R&L STÜDIOS



ALL THE INFO YOU NEED

OUR VISION

Timeless Design, Innovative Vision...
Rooted in experience, driven by innovation,
we craft spaces that inspire and endure....

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R&L STUDIOS

WHO WE ARE

To create community conscious architectural projects that are both environmentally fair and sustainable for all society.



ABOUT US

R&L STUDIOS is a vibrant infrastructure advisory firm built on a strong foundation of architectural expertise.

With over 60 years of experience spanning the SADC region and West Africa, we specialize in crafting tailored, location-specific solutions that elevate the built environment and restore dignity through innovative design.

Our STUDIO head office is in Cape Town's Central Business District with a Design branch in Bryanston, Johannesburg. Both locations house over 60 staff members that are passionate about combining innovative design with functional architecture.

R&L Studios teams are led by 6 Directors.

CONNECT WITH US

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321 Main Road, Bryanston
Johannesburg, 2021

Cape Town
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Cape Town, 8001









R&L STUDIOS

OUR FAMILY

To create community conscious architectural projects that are both environmentally fair and sustainable for all society.



MANAGEMENT & OWNERSHIP

R&L is an established firm backed by management and staff who have helped create a legacy based on hard work and loyalty. We believe that our professionalism, focus and dedication to our craft allows us to create exceptional buildings that are architecturally balanced, functional and sustainable yet marked with creative innovation.

With our very high staff retention and decades shared between staff members, we think of ourselves as family.

We ensure staff members feel safe, included and inspired. "Envibrament" is a buzz-word in our office, since we believe that creating a vibrant environment contributes to our unique fabric and promotes team synergism.

By participating in regular socials and team building activities we learn to cultivate relationships, build trust and treat one another with respect.

R&L STUDIOS - DIRECTORS


Bokang Lethola


Brian Finchum


Stephen Atkinson


Seth Alfino


John During


Rachmah Adams





R&L STUDIOS

INSIDE INFO

TECHNOLOGY

At R&L we strive to stay ahead of the curve, embracing AI and the ever-evolving tools that enrich our industry. With over 50 years of creating high quality architectural documentation we have moved from drawing boards to AutoCAD to BIM (Building Information Modelling), which we are currently using.

Revit has been our go-to programme for over a decade and working inside this 3D environment allows us to take our accurate 3D models to rendering software and produce impressive visualisations for our clients.

Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic we have embraced and excelled in the latest remote working and video conferencing facilities – this has allowed uninterrupted workflow during lockdown.

