



Leo de Bever (1930-2015) en Loed de Bever (1933)

After the death of their father in 1965, the two sons Leo de Bever, born 1930 in Eindhoven, and ir. Loed de Bever, born 1933 in Eindhoven, take over the office. Leo received his training at the Academy of Architecture of the Courses in Tilburg and gained practical experience at the architectural firms of Vincenzo, Fausto and Lucio Pascarellig in Rome, Gio Ponti in Milan and Marcel Breuer in New York. He received his Master of Architecture degree from Cornell University at Ithaca in the United States. Loed studies at the Delft University of Technology and in 1964 obtained his title of structural engineer and gained practical experience in Israel at the State Urban Planning Bureau in Tel Aviv.

Building on the existing contacts with the clients, the two brothers carry out various but above all large-scale projects, which in terms of appearance fit in with the diversity of contemporary architecture, making it less easy to arrive at their own recognizable signature. Notable buildings that Leo de Bever especially designed are: the Evluon in collaboration with Louis Kalff (1962-66), De Weerde (1966), Lidwinakerk Best (1965), office complex Fellenoord (1973-82), Rabobank Nederland in collaboration with Kraaijvanger (1966-79), Holiday Inn (1970), PSV stadium (1975-78), Kunstijsbaan (1981), De Lage Landen (1983), Eindhoven Airport (1984), MCB Valkenswaard (1984-91), Municipal center Veldhoven (1985-88), Burgers Heating (1987), EPZ (1990), Stads Kantoor (1993-95). The hand of Loed de Bever is more recognizable in: Catharina hospital in collaboration with Jules Kirch (1965-73), Jeroen Bosch College 's-Hertogenbosch (1969), Geldrop (1970) and Goirle (1985), Kronehoef (1897-93), Petruspark (1991-93), Fontys Hogeschool (1994-97)), as well as residential areas such as Hanevoet (1969), Genderbeemd (1971), Hoge Akker Best (1974) and De Hellen Goirle (1977). And not to forget the many villas designed by both of them.

The productivity that the three generations of architects Kookken and De Bever have demonstrated in one century can only be achieved with a large support in the background. The number of employees at the studio has fluctuated from twenty to forty over the years. How many young architects in North Brabant did not get their first work experience within this office before continuing on their own two feet.

A fourth generation has presented himself with Loed's son ir. Prosper de Bever, born 1966 in Eindhoven and graduated in civil engineering in Delft, and with Leo's son ir. Stefan de Bever, born 1966 in Eindhoven and graduated in Delft as an architect. With them in the ranks, the agency began a new century in 2000. Since 2007, ir. Stefan de Bever and ir. Heleen van Heel have been the directors of "de bever architects". The four generations of architects Kookken and De Bever mainly worked in North Brabant and made a significant contribution to the image of the city of Eindhoven and in a certain sense also of the province.