

# Taking care of each other

When we look back at what 2022 has brought us, the word that comes to mind first is development. We spent quite a long time finding out what Quadrant4 is exactly, and what we do. We never really fit into a specific box. We now notice that our integral view of sustainable construction and installation, and bringing different disciplines together were the right choices for us. We now know exactly how we work and more importantly: the outside world also understands who we are and what we stand for. Practically, we are a full-service architectural firm that likes to do things differently. Designing, supervising, and delivering beautiful projects. To fight against the construction of generic boxes. Doing fun things with the whole team. Who wouldn't want that?

We do notice that the current market can be fickle. Sometimes projects stop or they accelerate. Occasionally we miss a job. This makes planning our work more difficult. We hear many people around us talking about an impending crisis. However, personally, we expect to keep growing in 2023 and we will continue to look for talented new employees.

Last year we successfully continued to develop our new organizational structure. We're currently working with three team leaders. Roy Bruggeman leads the way when it comes to design and aesthetics. Ben Kessing is the man for project management and integrity. And Remi Leunissen leads when it comes to technology and architectural matters. This gives us more space. We now fulfill a coaching role to-

wards employees and have more time for acquisition and our relations. For building the company next to building inside the company. At the same time, it's very nice to see that project managers and leaders are also taking on their role when it comes to commercial activities. We're seeing everyone grow within their field. It helps that we give our employees all the space they need. We're always open to the ideas they bring. You innovate together.

Looking to the near future, our focus is on quality. We're looking to maintain the upward trend that we have found in this. In addition, we see opportunities in the structural support of technical property management (contract management). Moreover, we're crossing the border more often. Our international projects give us more name recognition. As a result, we receive more requests from abroad. And the cross-border activities of our existing customers also contribute to the internationalization of Quadrant4. This is both exciting AND crazy!

Our message for 2023? Take care of each other. Support each other. Be loyal. Connect. We will give that our all and would like to conclude with that. See you soon!

*Eric de Vetten and Rudy van de Water*



Image: DEDRIE architecten

# BECAUSE WE DARE TO RELY ON EACH OTHER

The View Rotterdam is an impressive project made for living, working and retail in the Katendrecht district. It is right across from the well-known Wilhelmina pier where you can find the renowned Hotel New York, among others. The View forms an important part of the Rhine Harbor District: a new and exciting prospect for the city of Rotterdam. The project comprises of two parts: a building with 110 apartments, a hotel and retail services (fase 1, currently being built). After that a residential tower with 235 apartments, offices, and retail services (fase 2, currently being developed).

Quadrant4 has taken the project management of phase 1 upon themselves. Ger Rosier – architect, partner of DEDRIE Architects and already involved in The View – approached Quadrant4 for the job. He tells us, together with Eric de Vetten – director and co-owner of Quadrant4, more about this project and the challenges that came with it.

Ger: “First, let’s go back in time for a bit, since I first met Eric in 2013. We had just made the design for the new city hall in Tilburg. At that time, Eric was responsible for the process management. At the start of this extensive project, we were faced with tough challenges. And it is when business is tough that you really get to know each other. From the very start we just clicked. We both had a problem-solving attitude which partly helped us bring this project to success. Ever since, we have been working together more often.”

#### The View Rotterdam

Ger: “I got into contact with the project developer for designing the second phase of The View. But quickly more

(managerial) problems arose surrounding phase 1. This was around the end of 2020/start 2021. I took this upon myself and asked Eric to pick up the project management,”

Eric: “About fifteen years ago, people wanted to realize the European China Center here. However, that project stagnated. Only the parking lot was realized. Because there is plenty of developing potential in this part of the city, new plans and new designs were made in 2017, by Joke Vos Architecten. In 2019 the construction of phase one started. In 2019 some parts of the plan were changed, with permission of Joke Vos. The residential quarters are expected to be finished in the third quarter of 2023. The shell of the hotel can possibly be done by the fourth quarter



# ‘WE CONNECTED IMMEDIATELY FROM THE BEGINNING’

of 2023. Hopefully, it will be able to open its doors to the public in 2024.”

## Technically complex

Eric: “Because the development plans cover such a long span of time, we are confronted with three different Building regulations. This makes the contracting difficult. Aside from that, phase 1 is not a ‘run-of-the-mill’ building. There are many different forms of detailing. No corner is the same. Moreover, you have to keep into account that contracts were closed at the time and the current prices of materials and labor. Matching that isn’t as easy as it seems. Good that we, partly because of that, enforced the building management.”

Ger: “We want to prevent uncertainties between the different building partners involved. Previously, there was a ‘vacuum of control’ on the process. Because of that, I’m glad that Eric came along. It’s a tough job. But luckily the train runs smoother now. Simply because we build each other up.”

Eric: “We look at our tasks together and always work from a shared responsibility. That is worth a lot.”

## The Match

Ger: “To me, working with Quadrant4 is giving each other space and having faith in each other’s craftsmanship. This has grown over the years. You know, organizational philosophies are great, but ultimately, it’s about the people. And I enjoy working with people who you know will get the job done.”

Eric: “Ger is a rather stubborn architect with mountains of technical knowledge. We are evenly matched and reinforce each other. Together we must ensure that the concept, the main idea of phase 1, remains intact. And it works. I’m looking forward to the next challenges that we will take on together.” ●







# It's about people