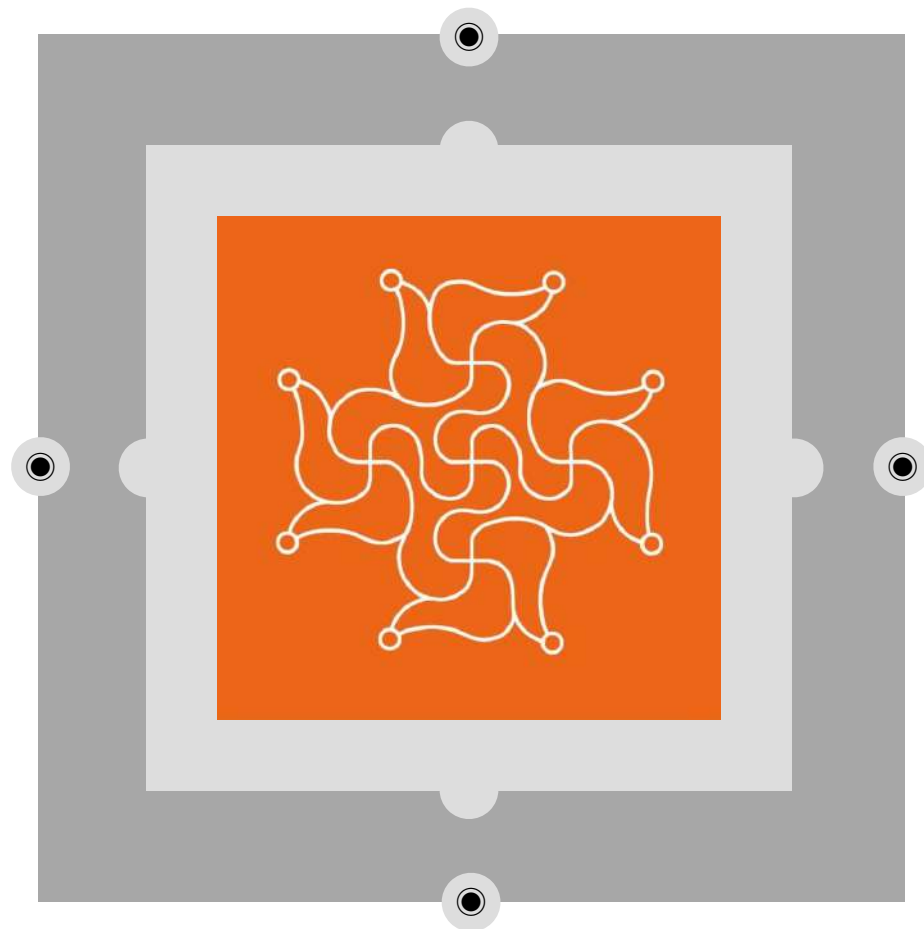


# Building Beauty India

*A GREHA & CDSA Program at CDSA, Pune, India*

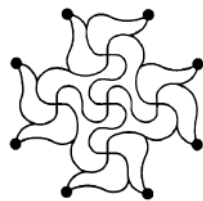
Ecologic Design and Construction Process

*One Year Postgraduate Diploma for architects and non-architects*



## Prospectus

**Program 2023-24**



# Building Beauty India

*A GREHA & CDSA Program at CDSA, Pune, India*

Ecologic Design and Construction Process

*One Year Postgraduate Diploma for architects and non-architects*

*Program will run in hybrid mode -online and offline*

## Program 2023-24

*August 2023 - May 2024*

# Admissions Open

*Application Deadline - 31st May 2023*



Scan here for the Admission Form  
For Short Seminars



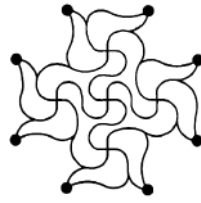
Scan here for the Admission Form  
For Modules



Scan here for the Admission Form  
For Construction Workshop

Email - [buildingbeautyindia@gmail.com](mailto:buildingbeautyindia@gmail.com)