AFFILIATIONS

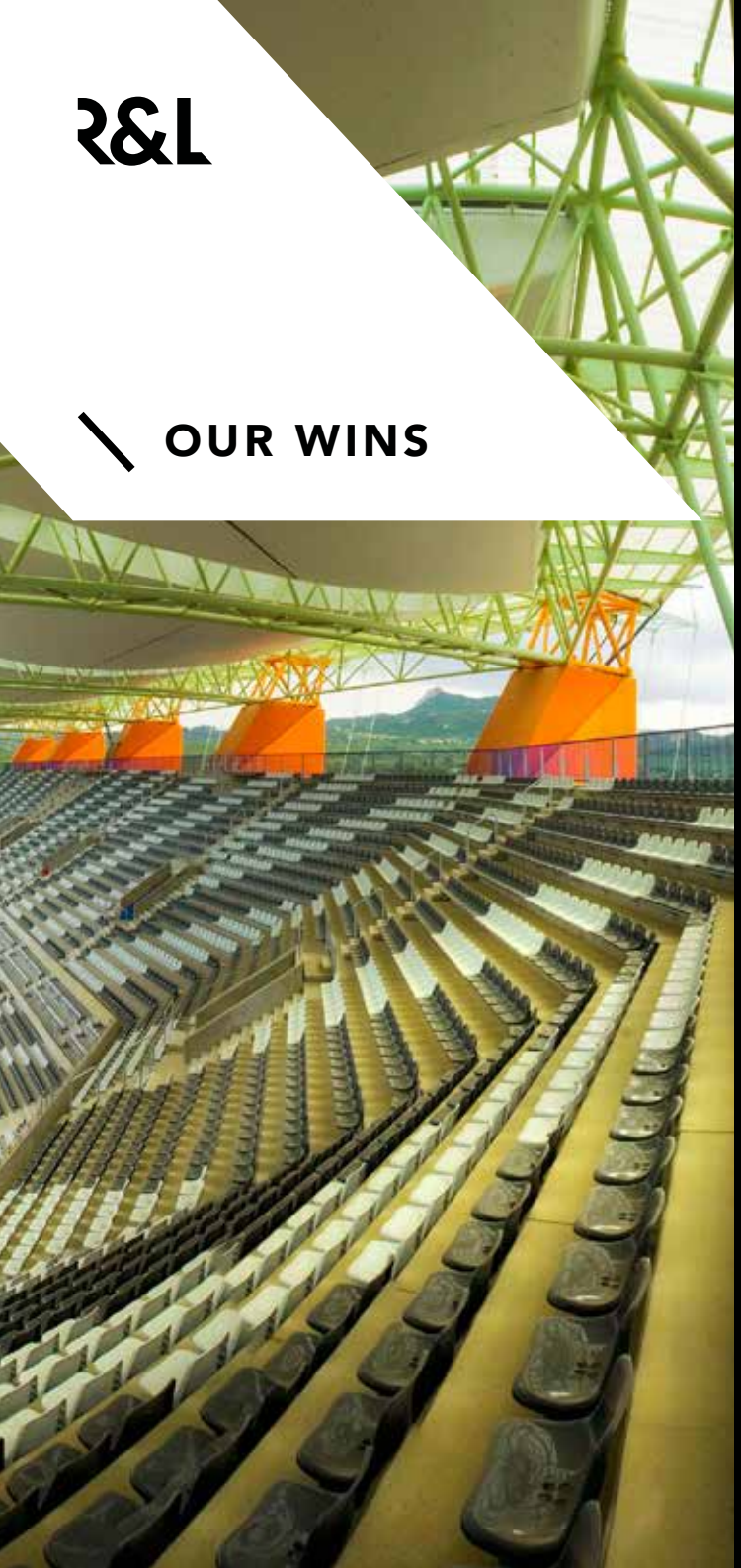
SAIA • South African Institute of Architects
SACAP • South African Council for the Architectural Profession
CIFA • Cape Institute For Architecture
GBCSA • Green Building Council South Africa
IID • The African Institute of Interior Design Professions
GIFA - Gauteng Institute For Architects
SAPOA - South African Property Owners Association
NHBRC - National Home Builders Registration Council
SAIBPP - South African Institute of Black Property Practitioners







R&L



OUR WINS

SELECTED AWARDS

YEAR: 1987
Award: South African Property Owners Association Building Merit Award
Project: Wooltru House

YEAR: 1991
Award: Mayor's Award of Merit for Greening the City
Project: 35 Wale Street

YEAR: 2006
Award: SAPOA Awards for innovative Xcellence in property development Overall Winner
Project: Woolworths Distribution Centre Midrand

YEAR: 2006
Award: Qb Awards for South African Interior Design 2006 Shopping Malls, Retail & Lifestyle Centers Category winner
Project: Mountain Mill Shopping Centre

YEAR: 2010
Award: Southern African Institution of steel construction Steel award 2010 Tubular category winner
Project: Mbombela Stadium

YEAR: 2010
Award: SAPOA Special Mention Award
Project: Mbombela Stadium

YEAR: 2010
Award: Plascon Prism Awards 2010 Overall Winner
Project: Mbombela Stadium

YEAR: 2011
Award: Mpumalanga Institutes of Architects Award for Architecture
Project: Mbombela Stadium

YEAR: 2012
Award: South African Institutes of Architects Award of Merit
Project: Mbombela Stadium







To create community conscious architectural projects that are both environmentally fair and sustainable for all society.



R&L

OUR ETHICS





SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

"There can be no greater gift than that of giving one's time and energy to help others without expecting anything in return." – Nelson Mandela

At R&L Architects, we are committed to embodying Nelson Mandela's philosophy by freely dedicating our time, effort, and resources to support and empower communities.

