

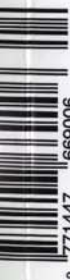
LINO

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND'S PREMIER DESIGN LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE
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WOW! New Zealand's World of WearableArt
Jonathon Goodman on Australian artist Steve Woodbury
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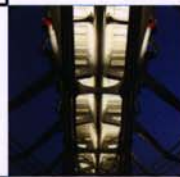
Landscapes and landmarks are amongst the impressions one retains after visiting a 'foreign' land. Most notably, the Eiffel tower could be associated with only one city. Likewise the Parthenon, the Coliseum, Uluru and the Great Wall.

An impression of a country is measured by many things. It is not only language and culture, but, more directly, visual impact that determines difference and distinguishes one country from another.

The impression one takes from The Netherlands is of the dyke, the waterways, the barges and bicycles. The architecture in the Netherlands, especially Amsterdam, is distinctive by the leaning front walls. These were designed at an acute angle to hoist impossibly sized furniture by a pulley system to the upper levels of the buildings through large windows. The houses were built beside the canals for accessible barge transport.

**PRACTICE
MAKES
PERFECT**

PRACTICE



Story_Rex Turnbull



Thought of more as quaint than functional, these buildings typify Dutch style as much as the wooden clog. But clogs have made way for designer shoes, and a new breed of architect has developed a style which is the new face of The Netherlands.





Dotted across the country are distinguished edifices that have the identifiable van Heeswijk signature stamped on them. With projects ranging from public buildings, offices, housing, interiors and bridges, his impression on the landscape of The Netherlands will have significant longevity and importance.

Leading the movement in a direction of unparalleled modernity, is established and respected architect Hans van Heeswijk, whose latest book documenting his work over the past 10 years was launched in Amsterdam earlier this year.

Hans van Heeswijk's work is an unapologetic contrast to anything else that has gone before it. Rather than blend with the historical landscape, streetscape or countryside, van Heeswijk chooses to juxtapose his work with bold modern statements in a country whose architecture, historically, did not change much for hundreds of years.



"A NEW BREED OF ARCHITECT HAS DEVELOPED A STYLE WHICH IS THE NEW FACE OF THE NETHERLANDS."



Hans van Heeswijk graduated from Delft Technical University Faculty of Architecture in 1980. From 1981 until 1983 he worked in the office of Aldo van Eyck and Theo Bosch - architects in Amsterdam. This was not only a practice where he could make a substantial mark for himself as a practitioner, but it provided the steep learning curve of experience which would prove invaluable for setting up his own company, which he did in 1985.



Emerging as an international design force to be reckoned with, Hans van Heeswijk's own architectural practice in Amsterdam now employs 20 dedicated designers, project managers and assistants. They are supported by a number of external associates and consultants with whom they collaborate from project to project.

There are basic fundamental design practices that Hans van Heeswijk institutes that have proved a failsafe check list and standard to which much respect has been channelled. These include maintaining a unique and individual identity for each building designed, together with logical organisation of functional serviceable floor plans.

Hans van Heeswijk also designs with spaciousness as a priority. This is achieved through openness and light. But it is the finishing that sets him apart. The high level of detailing and material application using standard building materials is his signature. It is with these materials he is able to produce functional, sustainable and low-maintenance building spaces.

In this very old country, Hans van Heeswijk has met modern challenges with modern solutions. He has received several awards and citations for buildings, renovation projects and bridges. The images on these pages are from his book *Hans van Heeswijk Architecture 1995-2005* which documents the last 10 years of his practice. www.heeswijk.nl

"HANS VAN HEESWIJK'S WORK IS AN UNAPOLOGETIC CONTRAST TO ANYTHING ELSE THAT HAS GONE BEFORE IT."

