

Architects Davidsson Tarkela

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Founded in 1985, Architects Davidsson Tarkela is a Helsinki-based architectural firm that at the moment employs 17 people focusing on architectural and interior design. From 1991 to 1995, our head office was located in Berlin.

aDT offers a wide range of design services to both public and private sector clients. Extensive expertise, close cooperation with the client and a networked design approach with other experts are at the core of our operations. Our work focuses on demanding renovations of historically valuable buildings, challenging new-construction projects, urban planning and project development. We operate reliably in a variety of project and implementation formats, utilizing the latest digital design tools.

Our approach is conversational and analytical. The possibilities of the site conditions and the needs of the project form the basis of the physical and cultural identity of each project. The pursuit of a carefully considered balance between our architectural heritage, resource-effective building design and a good urban environment guides all our design efforts.

Working within the built environment gives us the opportunity to promote sustainable architecture and the objectives of a carbon neutral society. Sustainable development and circular economy are key areas in the continued development of our operations.

The office is led by Aki Davidsson, Jaana Tarkela and Niklas Mahlberg, who serves as the office's managing director. The entire management team works as design principals.

Working Methods

Our implemented projects can be found in Finland, Berlin, Moscow and St. Petersburg. Based on our experience and documented practices, we provide our clients architectural design, lead designer services as well as reliable project and risk management. Through our operations spanning over four decades and working as the clients representative, we have developed extensive and direct contacts in Helsinki's urban planning, building control and especially in the City Museum and the National Board of Antiquities.

Our team includes skilled professionals who are qualified for exceptionally demanding projects and who have strong experience in both new construction and renovation projects, e.g. in the historical areas of central Helsinki. Our office staff includes architectural designers, interior designers and administration and IT professionals.

We carry out design work and coordination based on building information models. To fulfill the goals agreed with the client and users, we use the most up-to-date versions of design software (Autocad, Revit, Rhino).

aDT is a member of The Association of Finnish Architects' Offices ATL. The office has an internal quality assurance system based on the ATL-SKOL-RAKLI quality system.

aDT is also a member of Solwers, a network of leading design companies.

Awards

- 2021
Elielinaukio and Asema-aukio, architectural and conceptual design competition. aDT was Snøhetta's local partner in the winning proposal "Klyyga"
- 2020
Helsinki East Urban Centre
Open international competition in two phases, purchase
- 2017
Kuopio Museum
Invited competition 1. prize
- 2017
Passenger entry hall, Helsinki-Vantaa Airport
Invited competition 1. prize
Interior Design and renovation, in collaboration with Rune & Berg Design
- 2015
Haapaniemenkatu 4
Invited competition 1. prize
In collaboration with Arkkitehtuuritoimisto Heikkinen –Komonen
- 2011
KPMG-offices, Töölönlahti, Helsinki
Invited competition 1. prize
- 2010
Alma Media -offices, Töölönlahti, Helsinki
Invited competition 2. prize
- 2009
Munich's Eastern Gate (Bogenhausener Tor)
Invited urban design competition, purchase
- 2007
Aviapolis Tower, Vantaa: invited competition, 1. prize
- 2005
Recognitions received for Kamppi public transport terminal:
- European Prize For Urban Public Space.
- Concrete Structure of the Year
- Special recognition of the for the Visually Impaired association
- "Ceiling Project of the Year" - Ceiling Association.
- "The Five Houses" Forum - Quarterly Review of Nordic Architecture presentation 3/2005.
- Finnish Architecture 0405 exhibition and book.
- Second place in the competition for the 2006 RIL Prize.
- 2005
Betonipalkinto
Kamppi Terminal
- 2005
Best of Europe | Color -nominee
Learning Centre Aleksandria | Helsinki University
- 2003
Concrete Structure of the Year, honorable mention. Learning Centre Aleksandria | Helsinki University
- 2003
Third prize in the Helsinki Olympic Stadium's eastern stands canopy competition.
- 2001
Honorable mention in the invited competition for the Kontula Elderly Center, Helsinki.
- 2000
First place in the tender for the Kamppi Center in SRV Viitosen Oy's group (Pallasmaa, Davidsson, Schweizer, Wartiainen).
- 1999
Honorable mention in the architectural competition for Ulriikankodin nursing home, Loviisa
- 1998
Aesthetic act of the year, award for the protective cover of the scaffolding of Helsinki City Hall.
- 1996
State Architecture Award of the Russian Federation for the design of the International Bank of Moscow together with Juhani Pallasmaa.
- 1995
Honorable mention in the kiosk competition of the City of Helsinki together with Marianna Verhe.
- 1994
Purchase in the Senftenberg downtown and town hall design competition together with Marianna Verhe and Åke Lindeberg.
- 1990
First prize in the Business and Regional Center A3 / Riihimäki invitation competition together with Åke Lindeberg.

