art is packed for transport, is made of glass.



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Pipilotti Rist

The Swiss video artist Pipilotti Rist is best known for creating surreal, intimate, abstract and feminist works. She studied commercial art, illustration and photography in Vienna and video art in Basel. She established her name before she graduated in 1986 with the video 'I'm Not The Girl Who Misses Much'. She played the leading role in it: dancing like a puppet. Initially she made 'ordinary' video films, but later on she developed more and more space-filling installations. The role of the visitors also changed: they became a real piece of the artwork. The artist creates the environment in which the viewer watches and experiences her video work, using the existing architecture as the starting point. Rist's work can be found in the permanent collections of

MoMA, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the San Francisco MoMA and Utrecht Centraal Museum. She has been awarded a number of prizes. She made the work 'Let Your Hair Down' for Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen. It's an installation that she assembled at the top of one of the museum's stairwells. Rist works outside museums as well as inside; 'Red Carpet' in St Gallen, Switzerland, is one example. Rist's outdoor works are predominantly audio-visual installations, where moving images and sound complement one another in an overwhelming immersive experience. For the Centre Pompidou in Paris, for example, she developed the video work 'A La Belle Étoile', which was projected onto the square. Again, her artwork for the depot is a mix of video and environmental art – this time on the outside of the building, where bystanders become part of it.



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