Website - [www.buildingbeautyindia.org](http://www.buildingbeautyindia.org)



# Index

Program 2023-24



Module I

**Reading Text**



Module II

**Self and Wholeness**



Module III

**Short Seminars**



Module IV

**Construction Workshop**



Module V

**Full Program**



# About the Program

**Building Beauty India** is an **international study program**, affiliated with the Building Beauty Program that began at Sorrento at San Anna University in 2017, based on the teachings and theory of Christopher Alexander, theorist, architect, mathematician, scientist, and artist, who taught at the University of California, Berkley for nearly 40 years.

At the core of the programme is **WHOLENESS** of **LIFE as BEAUTY**. A study in the interconnected three fields of :

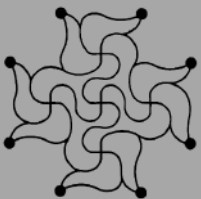
- 1. Philosophy & Aesthetics**
- 2. Design & Making, and**
- 3. History & Society**

This post graduate program is open to architects and non-architects alike, who may have an interest in learning about building their habitat in particular the architecture that is connected with life holistically. So far the program has been attended by architects, artists, software persons, engineers, historians, anthropologists, journalists, doctors, and writers.

**In India this program is offered jointly by GREHA, New Delhi and the Centre for Development and Sustainable Activities (CDSA), Pune.**

**Teaching:** Teaching would be offered at the venue, in a combination of Offline and also Online classes.

**Faculty:** The faculty comprises of experienced practicing Architects, Anthropologists, Ecologists, Historians, Sociologists, Philosophers & Critics, and Practitioners in various crafts from within India and also from other countries.



# About the Program

**Building beauty India program is offers five courses -**

**Module I - Reading Text -**

Theoretical foundations

**Module II - Self and Wholeness -**

Self in the process of creation

**Module III - Short Seminars -**

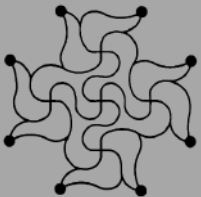
Beyond disciplinary boundaries

**Module IV - Construction Workshop -**

Experiential learning

**Module V - Full Program -**

Learn unfolding of life through making and building

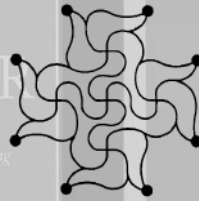


# Building Beauty India

*A GREHA & CDSA Program at CDSA, Pune, India*

Ecologic Design and Construction Process

*One Year Postgraduate Diploma for architects and non-architects*



**Program 2023-24 : Module I**

## Reading Text

**Course Duration: Sem I -16 Weeks + Sem II -16 Weeks**

96 Hours (3 Hours/Week)

**Course Fees - 30,000 INR**

Christopher Alexander  
Sara Ishikawa · Murray Silverstein  
WITH  
Max Jacobson · Ingrid Fiedler  
Shlomo Angel

[www.buildingbeautyindia.org](http://www.buildingbeautyindia.org)

A contemporary treatise on ancient values  
and indigenous reality



# Reading Text

This course forms a theoretical backbone of the Building Beauty India program. Students will study **three key texts** - ***The Nature of Order*** (all four books), ***A Pattern Language***, and ***A Discovery of Architecture- A Contemporary Treatise on Ancient Values and Indigenous Reality***. Theoretical understanding of these three texts provides foundation to the projects in Design and Craft studio and construction works. Reading before class is required.

## ***Nature of Order Books I, II, III, IV***

Book-I, *The Phenomenon of Life*

Book-II, *The Process of Creating Life*

Book-III, *A Vision of a Living World*

Book-IV, *The Luminous Ground*

The four books of The Nature of Order redefine architecture for the 21st century as a field, as a profession, as practice and as social philosophy. Each of the books deals with one facet of the discipline. This worldview provides architecture with a new underpinning, describing procedures of planning, design, and building, as well as attitudes to style, to the shapes of buildings, and to the forms of urbanisation and construction.

