

IndiaNOW

Architecture in the Contemporary Landscape



AIA New York | The Center for Architecture
cultureNOW Museum Without Walls

June 28, 2022
9:00am to 12:30pm EDT
6:30pm to 10:00pm IST

AIANY | The Center for Architecture

AIANY Architecture Dialogue Committee

AIANY Global Dialogues Committee

With thanks to

Charles Correa Foundation

Harvard Graduate School of Design

INTACH

Museum of Modern Art, New York

The Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute at Harvard University

Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi

World Monuments Fund

PROGRAM COVER

FRONT:

Maya Somaiya Library, Sharda School, Kopergaon, Maharashtra

By Sameep Padora & Associates

BACK:

The Ledge, Peermade, Kerala

By Wallmakers

INTRODUCTION

The post-Independence project of nation-building, after 1947, in the countries that are now India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, was marked by architecture that was often influenced by the International Style, led by architects patronized by the newly-formed sovereign states. The current exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York, titled '*The Project of Independence: Architectures of Decolonization in South Asia, 1947-1985*', covers projects from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, noting that while the predominant mode of design in these parts of South Asia was defined by the principles of high modernism, there existed parallel design movements by architects who sought to utilize local materials, knowledge of indigenous craftsmanship, and motifs from precolonial culture.

For the past three decades, India's architecture has been defined by the economic and socio-cultural shifts towards a robust market economy: rapid urbanization, densification, capitalistic development, and privatization. Today, the state of architecture in India is characterized simultaneously by newer typologies, materials and technologies, and the critical question is how to deal with the edifices from its past. This program seeks to look at the work of both the internationalist modernists as well as the more regionalist architects of the post-colonial period and explore the issues of public perception, preservation, legacy, along with the factors influencing architectural development in contemporary India.

The program is divided into three sessions. The first is a critical retrospective on post-Independence architecture in India, and its changing identity and purpose today. The second panel will focus on the experiences of architects from the United States who have, and continue to, engage with development in South Asia. The third session will be led by contemporary Indian architecture design firms, who will present recent works and discuss their influences.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

WELCOME

Benjamin Prosky, Assoc. AIA

Executive Director, AIA New York and the Center for Architecture

KEYNOTES

Martino Stierli, Chief Curator of Architecture & Design, Museum of Modern Art (New York)

Rahul Mehrotra, Chair, Department of Urban Planning & Design,

Harvard University Graduate School of Design

Principal, RMA Architects (Boston & Mumbai)

SESSION 1 – AFTER MODERNISM: INFLUENCE, IMPACT & IDENTITY OF POST-INDEPENDENCE ARCHITECTURE IN INDIA

Nondita Correa Mehrotra, Director, Charles Correa Foundation (Goa)

Principal, RMA Architects (Boston & Mumbai)

David Stein, Urban Planner; Son of Joseph Allen Stein (New York)

SESSION 2 – GLOBAL PRACTICE, LOCAL OUTLOOK: AMERICAN ARCHITECTS WORKING IN INDIA

Michael Manfredi, FAIA, **Marion Weiss**, FAIA, Co-founders, Weiss/Manfredi (New York)

Diana Kellogg, AIA, Founder, Diana Kellogg Architects (New York)

Paul Schulhof, AIA, Partner, Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects (New York)

SESSION 3 – CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ARCHITECTURE

Brief Presentations and Panel Discussion with Indian Architects

Abin Chaudhuri, Abin Design Studio (Kolkata)

Anupam Bansal & Rajesh Dongre, Atelier for Built-environment Research & Design (New Delhi)

Anupama Kundoo, Anupama Kundoo Architect (Pune, Puducherry, Auroville, & Berlin)

Robert Verrijt & Shefali Balwani, Architecture BRIO (Mumbai & Rotterdam)

Melissa Smith & Sachin Bandukwala, BandukSmith Studio (Ahmedabad)

Bijoy Ramachandran & Sunitha Kondur, Hundredhands (Bengaluru)

Sameep Padora, Sameep Padora and Associates (Mumbai)

Chris Lee & Kapil Gupta, Serie Architects (Mumbai, London, & Singapore)

Sangeeta Merchant & Sanjeev Panjabi, SPASM Design Architects (Mumbai)

Ankur Choksi & Sidhartha Talwar, Studio Lotus (New Delhi)

Vinu Daniel, Wallmakers (Kochi)

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION / CLOSING REMARKS

KEYNOTE

Following the end of British rule in 1947, many prominent architects in the territories of today's India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, embraced the language of modernism as a means of proclaiming their autonomy, articulating their national identities, and enacting social progress. From the concrete governmental complexes of Dhaka in Bangladesh, to the climate-adapted houses of Colombo in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), new approaches to architecture offered a break from the British colonial past. While new cities arose in Chandigarh and Islamabad, many local architects leveraged the region's craft traditions to produce innovative and experimental buildings. *The Project of Independence* at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) presents more than 200 works showcasing South Asia's groundbreaking modern architecture, highlighting such key figures as Indian architect Balkrishna V. Doshi, the only South Asian winner of the Pritzker Prize in Architecture; Minnette de Silva, the first licensed woman architect of Sri Lanka; and Yasmeen Lari, the first licensed woman architect of Pakistan, among many others. The chief curator of the exhibition, **Martino Stierli**, will set the background for this program with an overview of the exhibition, its purpose, and its timeframe through 1985.

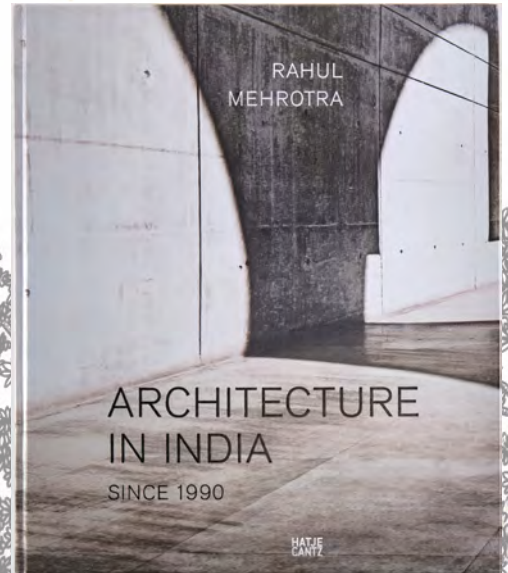
Architecture in South Asia, and in India in particular, has evolved significantly in the nearly four decades following the work highlighted in the MoMA exhibition. Since the liberalization of India's economy in 1991, hybridity, pluralism and fusion reign over a singular identity, with the resultant architecture mirroring the socio-economic and political fabric of one of the world's largest and most populous nation states. Architect and educator **Rahul Mehrotra**, author of *Architecture in India Since 1990* (2011) and *The Kinetic City & Other Essays* (2021), reflects on these changes, framing the program's discussion with a series of key questions.



THE PROJECT OF INDEPENDENCE:
ARCHITECTURES OF DECOLONIZATION
IN SOUTH ASIA, 1947-1985



MoMA





MARTINO STIERLI
The Philip Johnson Chief Curator of Architecture and Design,
Museum of Modern Art, New York

Martino Stierli is The Philip Johnson Chief Curator of Architecture and Design at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, a role he assumed in March 2015. Stierli oversees the wide-ranging program of special exhibitions, installations, and acquisitions of the Department of Architecture and Design. He is the author of *Montage and the Metropolis: Architecture, Modernity and the Representation of Space* (Yale University Press, 2018) and *Las Vegas in the Rearview Mirror: The City in Theory, Photography, and Film* (Getty Research Institute, 2013). He has organized and co-curated exhibitions on a variety of topics, including the international traveling exhibition *Las Vegas Studio: Images from the Archives of Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown*, and *The Architecture of Hedonism: Three Villas in the Island of Capri*, which was included in the 14th Architecture Biennale in Venice in 2014. At MoMA, he has curated the exhibitions *Toward a Concrete Utopia: Architecture in Yugoslavia, 1948-1980* (with Vladimir Kulić), *Renew, Reuse, Recycle: Recent Architecture from China* (with Evangelos Kotsioris), and *The Project of Independence: Architectures of Decolonization in South Asia, 1947-1985* (with Anoma Pieris and Sean Anderson). Stierli also oversaw the installation of the new Architecture and Design collection galleries in the expanded MoMA, which opened in October 2019, and curated numerous collection installations.



RAHUL MEHROTRA
Chair of the Department of Urban Planning and Design
at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design
Principal, RMA Architects

Rahul Mehrotra is Chair of the Department of Urban Planning and Design at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design. He is a practicing architect and urban designer with his Mumbai and Boston based firm, RMA Architects, founded in 1990. and has designed and executed projects, including government and private institutions, corporate workplaces, private homes, and unsolicited projects driven by the firm's commitment to advocacy in the city of Mumbai. In 2018, RMA Architects were awarded the Venice Architecture Biennale Jury's 'Special Mention' for "three projects that address issues of intimacy and empathy, gently diffusing social boundaries and hierarchies."

Mehrotra has written and lectured extensively on issues to do with architecture, conservation, and urban planning and design in Mumbai and India. He studied at the School of Architecture, Ahmedabad (CEPT) where he received the gold medal for his undergraduate thesis and graduated with a master's degree with distinction in Urban Design from Harvard University. He has taught at the University of Michigan (2003-2007) and at the School of Architecture and Urban Planning at MIT (2007-2010) and is a member of the Steering Committee of Laxmi Mittal & Family South Asia Institute at Harvard University.