Our social responsibility initiatives aim to make a meaningful impact, inspire others, and give back to those in need. These include:

- Building houses with Habitat for Humanity.
- Climbing Kilimanjaro to raise funds for charity and providing bursaries to numerous students.
- Taking part in Mandela day every year, and delivering food, toiletries, blankets, and warm clothes to organizations supporting the homeless in Cape Town's CBD.

We are humbled and grateful for the opportunity to contribute and we believe that sharing our resources with those in need can inspire others to do the same.

In celebration of our 60th anniversary, we have launched the "60for60" campaign, which involves donating 60 items every 60 days to underprivileged communities or charitable organizations. This initiative reflects our ongoing commitment to social responsibility and our desire to make a positive difference in the world.

OUR VISION:

To create community conscious architectural projects that are both environmentally fair and sustainable for all society.

OUR MISSION:

Work collaboratively and with dedication, channelling our devotion, sacrifice, knowledge, and wisdom to complete sustainable architectural projects that leave a legacy.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN · Shiloh community in action · Habitat for Humanity · Service Dining Rooms · The Hope Exchange · SALT RESCUE. LOVE. RESTORE · Trinity Children's Centre · Lily of the Valley

INDUSTRIAL



Distribution Centre/
Warehouse Proposal
Location: Gauteng
Year: 2020
Total sqm: 75 000 m²









An opportunity to combine the science of structures and logistics with the notion of place. A building where function represents the core value of a business, leading to an intervention and opportunity for branding and pride of place.

We combined the parameters of branding principles with an "African" inspired geometry and typology to create a well naturally lit and colourfully sculpted building alluding to dynamism and excellence with visual impact.

INDUSTRIAL



Woolworths Distribution Centres
Location: Country wide
Size: 40 000m² to 80 000m²



Midrand



Montague Gardens 1



Montague Gardens 1



Montague Gardens 2



Montague Gardens 2



Montague Gardens 2

Simple design, exceptional innovations, great logistics, robust materials, attentive planning all with attention to sustainability.

INDUSTRIAL



PEP DC
Location: Kuilsriver, Western Cape
Date of Completion: December 2017
Total sqm: 10 000 m² of additional floor, making it 20 000 m² in total











Long-awaited upgrade for the building, creating new and uplifting spaces for the staff to enjoy. The building now has a definite entrance which helps visitors navigate the building.

INDUSTRIAL



Woolworths Distribution Centre
Location: Montague Gardens, Cape Town
Date of Completion: January 2018









Simple design, exceptional innovations and great logistic is what make this building simple in it's economy of structure, yet robust for toughness of product flows, staging and delivery.

The design incorporates a number of sustainable initiatives making it a first of its kind 4-star green star rated distribution centre.

INDUSTRIAL



Woolworths Distribution Centres
Location: Montague Gardens, Western Cape
Size: 40 000m²











This set of warehouses has been the longest functioning in terms of our Woolworths portfolio. Many solutions and notions of future proofing have been learnt from this project.

AUTOMOTIVE - INDUSTRIAL

















Design of Specialised Hi-Tech Laboratories,
Manufacturing, Assemly and Assesment Facilities

AUTOMOTIVE

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION













Design, Coordination and Supervision of a 3,000-bed, “fully self-sustaining” student housing project, utilizing innovative and cutting-edge concepts.

RETAIL

Mountail Mill
Location: Worcester, Western Cape
Date of Completion: Mid 2007
Total sqm: 38 000 sqm GLA / 45 000 sqm GBA









It is a rural small-town mega shopping centre. Despite its size and significant draw area, the centre needed to sit in the landscape with subtlety. The entrances and outer compounds of the outer edge and towards the dam break down into smaller elements all brought together and inspired by the farm lands in which it lies.

RETAL | CORPORATE









Re-Design and upgrade of the Mix-Use Development comprising of Retail and Corporate with a pedestian over-pass bridge and multi storey parkade.

RETAIL



Makro Stores
Location: Countrywide
Size: 16000 to 21 000 m²











With over 20 Stores country wide – the design and aesthetic of these buildings, in conjunction with cutting edge technologies and strong emphasis on sustainable initiatives bring a bulk retail experience that is bright, exciting and unmatched in South Africa.