The four books, each one an essay on the topic of living structure, are connected and interdependent. Each sheds light on one facet of living structure: first, the definition; second, the process of generating living structure; third, the practical vision of an architecture guided by the concept of living structure; and fourth, the cosmological underpinnings and implications brought into being by the idea of living structure.

The books offer a view of a human-centered universe, a view of order, in which the soul, or human feeling and the soul, play a central role



# Reading Text

## ***A Pattern Language***

Volume I, *The Timeless Way of Building*, and Volume II, *A Pattern Language*, are two halves of a single work. This book provides a language, for building, and planning; the other book provides the theory and instructions for the use of the language. This book describes the detailed patterns for towns and neighbourhoods, houses, gardens, and rooms, the other book explains the discipline which makes it possible to use these patterns to create a building or a town. This book is the sourcebook of the timeless way; the other is its practices.

## ***A Discovery of Architecture: A Contemporary Treatise on Ancient Values and Indigenous Reality***

Architecture is an ancient discipline, and the results of its thinking and endeavour provides us with some of the most lasting examples of our culture.... It is possible that we have lost the ability to learn from and derive inspiration for contemporary architecture from the indigenous realities? ... Physical reality is perceived by the individual self, and is given meaning by the community.... When self assumes the nature of community, there is a creative interaction which results in action coupled with awareness.





Faculty Team

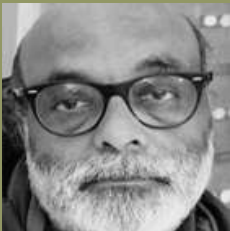


**Narendra Dingle**

Architecture

*Nature of Order I, II, III, & IV*

*Discovery of Architecture*



**Savyasaachi**

Sociology

*Nature of Order I, II, III, & IV*



**Pradnya Chauhan**

Architecture

*A Pattern Language*



**Snehanshu Mukherjee**

Architecture

*Discovery of Architecture*



# Building Beauty India

*A GREHA & CDSA Program at CDSA, Pune, India*

Ecologic Design and Construction Process

*One Year Postgraduate Diploma for architects and non-architects*



**Program 2023-24 : Module II**

## Self and Wholeness

**Course Duration: Sem I -16 Weeks + Sem II -16 Weeks**

48 Hours (1.5 Hours/Week)

**Course Fees - 20,000 INR**



[www.buildingbeautyindia.org](http://www.buildingbeautyindia.org)

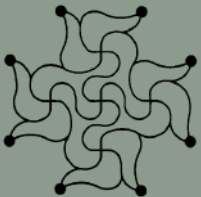
# Self and Wholeness

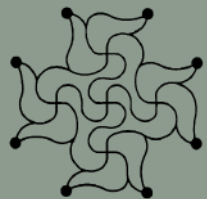
This course is a conversation exploring the interconnections between the self, society, and nature. Through this process students will discover the sense of wholeness that underlies life.

This exploration will include :

1. Texts
2. First person experience of : I:I, I:Other- I: Nature, I: Other organisms or forms of life, I: society, I: the creative spirit, I: the built environment, I: the processes of discoveries in philosophies of sciences, ethics, and the craft of making the built environment-dwellings, institutions, and cities.

This course resonates with the theoretical foundations in 'Reading Text' and 'Design and Craft Studio'.