The Project of Independence: Architectures of Decolonization in South Asia, 1947-1985, MoMA
Architecture in India: Since 1990, Rahul Mehrotra
Kanchanjunga Apartments, Mumbai, Maharashtra by Charles Correa
India NOW: Architecture in the Contemporary Landscape

SESSION ONE

INFLUENCE, IMPACT & IDENTITY OF POST-INDEPENDENCE ARCHITECTURE IN INDIA

The projects exhibited in MoMA's *The Project of Independence* were built between forty and seventy years ago. Some continue to be in good repair serving their original functions; others have been adapted for new uses. Some have been poorly maintained and are in need of significant funding for restoration; others have been abandoned, while still others have been torn down and disappeared from the landscape. What is the legacy of these projects, conceived at a time of both joyous independence and extreme internal violence in the wake of the Partition? Will the 2017 demolition of Raj Rewal's iconic Hall of Nations in Delhi, along with recent threats to Louis Kahn's Indian Institute of Management dormitories in Ahmedabad, and Charles Correa's Kala Academy in Goa kindle a public outpouring of support for India's modernist architecture, as the destruction of New York's Pennsylvania Station did to spur the preservation movement in the United States?

To certain scholars, Nehru's embrace of international "modernism" – then intended as a symbol of progress – has at times been likened to just another neo-colonial application of western imperialism. At the same time, other architects of the period continued to work in regional settings with local materials focused on craft and the local environment. So how are the modernist structures embraced by subsequent generations of Indians? India in the twenty-first century is a vastly more urban environment, dealing with the complex issues of economic disparity, cultural shifts, global influences, and climate change. What do these projects teach us about our approach to these topics? What, and who, influences contemporary architects in India today?





NONDITA CORREA MEHROTRA

Director of the Charles Correa Foundation; Principal, RMA Architects

Boston, Goa, & Mumbai

Nondita Correa Mehrotra is director of the Charles Correa Foundation based in Panaji, India. With close to three decades of experience as an architect, she is also principal of RMA Architects based in Mumbai and Boston where she was involved in the design “Lab of the Future” at Novartis’ Basel Campus, among other buildings.

Correa has taught at the University of Michigan and MIT and is a critic at the Rhode Island School of Design. She has designed furniture and sets for theater, curated exhibitions, designed several architectural books, and was a member of the Master Jury for Aga Khan Awards (2017-19), and a member of the 2020 Asia Pacific region jury of the Holcim Awards for Sustainable Construction. Correa studied architecture at the University of Michigan and the Harvard University Graduate School of Design.



DAVID STEIN

Urban Planner; Son of Joseph Allen Stein

New York

David Stein is a city and regional planner, urban designer, and transportation planner currently based in New Jersey. He received his Master of City Planning from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1971. His professional experience in India includes work as a sociologist-planner for the Town & Country Planning Organization on the preparation of the National Capital Regional Plan of 1968, and more recently, preparing the Greenbelt Development Plan for the community of Auroville in Tamil Nadu, India.

In the United States, Stein was a planner for the Southern California Association of Governments in Los Angeles (1988 - 2000) where he coordinated the preparation of the Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide for the six-county region, and a planning specialist for multiple projects in North Carolina. In Israel, he served as the coordinator for the Region 2000 Plan for the north of the country.

David Stein is the son of Joseph Allen Stein, an American architect who moved to India in 1952 to teach in West Bengal and then practiced in New Delhi from 1955 to 1999. Joseph Allen Stein’s work is included in the MoMA exhibition.

Gandhi Memorial Museum, Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad, Gujarat by Charles Correa

Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi by Joseph Allen Stein



SESSION TWO

GLOBAL PRACTICE, LOCAL OUTLOOK: AMERICAN ARCHITECTS WORKING IN INDIA

American architects have a long history of designing influential projects in India, working with cultural and climatic environments significantly different from those found in the United States. In the 1930's, the husband and wife team of Walter Burley Griffith and Marion Mahoney Griffin were selected to design the library at the University of Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh and were soon commissioned for 40 other projects in India. In the 1950's, Joseph Allen Stein moved to West Bengal to chair the architecture department at the Bengal College of Engineering and over a 40-year career in India developed the master plan for Durgapur as well as the designs for notable projects such as Triveni Kala Sangam, India International Centre, and India Habitat Centre in New Delhi. In 1958, Charles and Ray Eames were invited by Prime Minister Nehru to tour India and compiled *The India Report* which eventually led to the establishment of the National Institute of Design. And perhaps most famously, among Louis Kahn's last buildings is the Indian Institute of Management in Ahmedabad completed in 1974.

Today multiple American firms have established offices in India, and additional architects work on projects in South Asia from their home offices in the United States, bringing design and typology expertise to specific corporate, educational, institutional, and healthcare projects. What factors make working in India different from working in other parts of the world? How does the diversity of Indian culture and climate find its way into the design process? Where do American architects find information about using local materials, regional resources, and professional knowledge? Are there lessons learned in India that serve to enhance their work back home? We've asked three New York City based firms - **Weiss/Manfredi**, **Diana Kellogg Architects**, and **Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects**, to share their perspectives.



WEISS/MANFREDI

NEW YORK

The United States Embassy Master Plan and Expansion, New Delhi

Weiss/Manfredi was selected as design architect by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations (OBO) in 2015 to re-envision the iconic U.S. Embassy in New Delhi. The first phase of their long-term master plan includes a new office building, a support annex, and a unifying landscape that will provide a secure campus for America's mission in India. The project represents the deepening ties of friendship that support the U.S.-India Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership.

The design enables the restoration of Edward Durell Stone's early modernist Chancery Building and recasts the 28-acre embassy compound into a multi-functional, resilient campus. Inspired by the country's tradition of weaving together architecture and landscape, the team created a series of cast stone screens, canopies, reflecting pools, and garden walls to introduce a new and consistent campus design language. Construction began in late 2020 with completion of the overall campus project anticipated by Fall 2027.



Marion Weiss, FAIA

Marion Weiss is cofounder of WEISS/MANFREDI in New York and the Professor of Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania School of Design. In 2017, she was honored by *Architectural Record* with the Women in Architecture Design Leader Award. Weiss received her Master of Architecture from Yale University and her Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Virginia. At Yale she won the American Institute of Architects Scholastic Award and the Skidmore, Owings and Merrill Traveling Fellowship. In addition to her position at the University of Pennsylvania, she has taught design studios at Harvard University, Yale University, and Cornell University. Marion is a fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a National Academy of Design inductee.

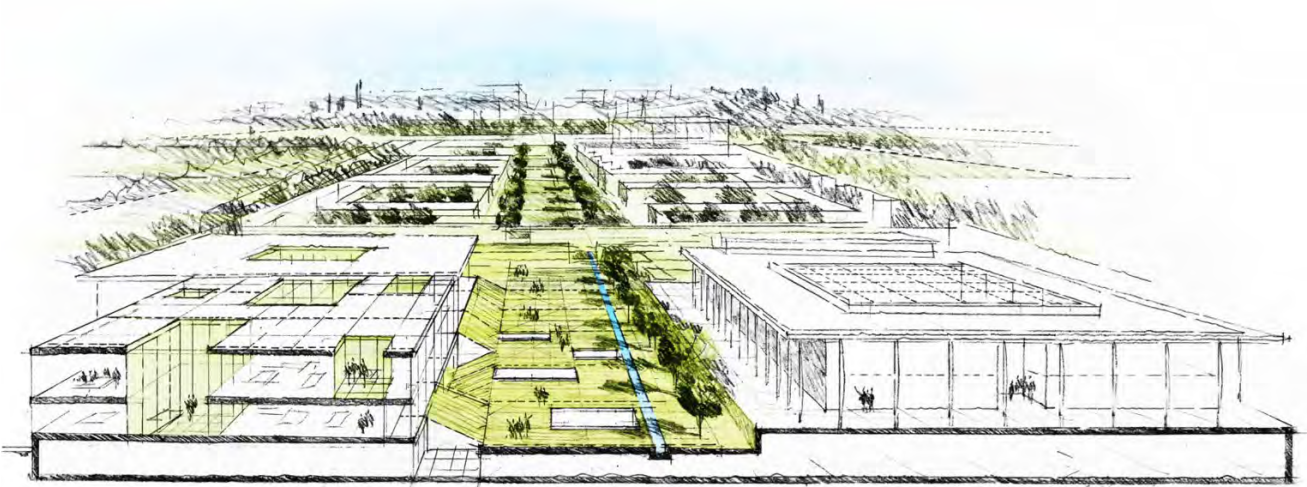


Michael Manfredi, FAIA

Michael Manfredi is cofounder of WEISS/MANFREDI in New York and a Senior Design Critic at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design. Manfredi was born in Trieste, Italy and grew up in Rome. He completed his undergraduate education in the United States and received his Master of Architecture at Cornell University. In addition to teaching at Harvard, He has taught design studios at Yale University, the University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, the Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, and Cornell University. He is a founding board member of the Van Alen Institute and sits on the board of the Storefront for Art and Architecture. He is a fellow of the American Institute of Architects and was inducted into the National Academy of Design.



Facade of U.S. Embassy, designed by Edward Durell Stone, 1954-59



U.S. EMBASSY - NEW DELHI
W.B. STONE
11/54





DIANA KELLOGG ARCHITECTS

NEW YORK

The Rajkumari Ratnavati Girls School, Jaisalmer

Located in the Thar Desert in the north of India, the Rajkumari Ratnavati Girls' School was built as part of the GYAAN Center to educate over 400 girls between the ages of five and sixteen. Built using locally sourced hand-carved sandstone, the 9000 square-foot fort-like structure blends into and grows out of the arid landscape. The school is comprised of three elliptical elements including a large exterior wall that wraps around the perimeter of the building, an interior wall that encloses and surrounds the classrooms, and an oval courtyard. These elements recall universal symbols of femininity and female strength.

