

Press release
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Danish architecture firms join forces during Beijing Design Week

DISSING+WEITLING and KRAGH & BERGLUND Landscape architects are amongst the Danish companies participating in Asia's biggest design event and attraction, Beijing Design Week 2018. Together, the two companies represent the Danish human-centered way of designing public architecture and urban spaces.

This year, Copenhagen is the official guest city for Beijing Design Week, taking place from September 25 – October 5, 2018. Several Danish companies will move to Beijing's creative 751 D-Park and 798 Art District and present the Danish's lifestyle, culture and sustainable urban developments.

Sharing common urban challenges

Both DISSING+WEITLING and KRAGH&BERGLUND Landscape architects are experienced players on the Chinese market with extensive knowledge of Chinese-Danish collaborations. They know the challenges China and Denmark share when it comes to city planning and architecture: Increased traffic congestion, environmental issues, pollution, lack of green spaces and demographic challenges. Partner and Managing Director at DISSING+WEITLING, Steen Savery Trojaborg, says:

- Beijing Design Week is an opportunity to strengthen our good relations with the Chinese contractors and local urban experts, while at the same time show some of our projects, relevant to China. The Bicycle Snake, for example, is a significant example of how we work to enhance mobility in a dense city, save commuters time, and simultaneously adding value in terms of developing hospitable and inclusive cities. As Danish architects and urban planners, our aim is to design good environments for the people who live, work and spend time in the city. We believe in exporting this Danish way of focusing on the users and context in the center of a project.

Jonas P. Berglund, Partner and co-owner of KRAGH&BERGLUND Landscape Architects adds:

Since 2005 we had a local Chinese studio at the Danish Culture Center in Beijing managed by Chinese partner Jasmine Wang. Beijing Design Week is a great opportunity for us to meet our local Clients and to create new relations.

As Danish landscape architects and planners, we share a strong tradition for a human-oriented approach to designing *and* for sharing knowledge. Seen as a whole, we have a strong commitment to envision and produce a variety of inclusive architecture and urban spaces that accommodates the needs of the many. We have a focus on designing with nature and our democratic ambitions and prioritizing of mobility, connectivity and accessibility both between people and cities but also between regions.

Exhibition, pop-up event and talks

On September 29, the two companies will be hosting a pop-event at the Danish Culture Centre in Beijing, where Kragh & Berglund also has their local Chinese studio. The pop-event will be an addition to several other events and talks taking place during Beijing Design Week.

Partner and Managing Director Steen Savery Trojaborg at DISSING+WEITLING will give the talk "From small to great - Copenhagen reclaimed" at the conference 'Small Planet, Great Architecture' on the September 28. The talk will give examples of how architecture can help cities become greener and liveable while at the same time solve a pragmatic problem and create positive side effects as well.

Partner and co-owner Jonas P. Berglund of KRAGH&BERGLUND Landscape architects will give a talk at the Danish Embassy on 26th: "Making city inclusive, spontaneous and playful". He will illustrate why and how people and cities will benefit by having more inclusive, spontaneous and playful public spaces.

Besides the Bicycle Snake, other DISSING+WEITLING projects on display in Beijing are the Åbuen Bridge, the major coast-to-coast link in Guangdong, the Shenzhen-Zhongshan Link, with the world's widest immersed road tunnel, two major suspension bridges and two iconic artificial islands. In addition, the Xiamen Bicycle Skyway, Xiamen Footpath, and Stonecutters Bridge in Hong Kong will be on show for the exhibition's visitors.

KRAGH&BERGLUND will exhibit the projects "Happy and play" Yixing activity square, the spontaneous and intuitive movement park "Rågsved sports park", "PLUGandPLAY" temporary alternative sports area, "The Danish Association of the Physically Disabled Stranden" – Universal design, coast management and park, "BLOX – Bryghusgrunden" - active outdoors and "Generationernes hus" - house of generations, social living.

About DISSING+WEITLING

Besides international business headquarters and residential areas, DISSING+WEITLING has developed outstanding knowledge and expertise within bridge building, and has designed some of the most iconic and praised bridges in the world. The company's design and construction DNA originate from world famous Danish Architect Arne Jacobsen, whose design studio has lived on as DISSING+WEITLING since 1971. Since then, the company has refined and developed this Scandinavian design tradition with projects that have set new standards in design and architecture in Denmark, in China and many other parts of the world.

About KRAGH&BERGLUND Landscape

KRAGH&BERGLUND Landscape architects works internationally holding offices in Copenhagen, Stockholm and Beijing. The studio expertise in all spaces from 1:1 urban installations to big regional masterplans. KRAGH&BERGLUND Landscape architects works to reveal hidden site-specific qualities and focus on developing pragmatic design solutions turning the final project into a unique, customized and social experience that links form with nature, livability and playfulness. The design philosophy is to commit urban environments where the city's identity, its contexts and history are enhanced in interaction with nature to create new qualitative urban spaces and meetings between people.

More information

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