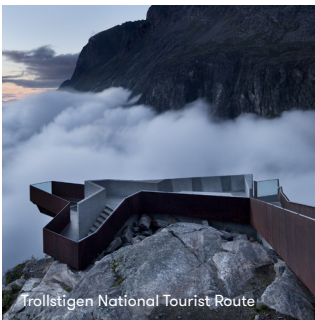




REIULF RAMSTAD ARKITEKTER



THE FIRM

Reiulf Ramstad Architects (RRA) is an independent Oslo-based architectural firm with a high level of expert knowledge and a distinct ideology. The firm has a strong conceptual approach combined with experience from past accomplished projects. RRA has a permanent staff consisting of 13 graduate architects, one managing director, 2 administrative staff, and 2-4 permanent openings for architectural students. Over the years RRA has produced a wide range of innovative and ground breaking projects with an exceptional variation of scale and program. We have earned a reputation for creating bold, simple architecture with a strong connection to the Scandinavian context and the impressive Scandinavian landscape in particular. Common for all our projects are that they are driven by a genuine dedication to humanist values. We build in both urban and rural areas, all over Norway and recently our projects are increasingly gaining attention also outside of Norway.



DESIGN SKILLS, INNOVATION AND ARTISTIC VISION

As architects and designers we are fortunate to experience the overall process, from the first conceptual phase to the completion of high quality projects. The firm has shown a multitude of approaches in solving assignments, both nationally and internationally and has received numerous awards and recognitions for its projects. RRA's unconventional approach to problem solving always results in unexpected yet inspirational architecture with high artistic quality.

RRA works with the environment in mind in all our projects, both in terms of planning and administration. RRA is very concerned that projects are planned with solutions that are environmentally progressive in relation to the operation, maintenance, energy use, functionality, flexibility and the context. We focus on efficient use of energy and follow up with the latest technology in the field.

Our special competence is in balancing practical aspects of architecture such as technical and economic demands while maintaining the underlying concept throughout. We are eager to find pragmatic solutions with users as well as technical consultants, at the same time we are passionate to maintain and make sure that the original concept is carried through in the end result.



EXPERIENCE

RRA is one of the few studios in Norway today with such a degree of diverse assignments. The projects are geographically spread and take place in a manifold of contexts, from compact urban locations to dramatic and uncultivated landscapes. The portfolio of the office contains commissions with huge contrasts in relation to scale, context, budget and demands of function.

RRA has experience of producing complex buildings for intricate city center from our Tønsberg Town Hall project where the building is placed in the center of historical town of Tønsberg, Norway, University College Østfold project which is located in old cultural landscape, and Cultural Center Stjørdal, a cultural center with new approach both in terms of complex functionality and overall concept.



Micro Cluster Cabin



Romsdal Museum



Stjørdal Cultural Center



Havsøen Split View Mountain Lodge



Fagerborg Kindergarten



RegionCity Gothenburg

EXECUTION OF THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

RRA has developed a dialog-based process for project development where the clients and users are very important resources and act as key contributors. We place great importance on maintaining a close dialogue with different user groups as well as other consultants to ensure good and functional solutions with a high degree of usability. It has been a successful working process that results in good working relationship in project groups. We have experience in working with bigger project where we are able to maintain budget and time frame through efficient and close-up project management. We have received high scores in clients' satisfaction in our projects, some with the project period nearly 10 years.

RRA also has routine of producing a status report for each project phase, a very useful tool to communicate internally in the project group and has dedicated staff members with high graphic skills to produce communication materials to the media such as presentation materials of high quality that we use for various international lectures and publications.

AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

RRA has received numerous awards and publications for its works. In addition, Reiulf Ramstad has been engaged in series of lecture and seminar both domestic and international forum. Recent achievements includes:

- 2014 Jacob Prisen - Norsk Design- og Arkitektursenter
- 2014 Nominated for the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award
- 2014 Winner of European Concrete Award in category "Building", Trollstigen National Tourist Route
- 2014 2nd place- European Concrete Award in category "Civil Engineering", Selvika zNational Tourist Route
- 2014 Special mention- fib Awards for Outstanding Concrete Structures, Trollstigen National Tourist Route
- 2014 Nominated for Architizer A+ Awards, Selvika National Tourist Route
- 2013 Norwegian Concrete Award, Selvika Havøysund National Tourist Route
- 2013 Norwegian Steel Award, Trollstigen, National Tourist Route
- 2013 European Steel Construction Award 2013, Trollstigen, National Tourist Route
- 2013 The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies
- 2013 The International Architecture Award for 2013 for National Tourist Route Trollstigen
- 2013 Architizer A+ Awards: most awarded single project, including both Popular choice and Jury awards for two categories: Landscape/Parks and Institutional/Government Buildings
- 2013 Nominated for the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award
- 2012 Norwegian Concrete Award
- 2012 Sundt's Award for private building in Oslo
- 2012 WAN award for leading architects for the 21st Century
- 2011 Nominated for the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award
- 2011 Nominated for Oslo City Architecture Award
- 2011 Nominated for The Norwegian Governments Building Award
- 2010 Nominated for Oslo City Architecture Award
- 2010 One of five finalists for Norwegian Design Award
- 2009 ArchDaily's Building of the Year Award
- 2007 Nominated for the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award

EXHIBITIONS AND LECTURES

Selected lectures include at internationally recognized universities in Glasgow (UK), Ghent (BE), Lyon and Strasbourg (FR), Guangdong, Gouangzhou, Shanghai and Beijing (CN), Alaska, Philadelphia and New York (US). Our most recent exhibitions, seminars and lecture series in Europe, America, and Asia, include:

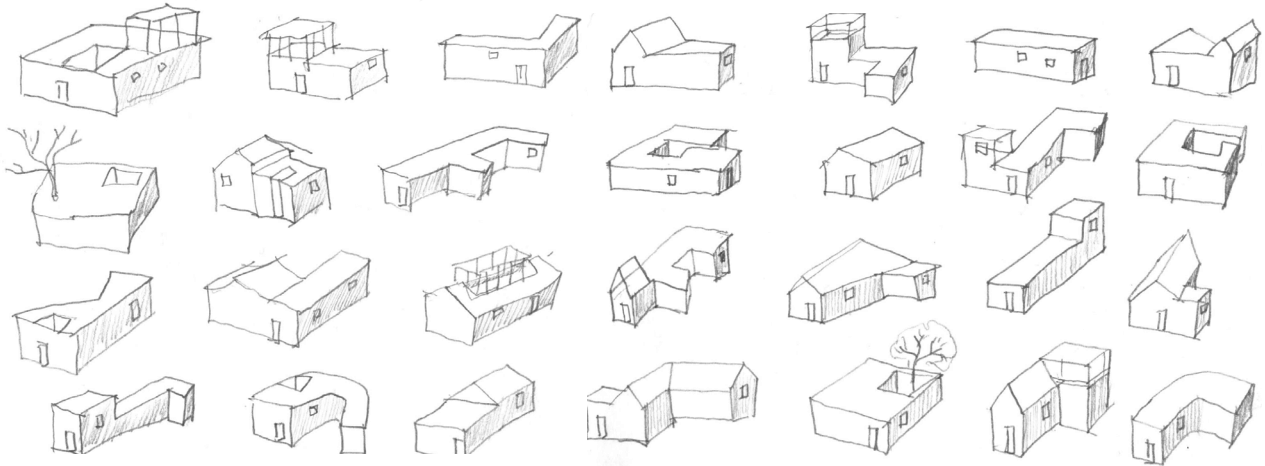
- 2012 The World Architecture Congress, Dubai, key note speaker
- 2012 7th Biennial of Landscape Architecture, Barcelona, key note speaker
- 2012 13th International Biennale of Architecture, Venice, part of exhibition *Lighthouses*.
- 2012 The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), London, lecture and exhibition
- 2012 Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk, part of exhibition *New Nordic* with Trollstigen featuring cover of catalogue and poster
- 2012 *Transforming Landscapes*, travelling exhibition on RRAs works invited to Paris, Brussels, Ghent and Copenhagen (2011), Glasgow and Sofia (2012)
- 2012 *Norwegian Contemporary Architecture 2000-2005*, part of touring exhibition for five years
- 2012 Danish Architecture Center (DAC), Copenhagen, part of exhibition DETOUR with two selected projects by Reiulf Ramstad Architects and Peter Zumpthor
- 2011 The Gwangju Festival of Architecture & Urban Culture, South-Korea, lecture and exhibition
- 2010 *Norway – Powered by Nature*, part of exhibition Norwegian Pavilion at the Expo 2010, Shanghai
- 2000 7th International Biennale of Architecture, Venice, part of exhibition *Less Aesthetics, More Ethics*