The perforated parapet surrounding the exterior of the walkway is a reinterpretation of latticed jali screens, which are traditionally used to provide privacy.

The GYAAN Center was commissioned by the non-profit Citta Foundation whose aim is to equip and support communities across the world. Two additional buildings next to the school will house performance and exhibition spaces, a museum and library space, as well as a women's cooperative that will teach embroidering and weaving techniques. These lessons preserve and enhance traditional techniques while establishing economic independence for the women, their families, and their communities in the neighboring villages in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

The project was featured by *Architectural Digest India* in its December 2020 issue and was honored as the magazine's Building of the Year. The building just received a 2022 Honor Award in Architecture from the AIA NY Chapter.



Diana Kellogg, AIA

Based in New York City, Diana Kellogg founded Diana Kellogg Architects in 1992. Her work is rooted in sustainable design and has evolved from residential projects into working with nonprofit and community groups to create a sense of place and interconnectivity. A guiding core principle of the Company is its deference to an existing sense of place and history - creating spaces that provide for communal interconnectivity.

Kellogg received a Master of Architecture from Columbia University and a BA from Williams College. Prior to establishing her own firm, she was associated with the firms of Gluckman Tang Architects and Selldorf Architects. Her work has been featured in various publications including *The New York Times*, *Dwell*, *Architectural Digest* and *New York Magazine* and has won multiple international design awards.







TOD WILLIAMS BILLIE TSIEN ARCHITECTS

NEW YORK

Tata Consultancy Services Banyan Park, Mumbai

This technology campus for Tata Consultancy Services is located on a 23-acre wooded site in Mumbai, near the International Airport. Known as Banyan Park, the campus provides offices for 2,000 people and includes the company's headquarters, a training center, conference center, cafeteria, library, auditorium, and recreation center. The program is divided into twelve separate buildings, connected by a network of raised, shaded passageways and courtyards that provide refuge from Mumbai's intense heat and seasonal monsoons.

The buildings are low-scale to emphasize the natural beauty of the site which is uniquely verdant for Mumbai and provides a habitat for many exotic birds, butterflies and endangered fruit bats. Spaces are configured around a series of exterior courtyards. All the materials used on the project are indigenous to India: concrete and local stone give a sense of permanence and mass; other materials demonstrate India's great capacity for handiwork and craft. Hand carved stone jali screens clad a pedestrian bridge at the entrance to the campus. Women Weave, a local organization, made custom Ikat tapestries to enliven the office interiors. Modern reinterpretations of these local techniques add character and beauty to the campus and emphasize a sense of place that is particular to India.

The project was designed in collaboration with Somaya & Kalappa Consultants Pvt. Ltd. (SNK) based in Mumbai. The project received 'Best in Competition' for the 2019 AIANY Design Awards



Paul Schulhof, AIA

Paul Schulhof joined Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects (TWBTA) in 1999 and became the third partner in the practice in 2013. He works closely with Tod, Billie and the firm's teams on all of the studio's projects. In addition to the TCS campus, Paul has overseen a wide range of significant institutional projects including the Obama Presidential Center and the US Embassy in Mexico City.

Before joining TWBTA, Paul was an architect at Weiss/Manfredi Architects and at Beyer Blinder Belle Architects and Planners, where he worked on the restoration of New York's Grand Central Terminal. He received his Bachelor of Science from Cornell University and Master of Architecture from the University of Virginia. Paul has taught graduate-level architecture studios at Yale University and served as a guest critic at multiple institutions.





SESSION THREE

CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ARCHITECTURE

Architects who established their practices in India after 1990 are now living in a vastly more international design environment. Many have been educated abroad, and are now designing projects not just in India but across Asia, Europe, and Africa. How has this infusion of educational and cultural experiences affected their approach to design?

India is also greatly impacted by the myriad of global issues that go beyond borders - population growth, urbanization, density, income disparity, homelessness, hunger, air and water pollution, flooding, climate change, and an increased understanding of the limitations of natural resources. How have these topics become a driving force for sustainable and resilient design in India?

And what of the legacy of modernist architecture post-1947? Do any of the leading South Asian architects of that era - whether “international” or “regionalist” in approach - speak to today’s Indian architects and issues? We have invited contemporary Indian architects from eleven different studios to share their firm’s projects - 12 slides presented in Pecha Kucha format - and reflect on their influences and goals, followed by an open discussion of what factors drive professional practice in India today.



NEW DELHI, Delhi

AHMEDABAD, Gujarat

KOLKATA, West Bengal

MUMBAI, Maharashtra

PUNE, Maharashtra

BENGALURU, Karnataka

AUROVILLE, Tamil Nadu

PUDUCHERRY

KOCHI, Kerala

CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ARCHITECTURE

Abin Chaudhuri

Abin Design Studio (Kolkata)

Anupam Bansal & Rajesh Dongre

Atelier for Built-environment Research & Design (New Delhi)

Anupama Kundoo

Anupama Kundoo Architect (Pune, Puducherry, Auroville, & Berlin)

Robert Verrijt & Shefali Balwani

Architecture BRIO (Mumbai & Rotterdam)

Melissa Smith & Sachin Bandukwala

BandukSmith Studio (Ahmedabad)

Bijoy Ramachandran & Sunitha Kondur

Hundredhands (Bengaluru)

Sameep Padora

Sameep Padora and Associates (Mumbai)

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Sangeeta Merchant & Sanjeev Panjabi

SPASM Design Architects (Mumbai)

Ankur Choksi & Sidhartha Talwar

Studio Lotus (New Delhi)

Vinu Daniel

Wallmakers (Kochi)



ABIN DESIGN STUDIO

KOLKATA



Abin Chaudhuri

Abin Chaudhuri founded the Abin Design Studio in Kolkata in 2005. After graduating from Kolkata's Jadavpur University in 1998, Chaudhuri worked as a creative leader for the construction materials corporation, Lafarge. Long inspired by seeing Charles Correa's Sen House in Kolkata, Chaudhuri enrolled in Industrial Design at the Domus Academy in Milan, Italy where he explored the multi-disciplinary nature of the design process that led to the establishment of his firm. Experimentation with materials and technology is one of the tenets of his practice.

In 2014, Chaudhuri attended the Glenn Murcutt International Master Class, and his work was included in the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) exhibition "*Uneven Growth: Tactical Urbanisms for Expanding Megacities*". He is founder of the Kolkata Design Collective and, in 2017, helped establish the Kolkata Architecture Foundation.

Waterfront Clubhouse, Adisaptagram, West Bengal
Gallery House, Mithapukur More, West Bengal
Bandhan Training Centre, Shantiniketan, West Bengal
Happyworks - Working Pod, Newtown, Kolkata
Adisaptagram Workshop, Hugli-Chuchura, West Bengal

India NOW: Architecture in the Contemporary Landscape







ATELIER FOR BUILT-ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH & DESIGN NEW DELHI



Anupam Bansal

Anupam Bansal co-founded ABRD Architects in 1996. Bansal received his Bachelor of Architecture from the School of Planning and Architecture in New Delhi, and his Master of Architecture from Kansas State University in the United States, where he specialized in history, theory, and criticism. He has taught at the School of Planning and Architecture, the Sushant School of Art & Architecture, and the TVB School of Habitat Studies.

Bansal co-authored *The Delhi Architectural Guide* with Malini Kochupillai, and his other writings include *Extending Imperial India: the Diplomatic Enclave of Chanakyapuri*, *Housing Types and their Evolution: Delhi 1900-2014*, *Pastiche Architecture: On the Architectural Surges of Hafeez Contractor*, and *Architecture in India Since 1900*.



Rajesh Dongre

Rajesh Dongre co-founded ABRD Architects in 1996. He is the Principal Designer at the firm, instrumental in Urban Design and Architectural concepts. He received his Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Urban Design degrees from the School of Planning & Architecture in New Delhi. He is actively involved in teaching there as well as at the Sushant School of Art & Architecture.

Dongre was appointed by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs as a member of the Central Vista Committee, reviewing on-going and proposed projects in that area of New Delhi. He is also the Chairman of the Delhi NCR Chapter of Urban Designers India (IUDI).