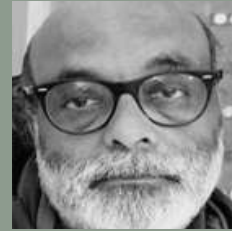


# Self and Wholeness

## Faculty Team



**Narendra Dingle**  
Architecture



**Savyasaachi**  
Sociology



**Rajendra Dingle**  
Literature and Philosophy

# Building Beauty India

*A GREHA & CDSA Program at CDSA, Pune, India*

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*One Year Postgraduate Diploma for architects and non-architects*



**Program 2023-24 : Module III**

## Short Seminars

**Course Duration: Sem I - 6 Short Seminars + Sem II - 6 Short Seminars**

Each Short Seminar is of total 6 hours, 1.5 Hours/2 Days/Week

72 Hours (3 Hours/Week)

**Course Fees - 30,000 INR**

Each Short Seminar can be if required enrolled for separately at 2500 INR



[www.buildingbeautyindia.org](http://www.buildingbeautyindia.org)



# Short Seminars

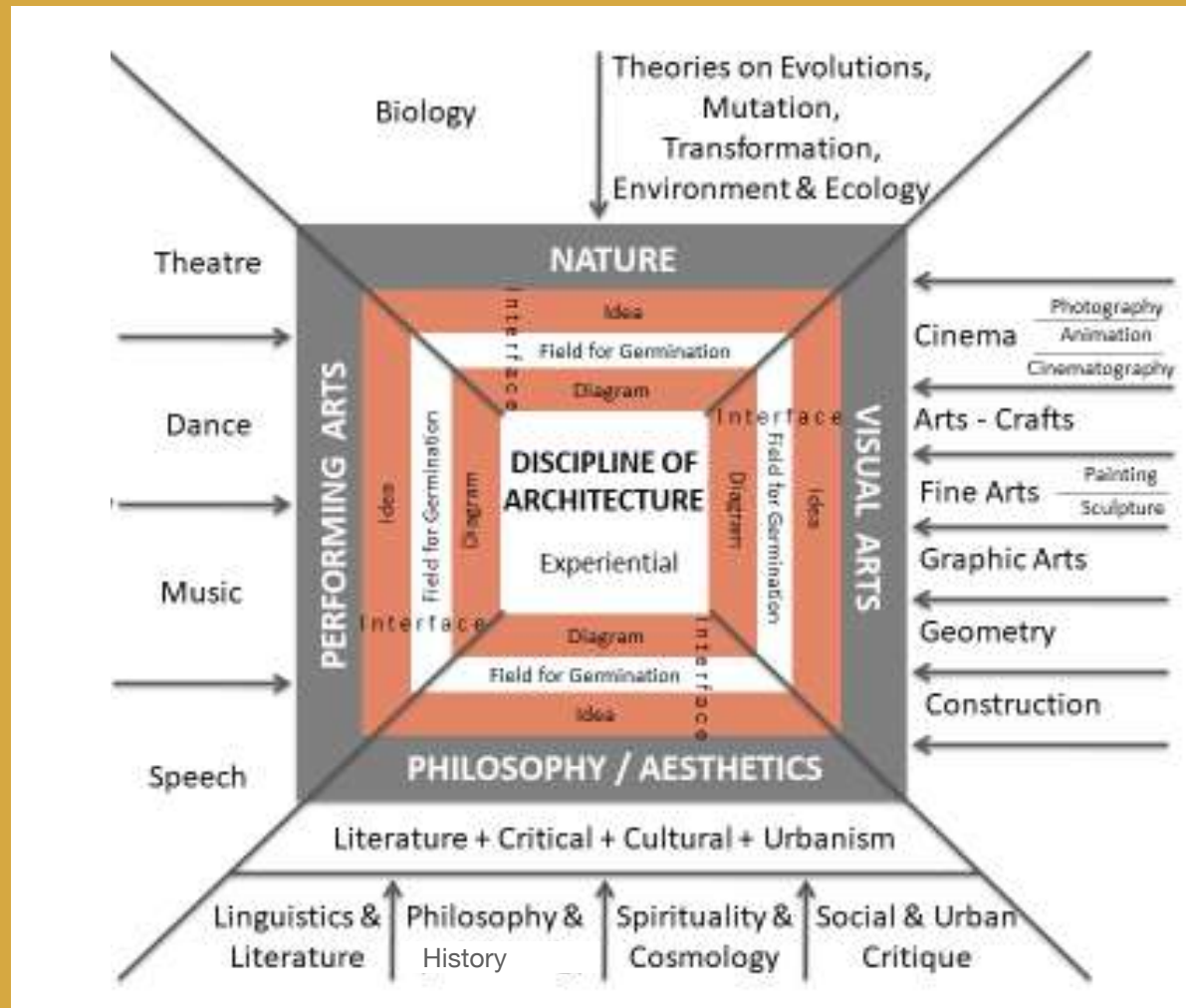


Image Copyright - Narendra Dingle

The Above diagram is indicative of the perspective of Wholeness with which the Building Beauty India has been visualised. Reading the Texts, Short Seminars, and Community related work of making of architecture aim to contribute to the process of Design & Making within the Design Studio.

The Module of Short Seminars planned for year 2023-24 include introducing the students to Philosophy & Literature, Ancient Indian Texts, Appreciation of Films and Indian Classical Music, History, Ecology & Sociology, Weaving and Textiles, and Physics to strengthen the perception of Wholeness & Beauty as integral to architecture. Eminent professionals, and scholars make the faculty.



# Short Seminars

## Faculty Team



### Shubhra Singh

Textile Design, Architecture

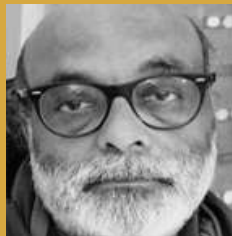
*Fibre to Fabric - Learning by observing, doing and sharing*



### Rajendra Dengle

German Literature, Philosophy

*Reflections on the Nature of Crisis in the Study of Philosophy & Literature*



### Savyasaachi\*

Sociology

*Title -TBD (Sociology)*



### Aneeta Gokhale-Benninger\*

Geography, Urban Planning

*Title- TBD (Sociology, and Ecology)*



### Neena Zutshi

Architecture