Reiulf Ramstad is a permanent thesis critic at The Oslo School of Architecture and Design, 2008-2012, and formerly at The Norwegian School of Science and Technology (NTNU), 2001-2006.

MAIN PUBLICATIONS

The office is frequently published by magazines and websites globally; in Europe, Asia and America, as well as collaborating with international publishers for monographic books about RRA:

- 2013 Hatje Cantz publication with selected projects and academic essays
- 2012 Monograph.IT-issue featuring complete project portfolio



DESIGN APPROACH



Knarvik Community Church



Life Science Building - University of Oslo



Troll Wall Restaurant



Oslofjord Convention Center

CLEAR THINKING, BOLD DESIGN

The RRA philosophy is to create contemporary architecture characterized by clarity of thought. Clarity depends on two things: analysis and decisiveness. The first is a matter of method, the second one of mind-set. When a sensitive interpretation of a location yields a set of essential characters, this opens up for creative decisiveness. We believe that outstanding architecture is defined by clear and simple ruptures that bring attention to the transitions. This invokes presence and attention rather than the ambiguous comfort of familiarity and standardization.

With the uniqueness of every site and context as our point of departure we employ a distinct and limited architectural palette characterized by a strong focus on natural materials and a sense of a location's individual spatiality. Each project becomes a unique departure when highly individual design emerges from a set of clearly defined and controlled elements. RRA's architecture is distinguished by innovative tectonic forms that interpret the spatial continuity between exterior and interior landscapes in new ways.

The design-approach further concentrates on function as an open term, and seeks to articulate spatial solutions that reflect both diversity and the notion of continuous change. Architecture must accommodate the restless mind of human society by way of functional flexibility, but at the same time it must counter the acceleration and unrest by manifesting tranquillity and timeless belonging.

Clarity of thought engenders bold design.

RRA's architecture seeks to expose the tension between the local and the global, the natural and the artificial; between virtual and real space and between immobility and change. We believe that it is from decisiveness about the tensions that great architecture is born.

PLACE

A place is not simply an aggregate of physical elements and conditions. It is not an object, however complex, to be viewed as raw material for the architect's creative will. A place is indivisible; it is unique and has a distinct expressivity of its own. Therefore architecture must always acknowledge the innate character of every location and make its design a marriage of place and concept.

At RRA we believe that architecture must be instructed by the uniqueness of its location in such a way that the building highlights the place and the place rests in the building. This mutual act of accentuation will often clarify the physical situation of a given location: architecture can organize impressions and make a place stand forth.

FORM, STRUCTURE, GEOMETRY, MATERIALITY AND TRANSITION

Form cannot be created. Form is the overall character that arises from the parts and factors of architecture. When the architect is mindful of every parameter that leads to form- and masters the interplay of these factors - it means that the many things are also thought as one. What ensues is the architectural gift of identity. Architectural form is the product of a set of parameters that are equally important in the project development phase. RRA's architectural objective is always to materialize a distinct identity where overall design, details, spatiality and transitions are developed according to a conscious project strategy.

At RRA we realize that the twin objectives of uncompromising quality and distinct identity entail that project development must be a carefully managed process where every aspect and detail receives the necessary attention. We believe that the architect must be mindful of the entirety at every stage. When nothing is left to coincidence or haste, architecture becomes a matter of a fully mastered complexity.