Alliance Française de Delhi, New Delhi
National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru, Karnataka
Arts I Gallery, New Delhi
Guest House - Centre for Human Genetics, Bengaluru, Karnataka
Residence for N. P. Punj, New Delhi







ANUPAMA KUNDOO ARCHITECT

PUNE, PUDUCHERRY, AUROVILLE, & BERLIN



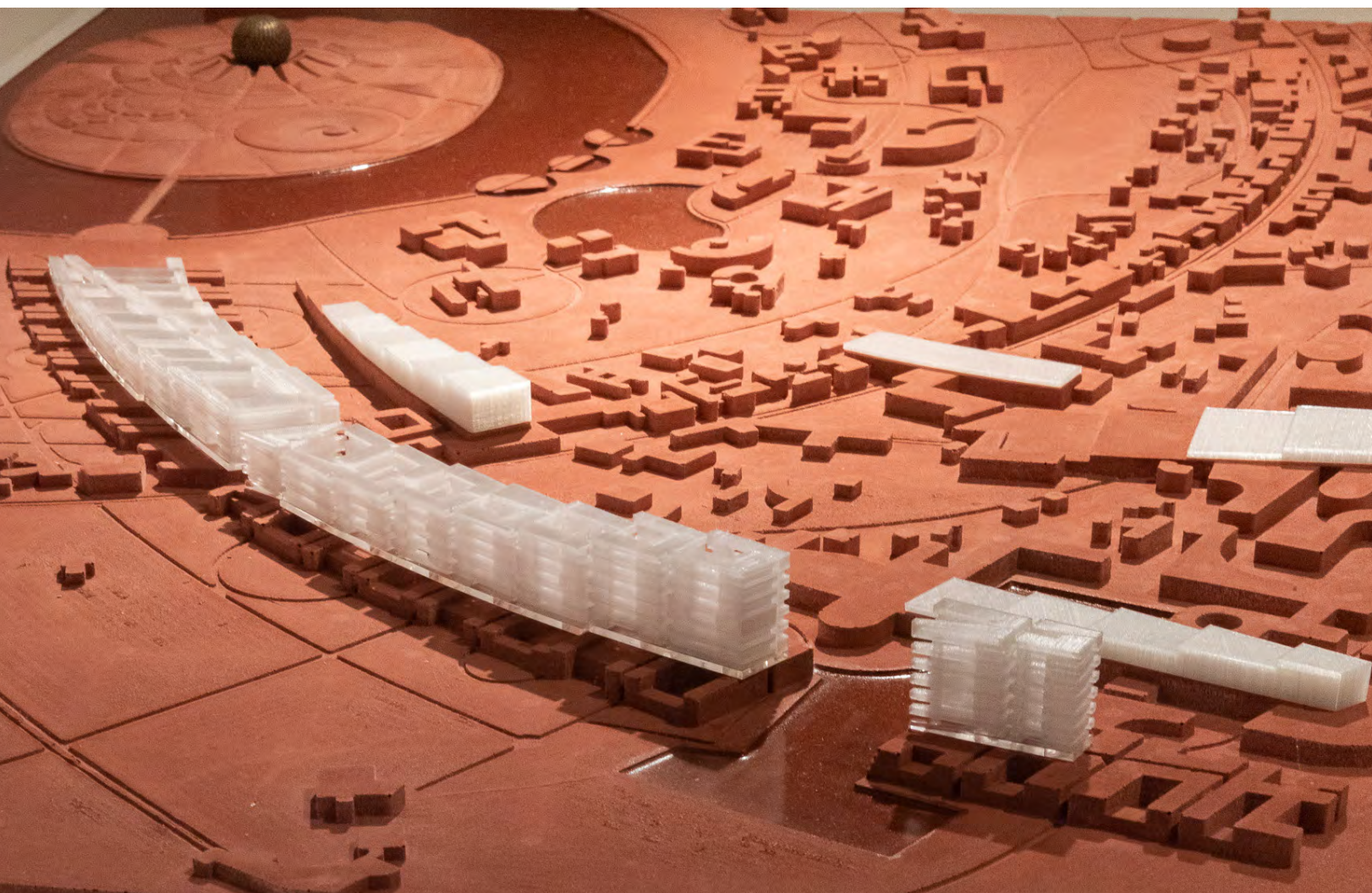
Anupama Kundoo

Anupama Kundoo established her research-oriented practice in Auroville in 1990, where she has designed and built a wide range of people-centric projects that have low environmental impact while being socio-economically beneficial. Kundoo graduated from the University of Mumbai in 1989, and later received her PhD from the Technical University in Berlin in 2008. Her studios are currently based in Berlin, Germany; and Pune & Puducherry in India.

She has taught Architecture and Urban Management at various international universities strengthening her expertise in rapid urbanization and development issues related to climate change. She was the Davenport Visiting Professor at Yale University in Spring 2020, and is now a professor at the Potsdam School of Architecture. She also serves as the Head of Urban Design in Auroville.

Her monograph, *Anupama Kundoo: The Architect's Studio* was published in 2020. From 2020 to 2021, the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Denmark held a solo exhibit of Kundoo's work, "Taking Time". Last year, Kundoo was honored with the 2021 RIBA Charles Jencks Award for her contribution to architectural theory; the 2021 August Perret Prize for architectural technology; and the 2021 Building Sense Now global award of the German Sustainable Building Council.

Volontariat, Puducherry
Mitra Youth Hostel, Auroville, Tamil Nadu
Line of Good Will, Auroville, Tamil Nadu
Creativity, Auroville, Tamil Nadu
Full Fill Homes, Venice Biennale, Italy







ARCHITECTURE BRIO

MUMBAI & ROTTERDAM



Shefali Balwani

Shefali Balwani is co-founder of Architecture BRIO, established in 2006. Born in Mumbai, she studied at the CEPT's School of Architecture in Ahmedabad. After graduating she worked with Rahul Mehrotra Architects (RMA) in Mumbai on a variety of projects including the first phase of the Magic Bus campus in Karjat. She later she joined the office of Channa Daswatte in Sri Lanka, where she worked on some of the office's prestigious hospitality projects.

Shefali is a frequent speaker at institutions and forums around the world. She has lectured at the KVD forum at CEPT in Ahmedabad; the Landscape Architecture conference in Sydney, Australia; the MASA conference in Bengaluru; the Malaysian Institute of Architects in Kuala Lumpur and at Columbia University's GSAPP in New York. She appeared in the BBC documentary *World's Most Extraordinary Homes* together with Robert Verrijt.



Robert Verrijt

Robert Verrijt is a founding partner of Architecture BRIO, established in 2006. Born in the Netherlands, Verrijt received a Master of Science in Architecture at the Technical University of Delft in 2003. Fascinated by Geoffrey Bawa's architecture, he moved to Sri Lanka shortly after graduating and joined the office of Channa Daswatte, where he assisted on a retrospective exhibition of Geoffrey Bawa and worked on a variety of residential and hospitality projects prior to relocating to Mumbai.

Verrijt has taught at various colleges of architecture in Mumbai and lectures extensively in India and abroad. He is one of the founding members of the Bandra Collective. With billionBricks, an NGO committed to eradicating homelessness, he established and leads the bB Design Studio. Verrijt is a registered architect in The Netherlands. In 2020 Architecture BRIO established an office in Rotterdam broadening the practises field of intervention even further.

Himalayan Mountain House, Mukteshwar, Uttarakhand

The Riparian House, Karjat, Maharashtra

House on a Stream, Alibaug, Maharashtra

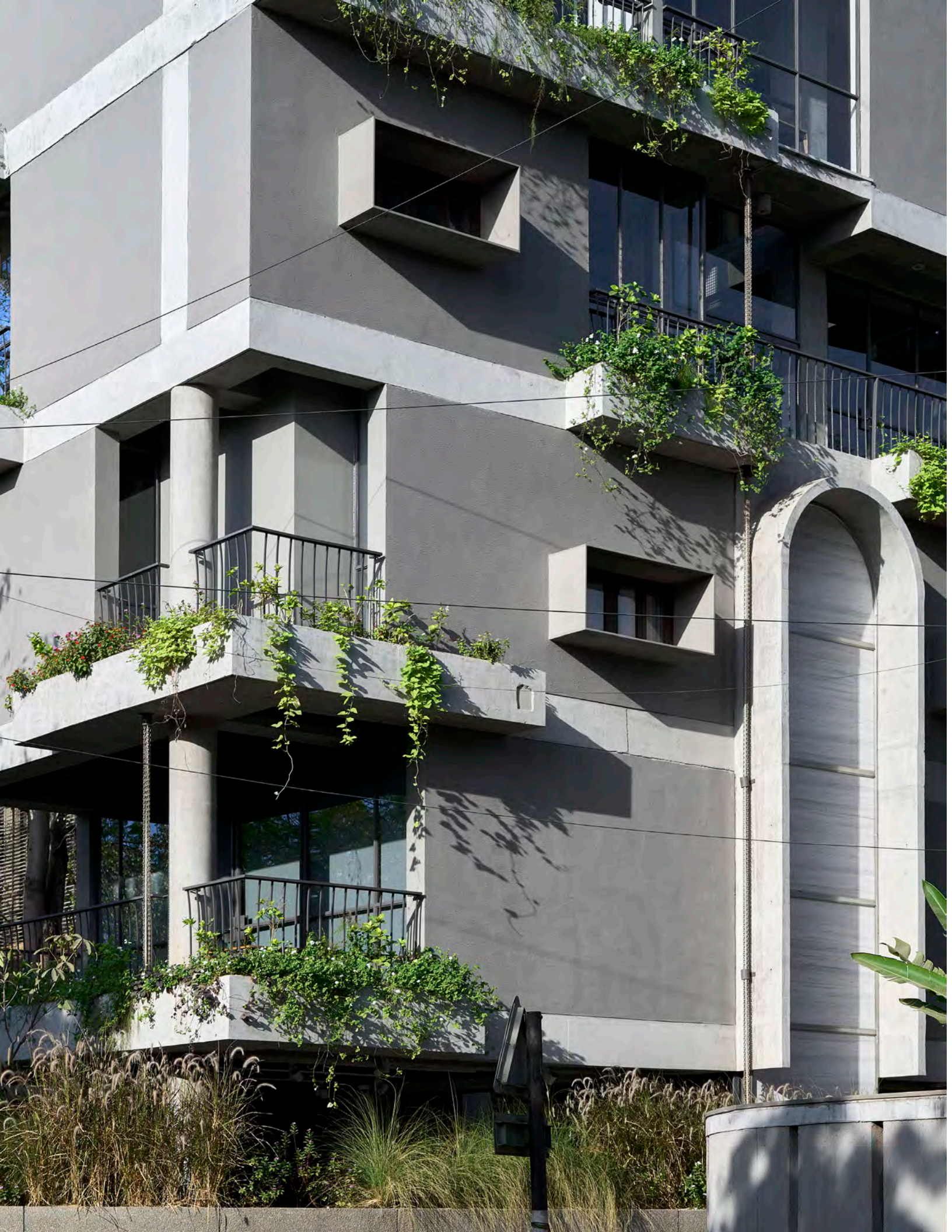
Artist Retreat, Alibaug, Maharashtra

BillionBricks Homes, Various Locations

India NOW: Architecture in the Contemporary Landscape







BANDUKSMITH STUDIO

AHMEDABAD



Melissa Smith

Melissa Smith co-founded BandukSmith Studio in 2011, and is the Program Chair for the Bachelor of Urban Design program at CEPT University, Ahmedabad, where she teaches in the school's Architecture and Planning faculties. Her interests, explored through the investigation of the incremental, unplanned transformation of aging modernist planned cities, and continued through the examination of settlement formation in India, follow how inhabitants tend to restructure their built environments over time, with an eye toward how these unplanned, recurring interventions could inform design processes for the public realm. Smith received her Master of Architecture and Master of City Planning degrees from the University of California, Berkeley, and received her BA with concentrations in German, Asian Studies and Art History from Calvin College, Michigan.