*The Pattern Language in Samarangan Sutradhar*



### Vibuti Sachdev

Architecture

*Wholeness and Beauty in Ancient Indian Text*



### Pushkar Lele

Indian Classical Music

*Fundamentals of Indian Music and its Relation with Architecture*



### Pushkar Sohoni

History, Architecture

*Past in the Present*



### Kranti Kanade

Direction, Film Making

*Cinema - A Powerful Tool for Change and Development*



### Ajit Kembhavi\*\*

Astrophysics

*Title -TBD*



\*

\* Savyasaachi and Aneeta Gokhale-Benninger will be taking two short seminars, one each semester.

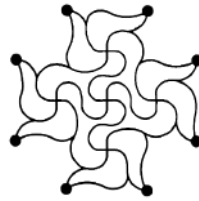
\*\* to be confirmed.

# Building Beauty India

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*One Year Postgraduate Diploma for architects and non-architects*



**Program 2023-24 : Module III**

## Short Seminar 1

*Fibre to Fabric - Learning by observing, doing and sharing*



**Shubhra Singh**

Textile Designer and Architect



# Short Seminar 1

- Session **1**     **Introduction to a Material and demonstration of the technique of Spinning**  
To acquaint the students with the understanding of the nature of material in its various forms, the life cycle of a fibre (Cotton) would be shared and discussed. Practical demonstrations of the technique of Spinning (2-3 variations) will take place followed by hands-on practice.
- Session **2**     **Introduction to Textile Techniques**  
To understand the premise of Creation, a few textile techniques will be demonstrated followed by discussion. Students would be expected to be present, to learn with an open heart, to understand the logic and to take notes.
- Session **3**     **In the search for locating the notions of Wholeness and Beauty**  
Combining the understanding drawn from the demonstrations followed by practice, practice and more practice.
- Session **4**     **Locating\_Being**  
Presentation of works of each student with focus on the idea and its unfolding step-by-step. Students would be expected to provide an overview of their thought / decision making process, approaches, observations, struggles, challenges, learnings etc.