RETAIL



Woolworths Stores
Location: Countrywide & Africa







Woolworths Stores consist of full-line fashion, home and beauty stores, many of which incorporate a premium food retail offering. Woolworths operates nearly 500 stores, of which 70 are in the rest of Afica, including full line stores, foods stand alone stores and one stop shops

MEDICAL | EDUCATIONAL

Tygerberg Dentistry Hospital, University of Western Cape - Additions & Refurbishment
Location: Bellville, Western Cape
Date of Completion: 2013







EDUCATIONAL





Lwandle Primary School and Blue Ridge Primary School is







is part of the Rapid School initiative started by WCED. Taking inspiration from a question mark, the entrance motif speaks to the idea of learning by asking. This aided the use of an asymmetrical roof which has multiple functions, such as reducing rainwater inside the courtyard, better collection of rainwater along the perimeter, reducing wind load and increasing surface area for solar panels.

COMMERCIAL

Ackermans Headquarters
Location: Kuilsrivier, Cape Town
Date of Completion: June 2018
Total size: 10 700 m²









The mixture of a classic structure with fun and dynamic features makes this building a comfortable contrast to the industrial context it sits in. The shared courtyard aids in creating unity to a large office building. The green ribbon which highlights the main circulation spine, while incorporating the clients logo and corporate colour gives the building a very clear identity.

COMMERCIAL



Metlife
Location: Cape Town
Date of Completion: 1993









The Metlife Centre comprises of twenty-eight storeys, with street level retail and seven parking levels above. It occupies a prominent position adjacent to the Cape Town International Convention Centre. Until 2014, at just under 120 meters tall, the Metlife Centre was Cape Town's tallest building when measured to the top of the spire.

COMMERCIAL



Cape Union Mart Head Office
Location: Cape Town
Date of Completion: Feb 2018













The new extension was constructed as a light weight glass and steel structure. The new secluded external courtyard area off the canteen forms a space of refuge and tranquility for the staff in the busy surroundings while the new interior spaces were created to harmonize the outdoors with the indoors.

SPORT



Mbombela Stadium
Location: Neslpruit, Mpumalanga
Date of Completion: Nov 2009
Total sqm: 76 600 m²











Mbombela Stadium had the lowest construction cost of all 5 newly constructed 2010 World Cup Stadiums and through efficient design achieved the highest percentage of seats under roof at 94%. It's signature features, the 16 lofty giraffe roof support masts and zebra striped seating induce a sense of the majestic wildlife inhabiting the nearby Kruger National Park.

SPORT



30 Sport Facility Projects including Lavender Hill High School and Bernadino Heights High.













Designing sporting facilities which can be shared among the neighbouring schools, creating a place to bring the community together.

MIXED-USE

SKYGRACE Proposal
Location: Flic-en-Flac, Mauritius
Year: 2014
Size: 600 Ha















This project was a great idea for Mauritius with full of potential. Situated in the coastal town of Flic-en-Flac, the main feature is a 2.4km

racecourse, with a Grandstand accommodating 1100 seats, private suites and hospitality facilities. In addition, the 600 hectares site includes two blocks of offices, an Amphitheater, a Casino, 20 villas, 3-levels hotel apartments, an Aerobar, a wave garden, 10 executive villas, stables with jockey academy and a chapel.

The variety of facilities would have been ideal for both locals and tourists of the island.

MIXED-USE



The Galleria - Proposal
Location: Bellville, Cape Town
Year: 2014
Size: 500 000 m² GLA









The Galleria was a proposal for a vibrant, mixed-use development which integrates retail, commercial and residential elements.

We have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of creating an exciting development where functionality is expressed in a connected, innovative and creative manner.

MIXED-USE



Piazza St John
Location: Sea Point, Cape Town
Date of Completion : Nov 2005
Total sqm: 7 700 m²











A mixed-use development comprising 65 residential units and 3,000sqm of retail arranged around a shared courtyard.

The building occupies half the footprint of the city block and yet doesn't include any of the 4 corners of the site. As a result, the building does not dominate and is neatly woven into the adjoining buildings.