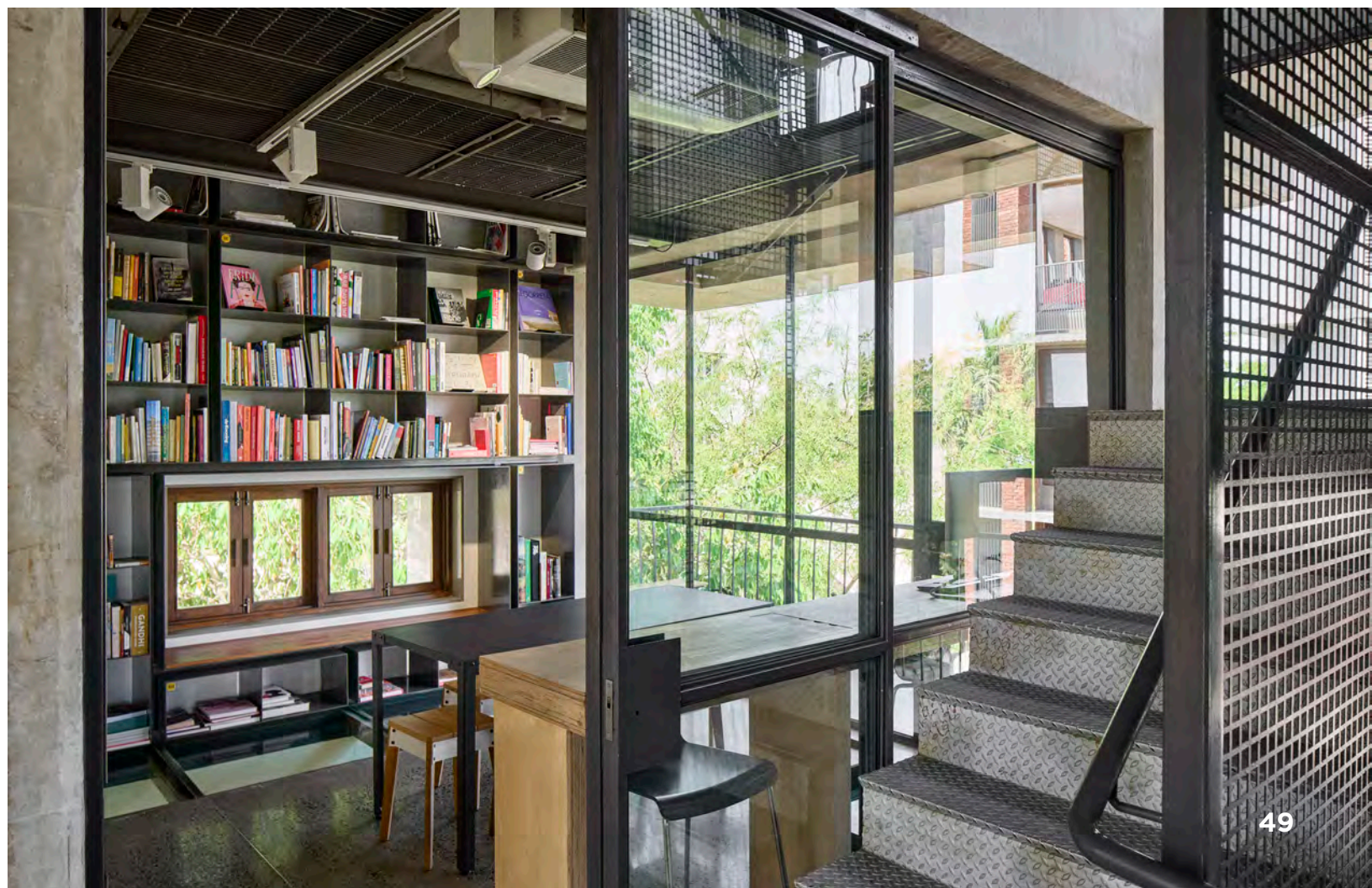


Sachin Bandukwala

Sachin Bandukwala co-founded BandukSmith Studio in 2011. Before founding BandukSmith, he worked as an independent architect in Ahmedabad, and also documented a number of architecturally significant temple complexes and stepwells around western India. Throughout his career he has explored the subject of the person and their inspiration from nature. He is perpetually in pursuit of understanding through observation the aging of material and its effect on tectonics, and the institutionalization of rituals in architecture. Sachin holds a B.Arch from CEPT University.

Arthshila Architecture & Design Library, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
Swadhyay Reading Room, Lekawada, Gujarat
Shoonya House, Deesa, Gujarat
Chidambarum Agashiye, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
Arthshila Architecture & Design Library, Ahmedabad, Gujarat







HUNDREDHANDS

BENGALURU



Bijoy Ramachandran

Bijoy Ramachandran founded Hundredhands in 2003 with his partner Sunita Kondur, and currently serves as the Design Chair for the post-graduate program at his alma mater, BMS College of Architecture in Bengaluru. Ramachandran has a Master's degree in Architecture and Urbanism from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Bachelor's degree from BMS College of Architecture; he has also attended the Glenn Murcutt masterclass in Sydney. Prior to returning to India and establishing his practice, he worked on a range of master plans and urban design projects with Koetter, Kim & Associates in Boston and Cooper, Robertson & Partners in New York.

In addition to practicing architecture, he has also produced two documentary films: one on the celebrated Indian architect Sri B.V. Doshi and also *'Architecture and the City: A Bangalore Perspective'*, on the topic of design practice in Bangalore..



Sunitha Kondur

Sunitha Kondur founded Hundredhands in 2003 with her partner Bijoy Ramachandran. She has a Bachelor's degree from BMS College of Engineering in Bengaluru, and a Master's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. While in the United States, she worked as a project manager with the Mass. State College Building Authority and the prestigious Houses at Sagaponac project in New York coordinating design and construction before returning to India.

Sunitha is also a Founder Member of WIREnet World (Women in Real Estate Network) a professional knowledge sharing, mentoring and networking group formed for women professionals from the design, real estate and construction industry and a founder member of Smart Vote, a campaign supported by citizens to increase participation in the electoral process.

Go Native store, Bengaluru, Karnataka

Neev Primary School, Bengaluru, Karnataka

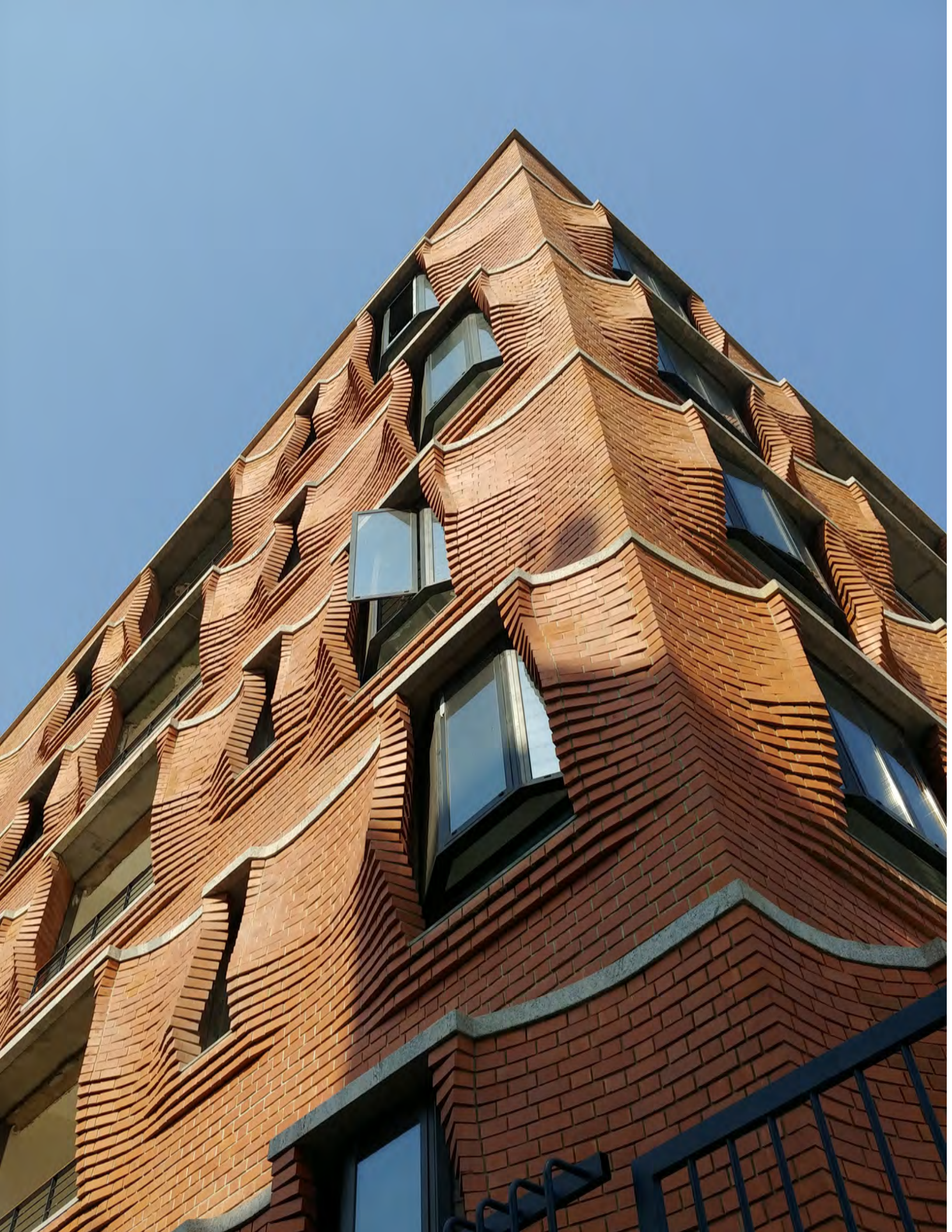
Bangalore International Centre, Bengaluru, Karnataka

