



To all who knew the architect Christian Kieckens,

On Sunday 24 January 2021, architect Christian Kieckens would have turned 70. In the sunny month of May 2020, we said goodbye to him in the crematorium in Zemst, a building that he had designed. This had to take place in a limited circle due to the pandemic.

The plan was to organise a memorial event in autumn 2020 or early 2021, a gathering of friends and former students to honour Christian. Due to the corona virus, arranging such a gathering has proved impossible. Yet we did not want his birthday to go unremarked. A number of initiatives have taken place that we would like to share.

The Flanders Architecture Institute opened a register of condolences in May and his sudden death resounded in the press and international professional journals. An *in memoriam* appeared in the *Flanders Architectural Review no. 14* and in the magazine *A+*. In the meantime, a piece of furniture – *the face2face* work table from 1996 – was acquired by the Design Museum Ghent.

In the summer of 2020, *A Temporary Monument for Brussels #7 OTHER | THE* by Peter Downsborough was installed on the Sainctelette Square in Brussels and dedicated to Christian.

In June, Filip Dujardin photographed Christian's flat, the space in which he lived and worked.

The Flanders Architecture Institute received his sketches and library, donated by the family as a valuable addition to an earlier gift made by Christian in 2015.

The richness of the archive will be systematically unveiled in 2021, both on the VAI website and in a project on architectural competitions. The website <http://www.christiankieckens.be/> is still available for consultation.

Finally, we would also like to provide the link to an interview from 2016, given on the occasion of the exhibition *Een meubel is ook een huis* [A piece of furniture is also a house] at the Design Museum Ghent: <https://katrienvandermarliere.be/films/a-piece-of-furniture-is-also-a-house/>

We thank him for his mentorship, his work, his generosity and so much more.

On behalf of the family,
Yves Kieckens and Reinhilde Lauwereins
& Katrien Vandermarliere, Kelly Hendriks,
Els Vande Kerckhove, Marc Dubois.



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Below are the links to the online articles that appeared on the occasion of Christian's death.

Italian architectural magazine *Domus*
<https://www.domusweb.it/en/architecture/gallery/2020/05/18/a-tribute-to-the-flemish-architect-christian-kieckens.html>

Antwerp University
<https://www.uantwerpen.be/nl/overuantwerpen/faculteiten/ontwerpwetenschappen/nieuws-en-activiteiten/archief/christian-kieckens/>

Belgian architectural magazine *A+*
<https://www.a-plus.be/nl/actualiteit/in-memoriem-christian-kieckens/>

VRT Radio KLARA
<https://klara.be/memoriem-christian-kieckens-1951-2020>

Dutch architectural magazine *De Architect*
https://www.dearchitect.nl/architectuur/artikel/2020/05/in-memoriem-christian-kieckens-1951-2020-101242845?_ga=2.16151670.1136502238.1610990806-998831568.1610990806

BRUZZ newspaper
<https://www.bruzz.be/culture/cultural-news/brussels-architect-christian-kieckens-overleden-2020-05-12>

De Standaard newspaper (link not provided)
https://www.standaard.be/cnt/dmf20200511_04954713

The Order of Architects
<https://www.architect.be/nl/infoportaal/nieuwsberichten/christian-kieckens-1951-2020/670/>

National Architects' Association
<https://www.nav.be/artikel/2573/in-memoriem-christian-kieckens-is-dat-niet-zwaar-altijd-al-die-bagage-meedragen/>

Het laatste nieuws (link not provided)
<https://www.hln.be/aalst/architect-christian-kieckens-69-onverwacht-overleden-visionair-die-aalst-aan-de-denderhertekende~a69779c7/> (onvolledig)

A Wikipedia page has been created:
https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_Kieckens

The Flanders Architecture Institute hosts a register of condolences that can still be consulted:
<https://www.vai.be/nieuws/rouwregister-christian-kieckens>

Link to the interview given on the occasion of the exhibition *Een meubel is ook een huis* [A piece of furniture is also a house] at the Design Museum Gent, 2016
<https://katrienvandermarliere.be/films/a-piece-of-furniture-is-also-a-house/>