

# From sketch to liveability: Exploring the design processes of contemporary Copenhagen



**A new architecture book, Contemporary Copenhagen, explores the Danish capital as a flagbearer of new Nordic design. Here, aesthetics and function have cooperated to contribute to its success as one of the most liveable cities in the world.**

The book tells the story of how some of the most prominent contemporary projects have developed from simple sketches to iconic architecture. Readers are invited behind the façade of these buildings and urban spaces of modern-day Copenhagen – such as Krøyers Plads, Copenhagen Airport and the world's first cross-functional media house DR City.

These works are only a few of more than 1,000 Copenhagen projects by the independent studio Vilhelm Lauritzen Architects that has shaped the city since 1922. Founded by one of the most distinguished modern Danish architects Vilhelm Theodor Lauritzen (1894–1984), the original DNA of the studio is that 'architecture is applied art for the people – never a privilege for the few'. Today, Vilhelm Lauritzen Architects continue the modernistic legacy with the intent that architecture emanates from function with an aesthetic created from the inside out.

Thomas Scheel, senior partner at Vilhelm Lauritzen Architects says; "Copenhagen is in many ways a human scaled mix of old and new with the new characterised by a sensuous simplicity that supports the city's high quality of life. This societal focus on community and solidarity often seeps generously into the urban architecture and spaces".

## Facts

**Language** English  
**Text** Jane Wirenfeldt Nielsen, Gertrud Jørgensen, Jens Kvorning, Tomas Lauri  
**Editor** Tomas Lauri  
**Graphic Design** Jens Andersson  
**No. of Pages** 272  
**Format** 245 × 283 mm  
**Binding** Flexicover  
**Publication Date** September 2021  
**ISBN** 978-91-985335-3-8

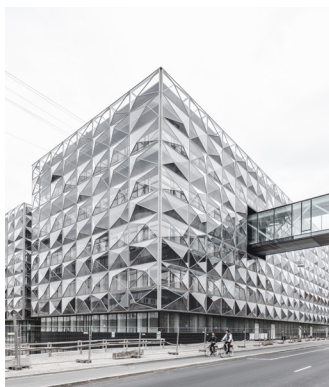
## For further information contact:

**Marie Arvinus**  
Founder and CEO, Arvinus + Orfeus Publishing  
marie@arvinus.se, +46 70 527 70 15

**Jane Wirenfeldt Nielsen**  
Head of Communications,  
Vilhelm Lauritzen Architects  
jwn@vla.dk, +45 9363 8011



Arvinus+Orfeus Publishing  
Olivecronas Väg 4  
113 61 Stockholm, Sweden  
www.ao-publishing.com



**Contemporary Copenhagen: The architectural rise of a small-town metropolis**  
The book begins with a historic view of Copenhagen's urban architecture and development by professors from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts and the University of Copenhagen. They convey the capital from its 1267 AD foundation to the opportunities and challenges of the future.

Based on the historic urban context, the main story line condense into a number of large and small projects, that for instance show how the round façade on Copenhagen's new landmark of Nordø is based on weather simulations and how a Middle Eastern Kasbah inspired the world's first cross-functional media house. It also covers well-known mega-icons such as Copenhagen Airport and the New North Zealand Hospital to award-winning Krøyers Plads and the renowned Bohr's Tower.

Published in English by renowned international architectural publisher Arvinus + Orfeus, the book is up for purchase from a number of international distributors from October 2021.



Arvinus+Orfeus Publishing  
Olivecronas Väg 4  
113 61 Stockholm, Sweden  
[www.ao-publishing.com](http://www.ao-publishing.com)

## About Vilhelm Lauritzen Architects

Vilhelm Lauritzen Arkitekter is one of Denmark's largest and oldest independent architectural firms in Denmark, which, based on functional architecture and design, creates buildings and urban spaces that improve people's quality of life.

The company was founded in 1922 by Vilhelm Theodor Lauritzen, one of Denmark's greatest architects and one of the founders of Danish modernism. He is known for functionalist masterpieces such as Radiohuset in Frederiksberg, VEGA (Folkets Hus) in Vesterbro, the former Daells Varehus and Copenhagen Airport's first airport building known as Vilhelm Lauritzen Terminalen. Through his work, he maintained that architecture should be applied art to the people – and not to the few. The company has since further developed and innovated his functionalist and popular design tradition with the goal of being among the leading design studios, also within digitization and sustainability.

The company employs around 150 dedicated architects, designers, specialists and administrative staff in Copenhagen's North Harbor.

## About Arvinus + Orpheus Publishing

Arvinus + Orfeus Publishing is one of the Nordic region's leading publishers in art, architecture and design. The publisher's titles are in several languages and represent the leading, most innovative contemporary artists, architects and designers in the Nordic countries.



Arvinus+ Orfeus Publishing  
Olivecronas Väg 4  
113 61 Stockholm, Sweden  
[www.ao-publishing.com](http://www.ao-publishing.com)