Miraya Hotel & Residences, Bengaluru, Karnataka

TAB India, Hosur, Tamil Nadu







SAMEEP PADORA AND ASSOCIATES

MUMBAI



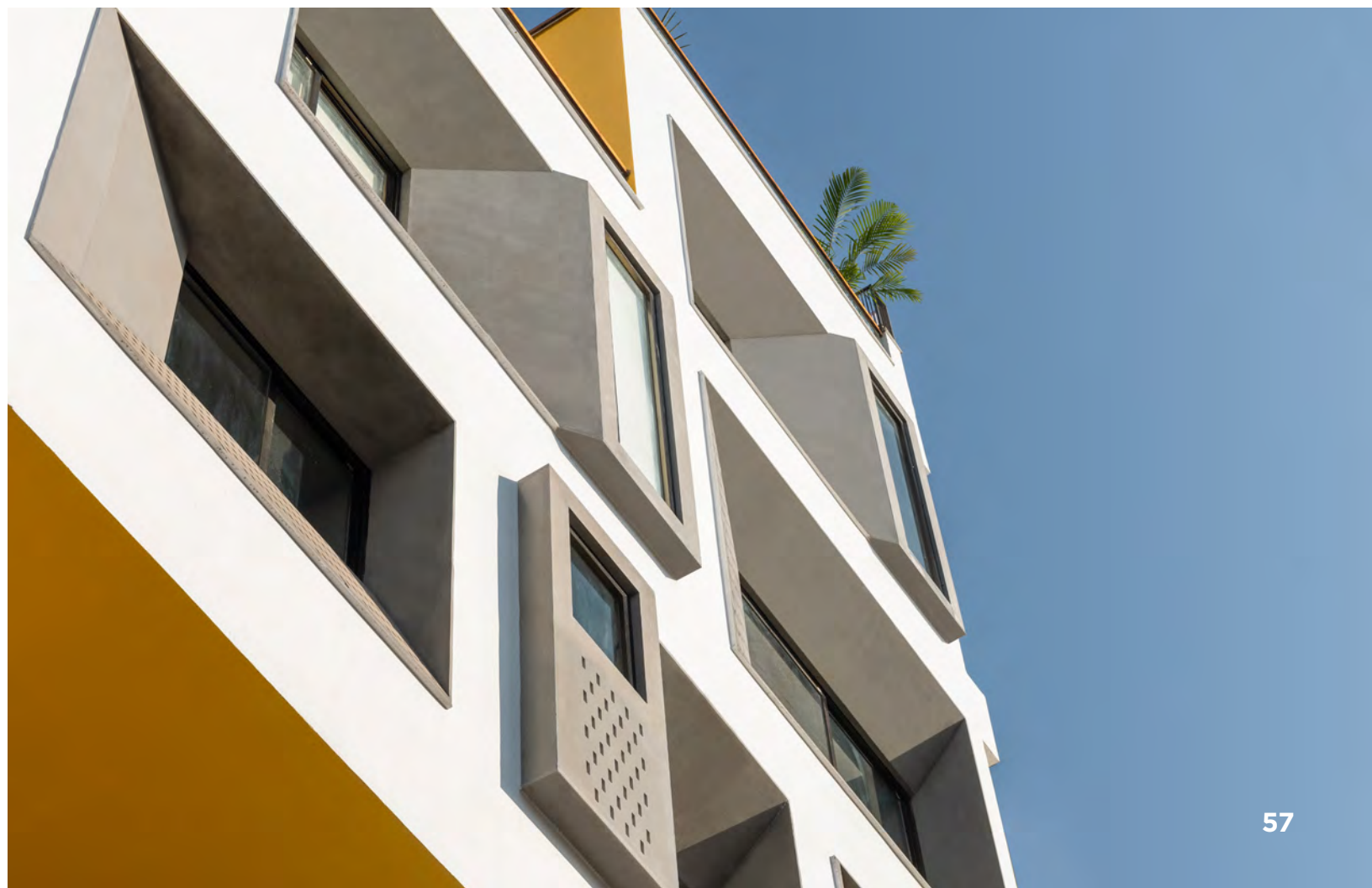
Sameep Padora

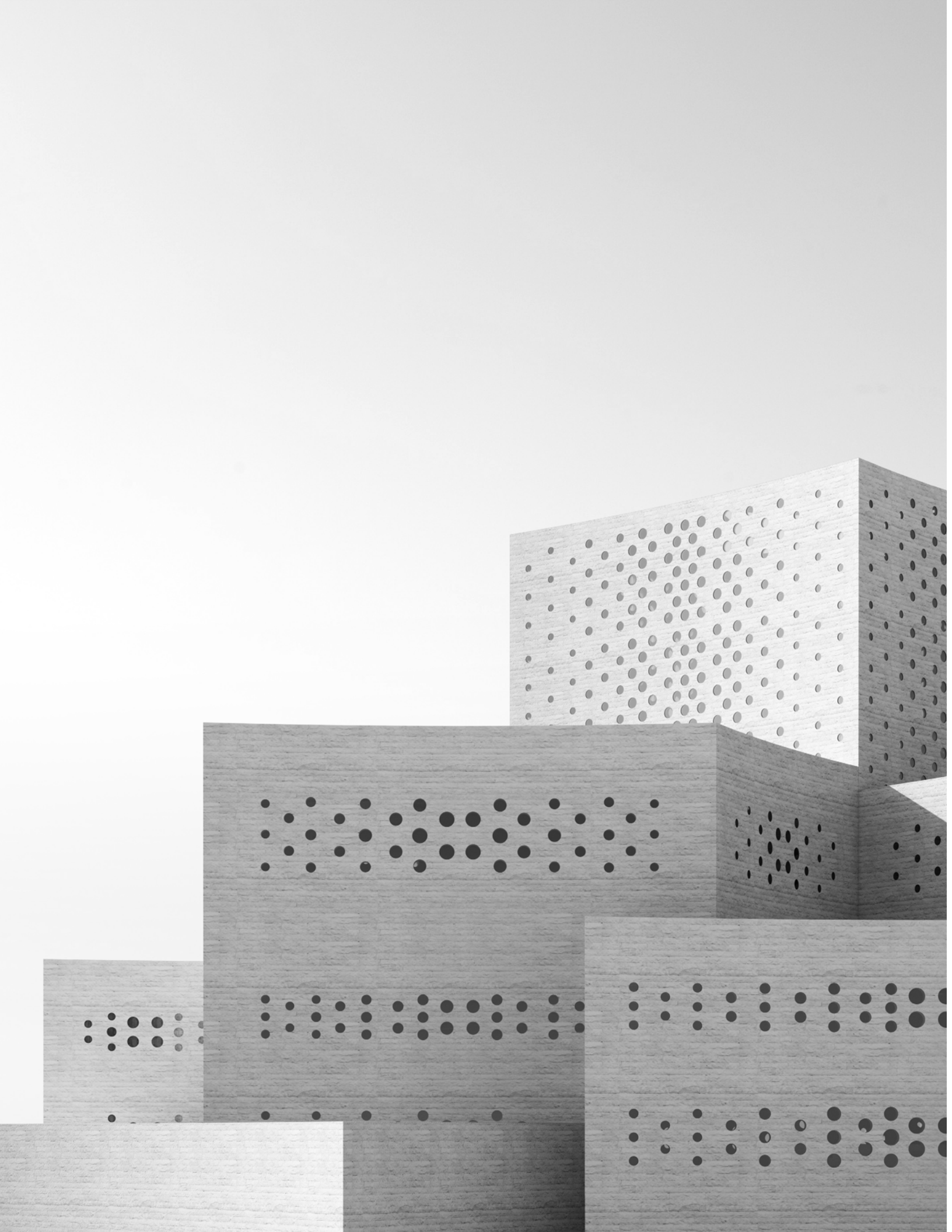
Born in northern India, Sameep Padora established Sameep Padora and Associates (sP+a) in Mumbai in 2007, and is the Director of sPare, a research initiative looking at issues of urbanization and architecture in India. sPare's maiden project, a documentation and analysis of historic housing types within the city of Mumbai resulted in a traveling exhibition entitled '*In the Name of Housing*' and a book published by the UDRI. He is one of the founding members of the Bandra Collective, an organization of architects focused on the design of public spaces in Mumbai. Padora is a member of academic councils for a number of architectural schools in India and is a member of the National Technical Committee of Habitat for Humanity, India.

