

# ON THE MOVE

Offices of the future are changing landscapes, unfettered by convention. They are evolving spaces that perpetuate an endless stream of new ideas. Spending every day at a desk increases one's exposure to a slew of health issues, from heart disease to cancer, diabetes, and obesity, according to researchers from Sweden, Australia, and the UK. "Walking helps keep worries and anxieties at bay," states Luca Gianotti, author of *The Art of Walking – Practical advice for setting off on the right foot, "and reconciles mind and body."* And, as Wu Ming 2 says, "The art of walking is a visual art that confers the ability to look at the world differently."



## RIANNE MAKKINK AND JURGEN BEY

*Designers and Founders of Studio Makkink & Bey*

In recent years, Studio Makkink & Bey has been increasingly focused on interiors. "We often develop special products for certain interiors, which are subsequently launched on the market", explains Jurgen Bey. For instance, the studio has been handling the interior design of the Municipal Offices in Rotterdam, a building designed by OMA. "In today's working environment, people are always busy going somewhere. As a result, the lift lobby in an office building is no longer a tedious waiting area but an ideal place to meet people." Together with GROUP A and Roukens + Van Gils, Studio Makkink & Bey designed the interiors of the 33-storey City of Rotterdam Municipal Offices. The emphasis here lies on the idea of always being busy going somewhere, which is in line with the New Way to Work: "What if waiting becomes less tedious because it is turned into meeting?" A striking example of this is the situation with the lift lobbies, which, covering a total floor area of 3,500 square metres, were transformed from waiting areas into meeting areas by adding standing-and-sitting furniture and colourful floors. Rotterdam had originally been designed as a 'vertical city'. The workplaces, indicated as 'districts' within a city, are interconnected by means of 'urban junctions'. The public rooms are the 'parks' and 'squares' — informal meeting places where people can relax, meet, and catch up.

*studiomakkinkbey.nl*  
Portrait photo: Roel van Tour

## PAOLA LENTI

*Francesco Rota*

**Build** was designed by Francesco Rota for Paola Lenti. The panels are conceived to divide and equip interior spaces. Covered with Brio fabric, they can be fixed to the wall or used to create self-bearing compositions. The panels are available in different heights, with the possibility of adding wooden shelves in a natural finish or iron-grey colour, or they can become wooden cabinets with fabric-covered doors.

*paolalenti.it*  
*francescorota.com*

