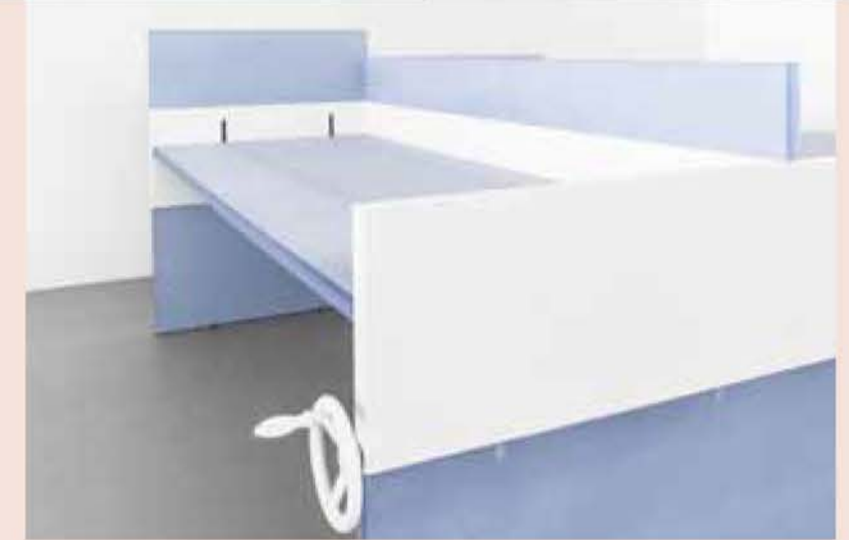


NINA GRAZIOSI

Designer for Lensvelt

This year Lensvelt presented a system of adjustable desks called UNM (You and Me), devised in various materials by Italian/Dutch designer Nina Graziosi. However exclusive the desks might appear, they meet every standard and regulation, and their height can be adjusted using a wheel whose technical elements are hidden in the central panel. UNM has been developed to push the boundaries of office interiors into a more luxurious and stylish panorama. As the designer explains, "This project was born from a very frustrating moment last year. I was meant to work on the interior design of certain offices, and I kept coming across the same elements, adjustable desks that were either too technical or merely functional, or systems that had already existed for decades. All with height-adjustable legs. Together with Lensvelt, we imagined a different solution for changing the height, such that the movement is contained in the horizontal element, allowing the architect or designer to select another material for the lower panels. Choices range from stainless steel, copper, Plexiglas, marble, glass... There have so far never been glass legs in office environments." Some 100 desks from the UNM collection by Lensvelt are on display in the head office in Amsterdam.

graziosi-progetti.nl



HANS LENSVELT

CEO of Lensvelt

When the CEO of Lensvelt talks about his role in the world of interior design, he promptly serves up a culinary comparison: "Just like a cook wants the best ingredients for a meal, I want to supply the best ingredients for the interiors of office buildings, theatres, hotels, schools, restaurants... And just like having my own side of the bed or my own place at the table, I don't believe in flexible workplaces in the office where you can sit somewhere else all the time. That's not what people want." Still, a lot has improved in office interiors over the last couple of years, he realises: "Let's not forget that 10 years ago we were still working in little cells. It's now more about communication, planning, and making presentations together. And that's best done in a pleasant environment."

Inspired by the steel office furniture with which Lensvelt started off at his father's office furniture company, an ingenious concept by Edward van Vliet was presented this year: Album Armarium. The filing cabinet has been transformed into a unique storage unit, a cabinet of curiosities that lends a totally different look to workspaces. Lensvelt explains, "Edward van Vliet was invited to be one of the top curators of Salon Residence at the Singer Museum in Laren (Netherlands). His task was to turn a historical room into a very special office. The basis for the interior was this same filing cabinet he designed for Lensvelt, but then made out of glass. He wanted to turn it into a cabinet full of beautiful objects. According to van Vliet, every office should have such a cabinet, filled with objects that are meaningful for their job and their line of business. Because it's beautiful, and it can also make people aware of the beauty of their profession."

lensvelt.nl
edwardvanvliet.com
singerlaren.nl