He completed his undergraduate studies in Mumbai in 1996, followed by post-graduate studies at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design in 2005.

Sienna Apartments, Hyderabad, Telangana
Maya Somaiya Library, Sharda School, Kopargaon, Maharashtra
Jetavan Spiritual Center, Sakharwadi, Maharashtra
Balaji Temple (Temple of Steps), Nandyal, Andhra Pradesh
Kota House, Kota, Rajasthan







SERIE ARCHITECTS

MUMBAI, LONDON & SINGAPORE



Chris Lee

Christopher Lee is the co-founder and Principal of Serie Architects London, Mumbai and Singapore; and leads the design of Serie across all three offices. Lee graduated from the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London with the AA Diploma (Honors), receiving the RIBA President's Medal Commendation Award, and was awarded his Doctor of Philosophy in Architecture and Urbanism from the Berlage Institute and TU Delft.

He is the Arthur Rotch Design Critic in Architecture at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design, and previously served as Design Critic at the GSD from 2011-12. Prior to that he was the Director of the AA Projective Cities MPhil Programme, and the AA Diploma and Intermediate Unit Master. In 2017 he was appointed as a London Mayor's Design Advocate to work on the Good Growth by Design programme addressing key challenges facing London's built environment.



Kapil Gupta

Kapil Gupta is a co-founder of Serie Architects and Principal of Serie Mumbai. He graduated with honors from Sir JJ College of Architecture at the University of Mumbai in 1996, followed by postgraduate studies at the Architectural Association, London. He was a Director at the Urban Design Research Institute, Mumbai between 2003 and 2008, where he led India's first entry to the Venice Architecture Biennale in 2006. He has served as a visiting critic at numerous schools in India and been on several jury panels for competitions and design awards including Archiprix in 2010.

In 2020, Gupta was the Charles Correa Design Chair at the Goa School of Architecture. He has written on the challenges of South Asian urbanization, and is currently involved with ecological and land regeneration strategies in India as a response to climate change.

Shrimand Rajchandra Ashram Satsang Hall, Dharampur, Gujarat
Patna Science Museum, Patna, Bihar
New Knowledge Centre, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur, Rajasthan
The Tote, Mumbai, Maharashtra
Shrimand Rajchandra Ashram Satsang Hall, Dharampur, Gujarat

India NOW: Architecture in the Contemporary Landscape







SPASM DESIGN ARCHITECTS

MUMBAI



Sangeeta Merchant

Sangeeta Merchant co-founded the architectural studio SPASM in 1995. She was educated at the Academy of Architecture in Mumbai. Over the past two decades, her practice has focused on single family homes, luxury villas, and commercial office towers, and has been awarded the AD50 and AD100 Award in Design for the past eight consecutive years. Current work includes residential, commercial, and mixed use projects in India and Tanzania.

Merchant has been a guest juror at the Academy of Architecture and the Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute for Architecture (KRVIA) in Mumbai.



Sanjeev Panjabi

Sanjeev Panjabi co-founded the architectural studio SPASM in 1995. He was educated at the Academy of Architecture in Mumbai. Over the past two decades, his practice has focused on single family homes, luxury villas, and commercial office towers, and has been awarded the AD50 and AD100 Award in Design for the past eight consecutive years. Current work includes residential, commercial, and mixed use projects in India and Tanzania.

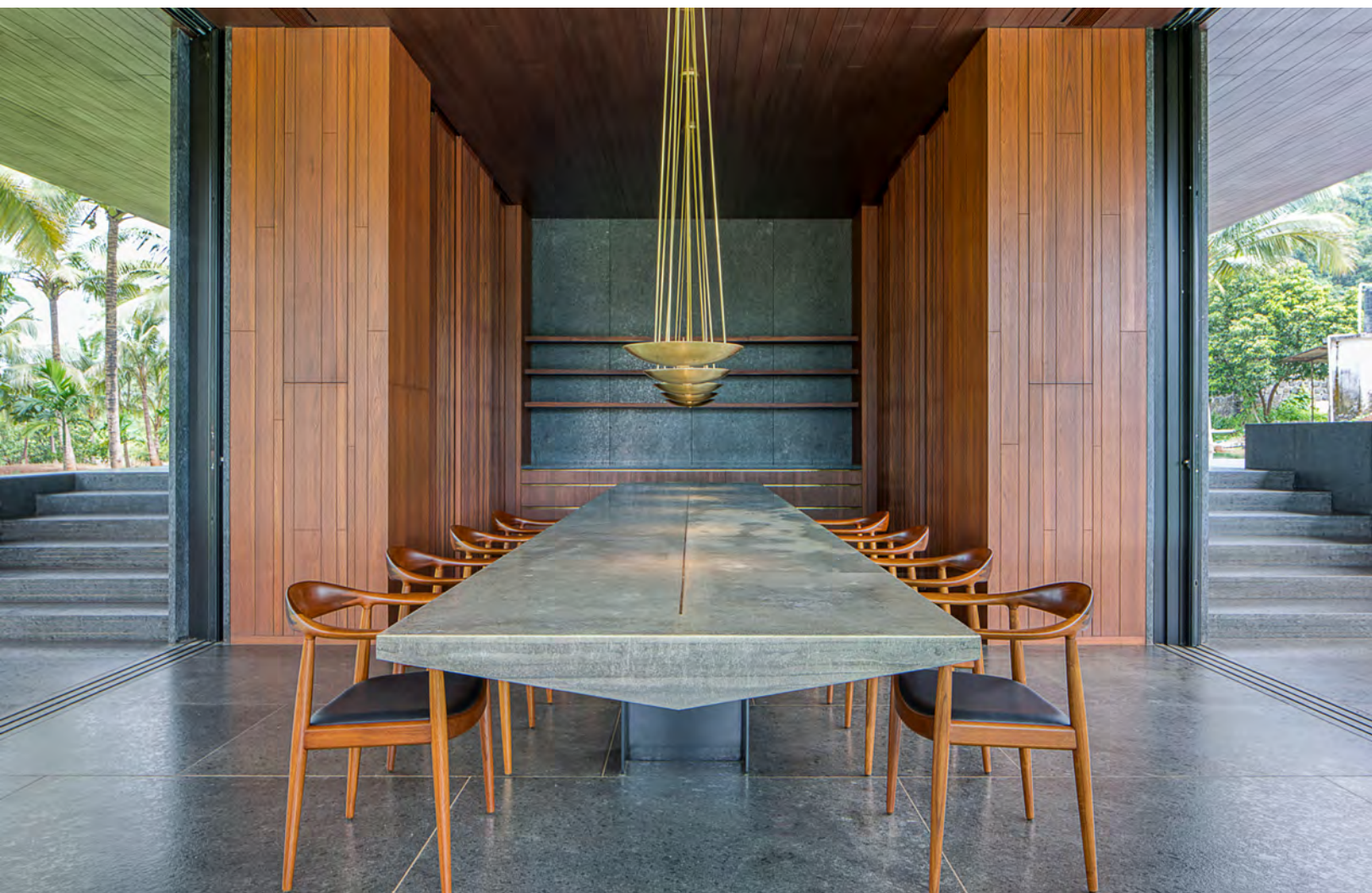
Panjabi has been a guest juror at the Academy of Architecture and the Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute for Architecture (KRVIA) in Mumbai.

