



# Jasmien Herssens

dr. arch.

## Education

*"Design for All begins with listening. By hearing the voices of those most often overlooked, we build connections that empower communities and strengthen collective action. My commitment to **EDF** comes from this belief: when people come together, barriers give way to possibility."*

### Contact



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 Belgium

### Doctor of Engineering Sciences | KULeuven Doctor of Architecture UHasselt | PXL 2007-2011

JOINT DOCTORAL DEGREE KULEUVEN (ASRO),  
 UHASSELT (ARK) - PXL

first doctoral degree between KULeuven & UHasselt-PXL  
 first PhD grant for an architect at IWT  
 first PhD grant for a University College student at IWT

#### PhD in Design for All | Universal Design

Doctoral Thesis: *"Designing Architecture for More: A framework of Haptic Design Parameters with the Experience of People Born Blind"*  
 supervisors: Prof. Dr. Bert Willems & Prof. Dr. Ir. Ann Heylighen

### MANAMA of Architectural Sciences 2001-2004, cum laude

KULEUVEN, FACULTY OF ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Thesis: *"Virtuality in Architectural [re-presentations]: an ambiguity of symbolics"*  
 supervisor: Prof. Dr. Hilde Heynen

### Master of Architecture 1996-2001, cum laude

KULEUVEN, FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, GHENT

Master Project: *"Pantha Rei: Designing a Maritime School for the Port of Ghent"*  
 and *masterplan docklands Ghent*  
 supervisor: Willam Lievens mentor: Koen Van Synghel

## Personality

- empathic & good listener
- integer
- innovative & creative
- committed & teambuilder
- community-oriented
- out of the box-thinker

## Skills

- analytical and strategic thinking
- 20 years teacher & researcher
- project management
- participatory processes & co-design
- design thinking & methodology
- IT: MS office, Adobe, Autocad, Inkscape, Atlas Ti

## Languages

- Dutch: native language
- French: second language good
- English: very good, certificate ERK-level C1
- German: notion

## Honors and Awards

- Golden Award: Vis-ability, IAUD, 2021 for inclusive 3D-print
- National Award MAGNA, Australian Museum and Galleries Association Inclusive 3D print, 2020
- Best paper Award, Include Asia, 2013
- Cera Senior Award, Engineers with a heart, 2012
- Best doctoral Paper Award, CWUAAT, Cambridge, 2010
- Best paper award, Include 2009, London

## practice

### Founder & Director fourmind

fourmind.be | July 2022 - present

### Sitemanager LABIOMISTA

city of Genk | studio Koen Vanmechelen  
March 2021- July 2022

### Independent Architect & Internship

Wim Goes Architectuur, Gent: April 2003-September 2005  
Ante Architecten, Sint-Niklaas: Oktober 2002 tot April 2003

## boards & network

### ambassador in EDF for EIDD-Design for All

2012 - present

### ambassador EIDD-Design for All

2025 - present

### board member Sint-Gerardus NGO

2022 - present (school for children with diverse needs)

### board EIDD-Design for All

2018 - 2025

## academia

### ZAP-Track professor

### (tenure for integration framework: permanent position)

Hasselt University | Faculty of Architecture and Arts  
June 2016 - August 2019

### Visiting Professor

QUT (Queensland University of Technology) | Brisbane, Australia  
February 2019 - May 2019 [ Erasmus + grant]

### professor Universal Design

PXL | Faculty of Architecture and Arts  
April 2012 - June 2016

### Visiting Professor

KULeuven | Faculty of Architecture, Ghent  
September 2012 - September 2013

### Post Doc

Faculty of Engineering Sciences KULeuven | AIDA  
December 2011 - April 2012

### IWT-fellow: PhD grant

Institute for the Promotion of Innovation through Science and Technology, Flanders  
January 2007-December 2011

### Assistant Universal Design

PXL University College, Hasselt  
September 2005-December 2006