Publications

Kuopio Museum Renovation and Extension
ARK / Finnish Architectural Review 5/2021

Kuopio Museum
Rakennuslehti nro. 22/2021

Kuopio Museum
Betoni – lehti 2/2021

Kuopio Museum
Prointerior 2/2021

Kuopio Museum
AU, Finnish Association of Architects - newsletter
03/2021

Kuopio Museum
Designverse 08/03/2021

Kuopio Museum
Archello 03/03/2021

Kuopio Museum
Icon magazine 03/03/2021

Kuopio Museum
Åvontuura 02/03/2021

Kuopio Museum
ArchDaily 17/02/2021

Helsinki City Museum, International Urban Project
Award 2020
World Architecture Magazine 1/2021

Helsinki City Museum, International Urban Project
Award 2020
Bauwelt Praxis 1/2021

Daycare Louhi / an old prison piggery turned into a
kindergarten
Architecture of Necessity - exhibition. Virserums
Konsthall 2016

Helsinki Fair Center
ARK - magazine 3/12

Kamppi Center
Contemporary Architecture | Finland - book 2010

Learning Centre Aleksandria | Helsinki University
Colleges & Universities - book 2010

Kamppi traffic terminals
Finnish Architecture 0405, exhibition and book

Kamppi traffic terminals
Forum -Quarterly Review of Nordic Architecture and
Design, 3/05

Kamppi traffic terminals
Betoni-lehti 2/05

Learning Centre Aleksandria | Helsinki University
ARK - magazine 6/03

Learning Centre Aleksandria | Helsinki University
Steel Visions - Millennium Steel Architecture in
Finland

Metsätalo | Helsinki University
ARK - magazine 5/03

Helsinki City Hall | Office block K32
Ptah 1/00

Finnish Cultural Institute, Berlin
ARK - magazine 3/97

Moscow International Bank
Teräsrakenne-lehti 2/97

Moscow International Bank
Project Russia No 1

KOP-Antilooppi block, Helsinki
World Architecture 25/95

Selected Projects

Skatta hotel, Helsinki

New hotel and underground parking garage
9 900 m²
2020-2023

Lahti City Hall

Renovation and extension of a listed building by Eliel Saarinen from 1912
5 315 m²
2020-2023

The Finnish National Theatre, Helsinki

Renovation and extension of a listed block by Kaija and Heikki Sirén and Onni Tarjanne
10 050 m²
2018-2023

Helsinki Fair Center

Entrance and Convention Centre extension and refurbishment
28 000 m²
2017-2023

Kuopio museum

Renovation and extension based on an invitational competition win
4 500 m²
2016-2020

Wuorio building, Unioninkatu 30, Helsinki

Renovation and extension of a listed building by Herman Gesellius
5 270 m²
2020

Vuorela Reform School, Vihti

Renovation
1 727 m²
2020

Rettig Group, Bulevardi 46

Office building renovation
3 220 br-m²
2019

Backas Manor

Renovation
650 br-m²
2017

Passenger entry hall, Helsinki-Vantaa Airport Entry hall design

Interior design competition 1st Prize
2017

Pisara-Rata, Töölö station

Project plan for a new underground train station and entrance buildings
35 500 m²
2017

Clarion Congress Centre, Makasiini L2

Adaptive reuse and renovation of a listed building by Lars Sonck
8 500 m²
2016

Clarion Hotel Helsinki

Newbuild
25 500 m²
2016

Haaga firestation

Renovation and extension
4 200 br-m²
2016

Helsinki City Museum, K4 quarter

Renovation and conversion of several listed buildings
8 850 m²
2016

Kluuvi gallery

Conversion of old gallery space
200 m²
2016

KPMG headquarters, Helsinki

New office and commercial building
25 500 m²
2016

Torikorttelit - Senate square market quarters

Renovation and extension of several listed building
~35 000 m²
1999-2016

Arppeanum, Helsinki

Renovation and change of use of a listed building by Carl Albert Edelfelt from 1869
4 100 m²
2015

Daycare Louhi, Helsinki

Renovation and extension
1 200 br-m²
2015

Leijona quarter restaurant

Renovation and newbuild
620 m²
2015

Metsätalo, University of Helsinki

Renovation and conversion of a listed building by Jussi Paatela from 1939
22 500 m²
2001-2015

Selected Projects

Kampin Huippu offices, Helsinki

Renovation and newbuild
10 000 m²
2014

Espoonatori, Espoo Centre

Development and city planning
73 500 m²
2014

Brewery Restaurant

Renovation and newbuild
1 000 m²
2013

Erottaja Fire Station, Helsinki

Renovation of a listed building by Theodor Höijer
from 1899
5 100 m²
2013

Siltamäki Home Unit for Disabled

Newbuild
1 300 m²
2013

Govinius house, K4 Kortteli

Office and commercial building. Renovation of a
listed building by Pehr Granstedt from 1819
2 200 m²
2012

Fair Center Helsinki, Hall 7

New exhibition and multipurpose hall
Competition 1st prize
18 500 m²
2011

Suomi-building, Lönnrotinkatu 5, Helsinki

Refurbishment of a listed building by Armas
Lindgren and Onni Tarjanne
17 580 m²
2005-2011

Tervalampi Manor

Newbuild
1 000 br-m²
2011

Peippolankolmio 3, Porvoo

Residential apartment buildings, 23pcs
998 m²
2011

Language center, University of Helsinki, Fabianinkatu 26

Learning and office spaces
7 642 m²
2006-2009

City Hall, Helsinki

Renovation of a listed building by Carl Ludvig Engel
14 500 m²
1999-2009

Bogenhausener Tor, München Eastern Gateway

Area and city plan, competition purchase
2009

Aviapolis Tower, Vantaa

Office building, Competition 1st Prize
10 000 m²
2006

Kamppi center, bus terminals

Public transportation terminals
55 000 m²
2006

VTT Valimo, Metallimiehenkuja 2, Espoo

Renovation and conversion
1 800 m²
2006

Learning Centre Aleksandria, Helsinki

Renovation and newbuild
5 500 m²
2005

Ahertajankulma T3-Centre, Espoo

Urban design
5 500 m²
2003

Villa Urbig (Mies van der Rohe 1918), Potsdam Babelsberg

Renovation
700 m²
1994