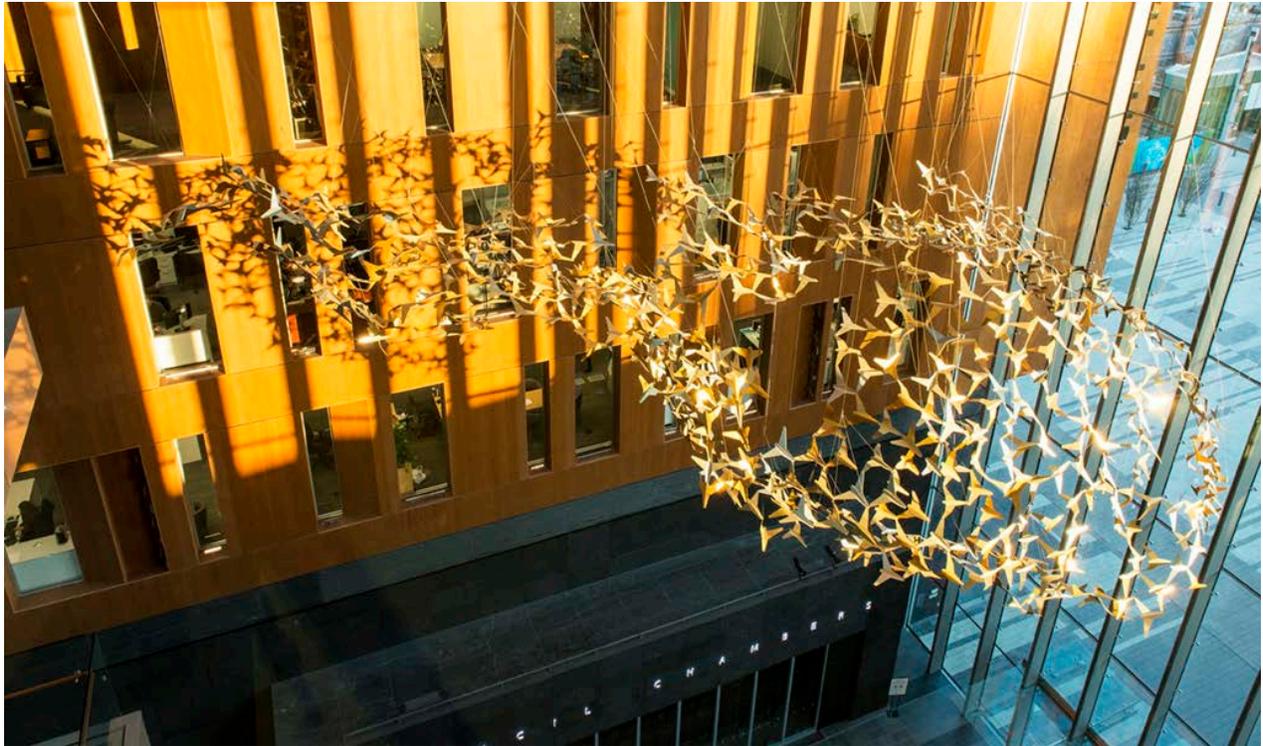




# Together

By Sophie Nielsen and Rolf Knudsen of Studio Roso



## City Hall, 13450 - 104 Avenue

The sculpture *Together* was commissioned for City Hall as a symbol of democracy. It is made from aluminum, anodized in different colours of gold and bolted to the ceiling with strong steel cables.

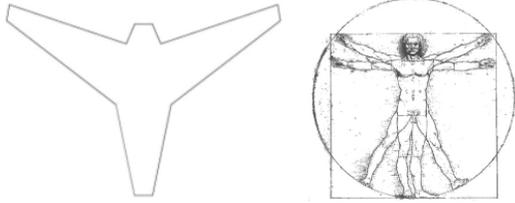
The artists were inspired by the behaviour of a flock of birds, because birds work collectively to ensure their survival. "Democracy can be interpreted as the power of many," state the artists, "What we can't do alone, we can achieve together. Democracy is also the notion of caring – thinking of others and standing together." The birds also represent freedom, resilience and achievement. For many, a single bird symbolizes peace. For others, a bird in flight represents our ability to overcome oppression.





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The “birds” in this sculpture do not represent an actual species. Their design combines the shapes of birds in flight with the shapes of people attempting to fly. Like the families who have flown to Canada to make it their home, we welcome the hundreds of birds soaring overhead to our new City Hall.

## Some facts:

- There are approximately 800 birds in the flock
- The shape of the birds is inspired by Leonardo da Vinci’s drawing of *The Vitruvian Man* and other images of human ambition to fly, and be “free as a bird”
- The design of the flock is inspired by the shape local sandpipers along the shoreline.
- There are five different bird shapes and five different colours of gold used – for a total of 25 different birds
- The birds are made from aluminum and coated in gold coloured plating. The birds are bolted together with custom designed steel fittings and suspended from steel hangers bolted to steel beams with very strong steel cables.



## About the Artists

The artists, Sophie Nielsen and Rolf Knudsen, understand what it means to be a citizen of the world. Both are Danish and have lived in other countries prior to setting up their current operation in London, England.