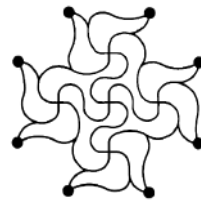


# **Building Beauty India**

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**Program 2023-24 : Module III**

## **Short Seminar 2**

***Reflections on the Nature of Crisis in the Study of Philosophy & Literature***



**Rajendra Dingle**

Former Professor, the Centre for German Studies, J N U New Delhi

# Short Seminar 2

- Session **1** Begin with an inquiry into the question of methodology as a meta-discipline in the European History of Thought. From the Positivism Debates in the 1960's, and reconstructing empiricist and rationalist arguments to come to some understanding of Kant's *Phenomenalism* and August Comte's Positivist philosophy and their influence on understanding literature, language, and culture 'scientifically'.
- Session **2** The students would be encouraged to problematise the writing of literary history, whereby the focus would be to understand the historical need to understand – and overcome – the limitations of Enlightenment and Realism in the changing literary praxis of Romanticism. The subject-object dichotomy, which is significant for the Self & Wholeness discussion, will be taken up with reference to literary movements such as Expressionism and Surrealism. Having thus sketched out the crises of living in Modernity and attempted to develop some understanding of the movement from *Phenomenalism* to *Phenomenology*, it would be important to look at some of the methodological reflections as “answers” to these questions.
- Session **3** Engaging with Philosophy of Language. How is it possible to create meaning and communicate in language? How does literature work to encourage in the reader a willingness to develop a historical consciousness and a competence to experience the reality of the Self and the Other? Some of the significant insights provided by the Russian Formalists and the Prague Structuralists would be discussed.  
Reading excerpts from some classic texts from the German speaking cultural space, which belong to World Literature and have been translated into English. For instance: Excerpts from Goethe's *Faust*, Hofmannsthal's *The Letter of Lord Chandos*, some poems by Rainer Maria Rilke, Hesse's *Siddhartha*, and Kafka's *The Hunger Artist*, *Metamorphosis*, or *The Burrow*).
- Session **4** Discussions on the presentations made by the students

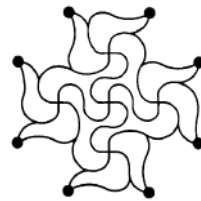


# Building Beauty India

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**Program 2023-24 : Module III**

## Short Seminar 3 & 4

*Sociology*



**Savyassachi**

Former Professor, Jamia Millia Islamia,  
New Delhi



**Aneeta Gokhale-Benninger**

Professor of Sustainable Development Planning,  
CDSA, Pune

# Short Seminar 3 & 4

Creation of beauty with healing properties is at the core of Alexandrian design. Beauty has to be created within a real context for real people within a relationship of give-and-take between the designer and the users. Dialogue and discussion between the two will create data. Analysis of this data will give information about the people's behaviour, needs and preferences, and this will inform the design needs and preferences of materials etc. of the designer.

In order to be able to be engaged with the people in a non-controversial and productive dialogue and discussion, one needs to understand their socio- cultural, socio-economic and socio-political context. Sociology, Social Anthropology and Political Economy offer us tools and techniques for these studies.

The pedagogy will consist of reading, discussions and experiential learning by carrying out surveys in a village, a hutment, a co operative society and a gated community. This would familiarise the student with a cross section of rural and urban society in India.

Notes:

*The Short Seminar on Sociology will be offered in two parts - one in first semester and another in second semester.*

*This short seminar is also closely connected with the fourth design project that is community project.*

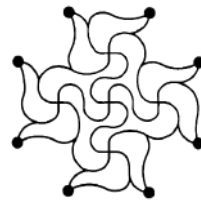


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**Program 2023-24 : Module III**

## Short Seminar 5

***The Pattern Language in Samarangan Sutradhar***



**Neena Zutshi**

Architectural Historian and Dean (Academics) at the World University of Design, Sonapat, Haryana

# Short Seminar 5

This short seminar is focused on two texts: Christopher Alexander's work *A Pattern Language* and the ancient Indian text - *Samarangansutradhar*.

