

# RALPH ERSKINE (1914-2005)

Now Tovatt Architects and Planners

## Education:

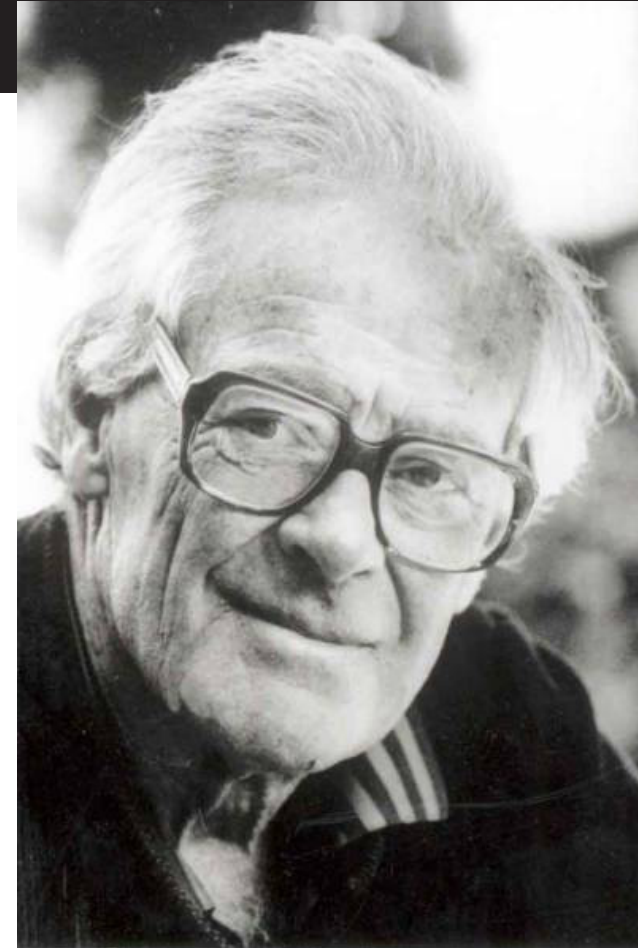
- **Quaker School 1925-1931**
- **Grad. Regent School Polytechnic in 1938**

## Background:

- **Born In London**
- **Worked for Louis de Soissons**
- **Moved to Sweden Before War began own practice**
- **became a member of Team X with Giancarlo De Carlo & Aldo Van Eyck in the '50s**

## Awards:

- **Honorary fellow AIA in 1966**
- **RIBA Gold Metal of Architecture 1987**
- **Royal Swedish Academy of Arts 1972**
- **Appointed "Commander of British Empire" 1979**



# Design Philosophy

**Ralph Erskine is an influential architect in the 20th century . He has a strong belief “in the development of a good and equal society and he has, without compromises, pledged and fought for the need for social and political awareness in the built environment.”**

**His buildings are a strong reminder of this belief. His design philosophy used “the climate and the context together with the social and humanistic needs of people. He was concerned that the expression of buildings should engage the general public interest, generate a sense of ownership and appeal to genuine participation.”**

**Now the Tovatt firm uses the teachings and ideas of Erskine to design their projects today. They focus on the needs of the people as well a concern for environmental issues. Tovatt focuses on community planning more in their practice.**

**“We represent a Scandinavian tradition in our view of environmental questions as a whole, of the persistence of social structures and in our contacts with the people and the specific environments in which we work.”**



# Greenwich Millennium Village

**Where:** Greenwich Peninsula (London)

**When:** 1997- 2010

**What:** Mixed use development

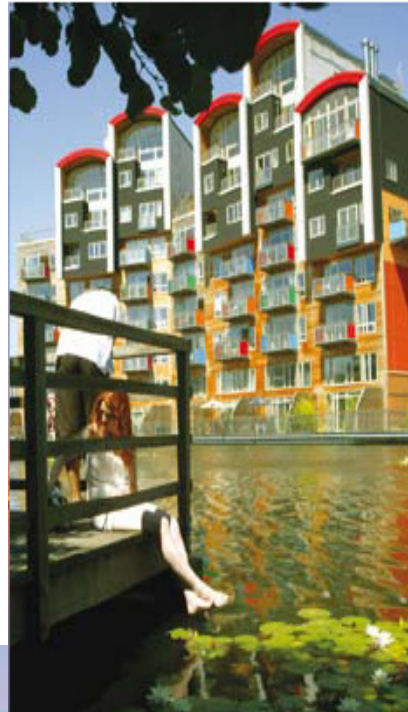
**Why:** The goal of this prestige filled  
Competition is to create an ecological  
and socially sustainable city district.

**Green Aspects:**

**Reduction of Energy 80%,  
Reduction water consumption by 30%  
30-40% Wood & aluminum construction  
waste was recycled.**

**Aluminum chosen for recyclability and  
long life**

**Once a Brownfeild site**



All Photos: Tovatt



# Projects



**The Ark  
London England**

**Byker Housing Complex  
Newcastle upon Tyne, England.**



# Location

## Address:

**Gustav III 's väg 4  
Box 156  
178 02 Drottningholm Sweden**

**Contact: Johannes Tovatt  
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**Travel Options:  
3 day round trip flights on Travelocity starting at \$249**



# References

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