mecanoo



Dick van Gameren

Design and Research Director

With Mecanoo since 2013
Professional qualifications MSc in Architecture, Delft University of Technology (cum laude honours); Registered with the Architectenregister (NL)
Publications Revisions of Space: A Manual for Architecture (2005); DASH Delft Architectural Studies on Housing, Chief Editor (since 2008); Dutch Dwellings: The Architecture of Housing (2022)

"A building that is not linked to its surroundings is an obstacle. The key is the design of the open space in all dimensions; forging new streets, creating squares and gardens, breaking up volumes - connecting past, present and future."

In 1988 Dick graduated from the Delft University of Technology with cum laude honours and joined Mecanoo for some time shortly thereafter. He ran his own architectural practice for many years before returning to Mecanoo and becoming a partner in 2013. His professional career was bolstered by winning the Archiprix prize (1989), the International European II competition (1991) and the Prince Bernhard Foundation's Charlotte Köhler prize (1995).

Dick maintains a critical approach to design by lecturing, and publishing regularly as well as making this research tangible in his design leadership. Over the years, he has realised a wide range of projects, from urban masterplans, residential designs, large scale town planning, laboratories and education to exhibition designs. His design for a radical and sustainable renovation of a villa near Naarden (NL) won the 2012 BNA Building of the Year Award, and his design for the Dutch embassy in Ethiopia won the prestigious Aga Khan Award in 2007.

Since 2006, he has been Professor of Housing Design at the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment at Delft University of Technology, where he also served as Head of the Department of Architecture for ten years. Among other responsibilities, he leads an international education and research network focussing on the challenges of affordable housing in rapidly growing cities of the Global South. His work addresses many of today's questions relating to matters such as densification, privacy and mobility. Dick van Gameren served as Dean of the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment at Delft University of Technology from April 2019 to January 2026.

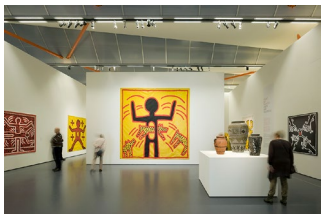
Selected projects



Glass Villa on the lake, Lechlade, UK
Size: 600 m²
Year: 2015 - 2018



Leaf Street, Hulme district, Manchester, UK
Size: 9,500 m²
Year: 2014 - 2018



Keith Haring Exhibition Kunsthal, Rotterdam, NL
Size: 1,400 m²
Year: 2015



Thamesmead Regeneration Masterplan, London, UK
Size: 9.86 ha
Year: 2015-2021



Villa 4.0, Hilversum, NL
Size: 540 m²
Year: 2010 - 2011



AMOLF Institute, Amsterdam, NL
Size: 9,570 m²
Year: 2004 - 2008



IJDock Masterplan, Amsterdam, NL
Size: 89,000 m²
Year: 1993 - 2006



Dutch Embassy, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Size: 3,300 m²
Year: 1998 - 2005