

*Dirk D'herde graduated as engineer-architect at the University of Leuven in 1980. In the beginning of his career he was involved in some major office-projects in Belgium. In 1994 he was co-founder of architectenvennootschap ar-te in Leuven which developed as one of the larger architectural offices in the Flemish-speaking part of Belgium.*

*From 2005 on ar-te became more and more active in care and hospital projects in Flanders (e.g. University Hospital Gent and Leuven, General Hospital Vilvoorde, Dendermonde, Maaseik, Diest, ...).*

*In 2016 ar-te merged with the Brussels based office BAEV to form the archipelago architects group which is now one of the leading offices for care projects in Belgium. Dirk D'herde is now managing partner of archipelago architects and focuses more specifically on care projects in which the 'archipelago-approach' (context-sensitive balance between programme, wellbeing, sustainability and economy) can be applied.*