Dubbeldam is currently working on the expansion of a six-story Manhattan warehouse into a 76,000-square-foot loft apartment building with retail on its ground floor. Her 11-story addition will wrap over the top of the existing structure in pleated folds of glass that correspond to setback requirements, providing balconies and canopies.

Dubbeldam has designed three 30-story residential towers for a Dutch developer that will dramatically cantilever over the Rotterdam harbor. The glass-faced towers, which contain split-level apartments, are an addition to a 1930s grain silo, which Dubbeldam will convert to house live–work units and a fitness club.

For the Aida hair salon, Dubbeldam transformed a typical Manhattan storefront space by creating what she calls a "wrapper"—a conceptually continuous surface that folds and bends to accommodate programmatic elements such as lighting, ductwork, and countertops.

COURTESY ARCHI-TECTONICS

Archi-tectonics

Winka Dubbeldam came to the United States from her native Holland in 1991 to enroll in Columbia's Advanced Architectural Design program. After working in the offices of Steven Holl, Peter Eisenman, and Bernard Tschumi, she started her own firm, Archi-tectonics. New York City provides fertile ground for this growing practice, considering Dubbeldam's interest in the architectural implications of abstract forces like the stock market, socioeconomic migrations, and zoning. In studios at Columbia, she asks students to analyze the spatial and formal ramifications of these disembodied phenomena. "One way to express it is to think of a wall not as a smooth, blank plane, but as a membrane registering and reacting to these forces," she says.

Her design for the Aida hair salon, which recently opened in New York City, is a small-scale investigation of this idea of the wall as a programmatically inflected volume. Within a typically long, thin Manhattan storefront, Dubbeldam created a continuous ribbonlike wall. It bends and bows to hold all of the salon's func-

tional elements: sinks, cutting stations, mirrors, lights, storage, HVAC systems, and a changing room. It recesses slightly to accommodate backlit mirrors, and bulges out to form a bench in the waiting area.

Archi-tectonics is currently at work on the folded, 11-story façade of an apartment building soon to break ground on Greenwich Street in Manhattan; it is an addition to an existing six-story warehouse. To accommodate the city's setback requirement, Dubbeldam tilted the glass skin back at varying angles. Below that, the façade is pushed inward slightly to accommodate the building's entrance and ground floor retail. In the process of designing the inflected curtain wall, Dubbeldam relied on the computer simply to map out its complex, zoning-inspired geometries. "The computer should be a tool for studying the forces operating within cities," she says, "Software-driven investigations don't interest me." *A.G.*