



## ABSTRACT

**Paper title** Improving and restoring the Beurs van Berlage

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**Name and Surname of the Speaker** Janneke Bierman

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**Institution** Bierman Henket

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**TITLE AND POSITION** architect, director-owner Bierman Henket

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## PRESENTATION SUMMARY

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The Dutch architect Hendrik Petrus Berlage (1856-1934) designed the Beurs van Berlage (1903) in Amsterdam as a *gesamtkunstwerk*. The building can be seen as a Dutch variant of Art Nouveau that was popular in Western Europe in the early twentieth century. Several artists were involved in the project and the furniture and lighting were also designed by Berlage. The building complex came into private hands in 2008. A master plan was developed based on the original concept of the *Palazzo Pubblico* of Berlage: a palace for the people. Finding the balance between a healthy return on investment and respect for the monument was a quest, but the *Beurs* is now back on the map. The building complex has been recharged with a new program consisting of an event complex, catering, shops, exhibition space and offices. The building has been adapted and transformed in phases. Efforts have been made to improve the entrance, routing and access, accessibility for everyone, comfort and the introduction of installations and new interiors. Making the building more sustainable is now the most important task, because it will soon have an unbearably high energy bill. In the architecture of the interventions, an optimal balance has been sought between connection to Berlage's material and colour palette and matching contemporary design.

## SHORT CURRICULUM VITAE AND PROFESSIONAL CAREER

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Janneke Bierman graduated from the Department of the Built Environment of Eindhoven University of Technology in 1995. She joined the current firm in 2000 and took over from Hubert-Jan Henket in 2005. Bierman Henket architects is specialised in the renovation, transformation and extension of existing – often listed- buildings.

Besides her activities for BiermanHenket, Janneke Bierman has been chair of the Quality of the Living Environment Committee of Amsterdam city centre. She is also chair of the Rietveld Schröder House Foundation and the Rietveld Schröder Archive Foundation. She was part of the Department



of the Built Environment of Delft University of Technology for many years, first in R-MIT (Restoration, Mutation, Intervention, Transformation) and later in the Department of Heritage and Architecture. From 2010 to 2015 Janneke Bierman was a member of the members' council of the Association of Netherlands Architects BNA and of the board of the World Heritage Foundation Netherlands. She was chair for ten years of DOCOMOMO Nederland, the organisation for the documentation and conservation of the Modern Movement heritage.