WilkinsonEyre has been selected to design an opening pedestrian and cycle bridge across Copenhagen's Inner Harbour. The plan form of the bridge is an elegant sweeping curve that reconnects the two misaligned axes of Vester Voldgade and Langebro. The alignment reconnects the city to the ramparts of Christianshavn and encourages the use of this important recreational space.

The shape of the two triangular steel edge beams gradually changes as the bridge crosses the water. At the quaysides, the wing-like boxes are angled downwards below the deck, thereby encouraging views up and down the quayside promenades. As the bridge traverses the water, the wings gradually twist skyward, to maximise the clearance below deck and provide a perceived sense of security at mid-span. These gradually warping surfaces capitalise on the play of light and shadow on the steelwork and reinforce the slenderness of the edge condition.

The continuously flowing lines of the bridge offer no clues as to how the bridge opens. Instead, the two opening spans create an element of surprise as they pivot on their supports and swing apart at mid-span. This opening motion will become a spectacle for viewers to enjoy and will result in a 35m wide shipping channel.

Details:
Location: Copenhagen, Denmark
Client: Realdania
Architect: WilkinsonEyre / Urban Agency
Structural Engineer: BuroHappold / NIRAS A/S
Mechanical Engineer: Eadon Consulting
Lighting Designer: Speirs + Major
Length: 156m
Main Span: 33m
Value: 90M DKK
Date: Completion due Spring/Summer 2018