

## Stefanie Evergert & Caroline Lateur

Interior designers and designers, founders Doorzon interior architects

In 2005, Stefanie Everaert and Caroline Lateur founded Doorzon interior designers. Their projects were initially in the private sector, ranging from new buildings and renovations to smaller interventions such as specific made-to-measure furniture. Over the past 15 years, however, their field of work has expanded to include public and international projects, numerous prestigious competition designs, scenographies and exhibitions. In 2013, a first monograph dedicated to their work was published in an edition of *Vlees en Beton*. In 2016, Doorzon interior architects was selected for the 15th Venice Architecture Biennale, together with architects devylder vinck taillieu and Filip Dujardin. Everaert and Lateur also both work as lecturers at the KU Leuven. (source: Doorzon)

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Stefanie Everaert and Caroline Lateur with a conference table they designed for the Center for Openness and Dialogue in Tirana, reproduced on the Skanderberg Square © Doorzon

Wiki Women Design makes an important contribution to a broader cultural shift in the field of (interior) architecture, where sexism is deeply rooted in working culture and education. The world of architecture is still a man's world. In our 15-year career as interior architects, we have very often asked ourselves the question: is it really up to us or are we really some of the few women who actively come out with our work in Flanders? When we take part in architectural competitions for public projects, we find that we are the only female interior architects who play at that level. Usually we are also the only women in the teams for these assignments. That is confronting.

An eye-opener for us was Hilde Heynen's research that showed that although more women than men graduate as architects, fewer women are active in the field. Moreover, the women who are active as architects are much less visible: only 21% of the published projects in the Architecture Book of Flanders and only 8% of the selected designs in the magazine A+ are designed by women. Thus, this issue is truly rooted in the policy. The bottom line is that as a woman you have fewer chances to be published, to make exhibitions or to be honored. Moreover, there is still a big taboo around this subject.

Spreading more knowledge about female (interior) architects who have an impact on the design world is a small step that can have a big impact in the long run. During our studies we hardly had any female role models apart from Charlotte Perriand, Marie-José Van Hee and Claire Bataille. If a simple search on Google can reveal more female names, that's a very important step forward. That is another reason why we want to support this project: to make it easier for future generations and to contribute to a positive future of our discipline.