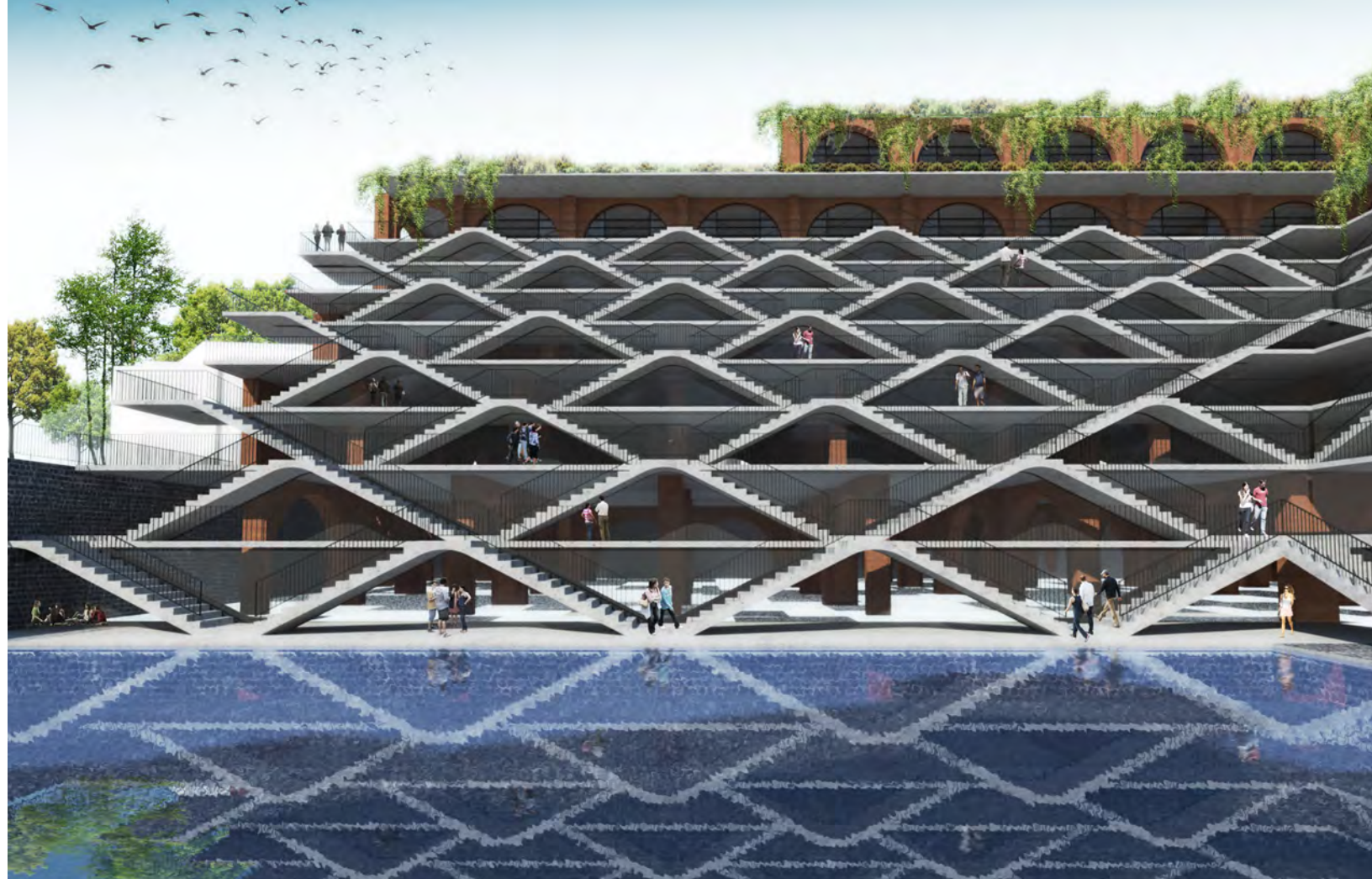
Shri Khimji Ramdas Kanya Vidhyalay Science Lab, Mandvi, Gujarat

Parikrama House, Nandgaon, Uttar Pradesh - 2 Images

Sanskriti Vihar, KJ Somaiya Educational Trust Campus at Vidya Vihar, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 2 Images

India NOW: Architecture in the Contemporary Landscape







STUDIO LOTUS

NEW DELHI



Ankur Choksi

Ankur Choksi is one of the Founding Principals of Studio Lotus. From large master plans to the smallest of interior details, the work of the globally acclaimed practice is rooted in the principles of conscious design—an approach that celebrates innovation through local resources, cultural influences, an inclusive process, and keen attention to detail.

Presently, Ankur leads the Integrated Architecture & Interior Design initiatives for the practice, with a focus on Hospitality & Residential Design. He is also an active proponent of quality design education, and advocates the principles of conscious design pan-India through academic engagement and design conclaves alike.



Sidhartha Talwar

Sidhartha Talwar is one of the Founding Principals of Studio Lotus. From large master plans to the smallest of interior details, the work of the globally acclaimed practice is rooted in the principles of conscious design—an approach that celebrates innovation through local resources, cultural influences, an inclusive process, and keen attention to detail.

Sidhartha leads the Architecture & Master Planning initiatives for the practice, working extensively on large-scale developments for a diverse clientele; he is also an active member of the Indian architectural fraternity through adjudicating design competitions and speaking at trade events, and represents the practice on a global stage.

RAAS Jodhpur, Jodhpur, Rajasthan
Krushi Bhawan, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
Max House, New Delhi
RAAS Chhatrasagar, Nimaaj, Rajasthan
Mehrangarh Fort Visitor Centre, Jodhpur, Rajasthan







WALLMAKERS

KOCHI



Vinu Daniel

Born in Abu Dhabi, Vinu Daniel founded Wallmakers in 2007. The firm's name was christened by its first project – a compound wall – and is sometimes referred to fondly as a “vagabond” firm making poetic structures out of brick and mud. Daniel completed his B. Arch in 2005 from The College of Engineering in Trivandrum (now Thiruvananthapuram), and then worked with the Auroville Earth Institute for the United Nations Development Program's post-tsunami relief efforts in Tamil Nadu. This led to Daniel's resolve to devote his energies towards the cause of sustainable and cost-effective architecture.

Daniel notes that he owes interest in material innovation, design philosophy, and, indeed, his career, to a chance meeting with the pioneering British Indian architect Laurie Baker at his home in Trivandrum at a time when Daniel was considering a different career in music (Baker died in 2007).

Daniel's work was featured in Rahul Mehrotra's 2011 book *Architecture in India Since 1990*. Wallmakers was elected by ArchDaily as the only Indian practice in the 20 Young Practices of 2020.

IHA residence, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

The Ledge, Peermade, Kerala

Pirouette House, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

Shikhara House, Pothencode, Kerala

St George Orthodox Church, Kochi, Kerala



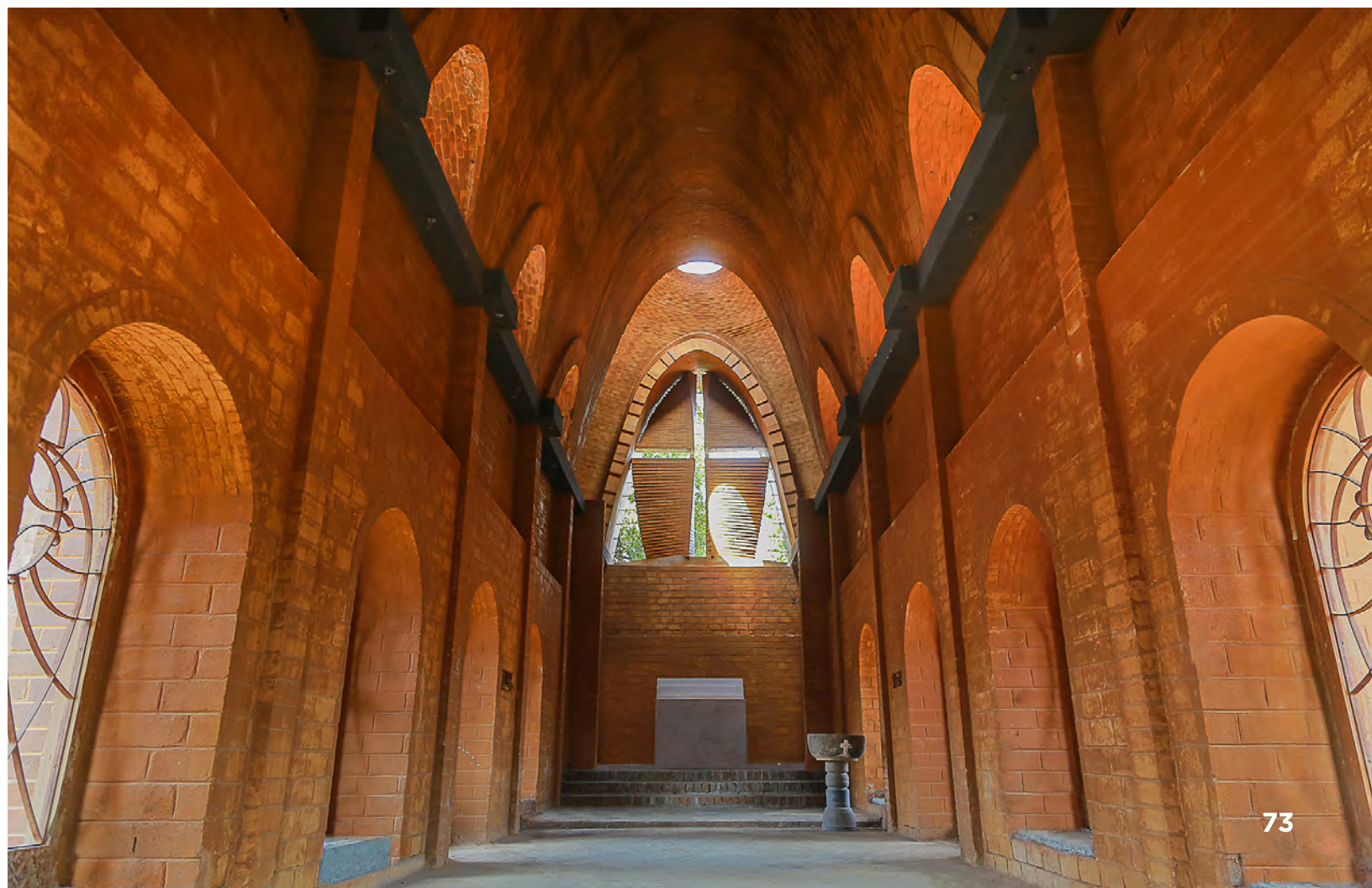


IMAGE CREDITS

PROGRAM COVER

FRONT

Maya Somaiya Library, Sharda School, Kopargaon, Maharashtra

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BACK

The Ledge, Peermade, Kerala

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Martino Stierli Headshot

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SESSION ONE

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The United States Embassy, New Delhi, by Edward Durell Stone

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SESSION THREE

India Map

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Adisaptagram Workshop, Hugli-Chuchura, West Bengal

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BillionBricks Homes, Various Locations

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