MIXED-USE



Q - Square
Location: Wocester, Western Cape
Date of Completion: 2015









This small family-owned centre, in the heart of Worcester central, was battered and bruised. We gave it presence amongst the bustle of a busy dual carriage way; a sign of its shifting persona. The existing dark and constricted spaces were opened up with the use of reflective, textured and transparent finishes. The sound of streaming water helps to cool the arcade during hot summer days.

Curved bulkheads and bright colour finishes create comfortable contrast which mirrors the art work that adorns its central arcade.

MIXED-USE

Woodlands House - Refurbishment
Location: Woodstock, Cape Town
Date of Completion: July 2017









Woodland House combines three old, run-down buildings and presents itself as a thoughtful and exciting rejuvenation.

Each building was renovated in a different way with a unique design – but ultimately all three were connected together in a functional and beautiful way – with an emphasis on internal flow and clean spaces.

REFURBISHMENT | MIXED-USE



Mason's Press
Location: Woodstock, Cape Town
Date of Completion: Aug 2015
Size: 9 500 m²











An old, derelict building was transformed into a true Woodstock gem. The design principle and common theme for Mason's Press was established around the idea of 'play'. This runs through the whole scheme and is evident throughout all the spaces. From adult playgrounds to whimsical murals, Mason's Press serves to be ones 'happy place' - a merging of work and play.

REFURBISHMENT | COMMERCIAL



151 Campground Road
Location: Newlands, Cape Town
Date of Completion: 2019
Total sqm: 615 m²

Before



Proposal



Completed











A previous renovation left the extra addition to this residential turned commercial building looking disjointed. With taking the parapet down to ground we created a feature wall, allowing support for external balconies,

signage and gave the entire building a holistic appearance. Decreasing the roof pitch and bringing in loads of natural light made the new open high vaulted space a welcomed contrast to the previous dark and closed office.

GOLF & HOSPITALITY















Design of Hospitality and Recreational spaces.
Creating tranquil spaces, taking full advantage of the Natural Beauty of open air volumes.
HOSPITALITY | RECREATIONAL

MEDICAL



Mitchell's Plain District Hospital
Location: Mitchell's Plain, Western Cape
Date of Completion: 2018/2019









Addition of the 4th Floor was done in 2018. The refurbishment of the Emergency Centre was done in 2019.

MEDICAL



Biovac Institute
Location: Ndabeni, Cape Town
Date of Completion: 2014
Total: 2 500 m²











A warehouse for manufacturing and packaging of antibiotics and vaccines. The level of spatial engineering was extreme – air locks, pressure cascading and sealing was thorough and throughout.

RESIDENTIAL



Rondebosch Village
Location: Rondebosch, Western Cape
Date of Completion: Aug 2007







This development creates an appropriately scaled 'cornerstone' to the historic Rondebosch Common precinct. With extensive basement parking the ground floor is open to allow for lush landscaped communal areas. Creating a quiet oasis in the midst of the surrounding busy roads.

RESIDENTIAL

House Claremont
Location: Claremont, Cape Town
Date of Completion: March 2010
Total sqm: 520 m²















Large open plan living area which leads to a covered veranda with views to the front garden. The interior space was designed with long gallery-like walls to display the client's special artworks. A South light roof and carefully placed windows bring in an abundance of natural light without overheating the inside space.

RESIDENTIAL



Klein-Begin Lifestyle & Retirement Village
Location: Vredenburg, Western Cape
On-going









The Klein-Begin Lifestyle and Retirement Village will be constructed in the West Coast town of Vredenburg. This secure retirement lifestyle development will comprise of 101 freestanding home, 20 apartments, a lifestyle centre, community hall and retail stores. The finishes are modern and neutral, while the open ceiling and exposed trusses give the house a sense of grandeur; with everything carefully designed for a welcoming space you can call home.

INTERIOR DESIGN















Our approach to interior design seamlessly integrates functionality with aesthetic elegance, ensuring that every space is both practical and inspiring.

RESIDENTIAL



The Anson
Location: Observatory, Cape Town
Date of Completion : Sept 2019











These spacious apartments with spectacular surrounding views are primarilly located in the artistic and cultural hustle and bustle of observatory. The building allows you to retreat into your modern and timeless apartment, that you can make your own.

CONNECT WITH US

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