## Session **1** **Introduction**

The Pattern Language & the *Samarangana* correlation with Wholeness, Order and Beauty.

Isolate aspects of the Pattern Language demonstrating a latent association with the *Samarangana*.

## Session **2** **Dwelling 01**

Highlight the components of the text focusing on the dwelling unit and its attributes.

Demonstration with drawings and pictures.

Introspective experience exercise.

## Session **3** **Dwelling 02**

Presentation of application of the attributes by students on their own/any other dwelling.

## Session **4** **Conclusion**

Learnings/discussions/highlights/issues/perspectives/interpretations

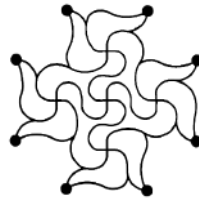


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**Program 2023-24 : Module III**

## **Short Seminar 6**

***Wholeness and Beauty in Ancient Indian Text***



**Vibhuti Sachdev**

Architect, Conservation Consultant and Writer



# Short Seminar 6

This course will explore concepts of Wholeness and Beauty that are embedded in a world view of a society, and expressed through its languages (written and oral) cultural practices and production processes that shape its artifacts as part of a way of life. This will be discussed through select iconic texts (such as *Ayurveda*, *Natyashastra*, *Vastushastra/Chitrasutra*, *Upanishads* and the *Jyotish Shastra*) of the Indic civilisation and will be read as part of the living traditions of modern India.

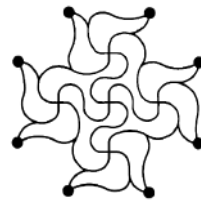


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**Program 2023-24 : Module III**

## Short Seminar 7

***Fundamentals of Indian Music and its Relation with Architecture***



**PUSHKAR LELE**

Performing Vocalist, Writer and Teacher

# Short Seminar 7

- Session **1** Session 1 will look at 'What is Music?', concepts of Silence and Sound, the sextet of music categories in India and their connection with architecture, Melody, and Harmony
- Session **2** Session 2 will give an overview of the art music-s prevalent in India, the concepts of *swar-saptak-raag* along with *lay-chaand-taal* and *Raag-Ras-Samay* connection
- Session **3** Session 3 will focus on the idea of composition/*bandish*, some of its forms and aesthetic ideas of the fluid architecture of space/time usage.
- Session **4** Session 4 will focus on Instruments and Instrumental music.

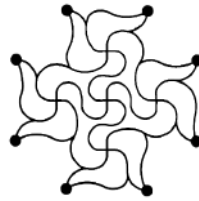


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**Program 2023-24 : Module III**

## Short Seminar 8

*Cinema - A Powerful Tool for Change and Development*



**Kirti Kanade**

Director and Film Maker

# Short Seminar 8

This short seminar introduces Cinema as a powerful tool for socio-political, aesthetic and architectural change and development.

Apart from being a filmmaker Kranti is also a person who built his house by commissioning acclaimed architect Anupama Kundoo. He would be calling students to this house and explain them how architecture becomes activism and can be applied to social causes. What it means to be an activist through film, through space...

Call to action- Students will make a 5 min film to explore and nurture a fighter spirit in them discussing one idea by which they would like to change the world into a better place.

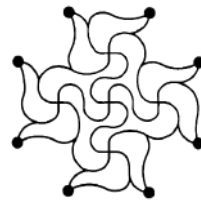


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**Program 2023-24 : Module III**

## Short Seminar 9

*Past in the Present*



**Pushkar Sohoni**

Chair, Humanities and Social Sciences, IISER, Pune

# Short Seminar 9

History is a representation of the past, wherein several binaries have to be reconciled. The past and present, text and material, creation and reception, all have to find meaningful balance, in order to create worlds that occupy different temporalities. Such dynamics are also true of architecture, and the search for beauty within.



# Building Beauty India

*A GREHA & CDSA Program at CDSA, Pune, India*

Ecologic Design and Construction Process

*One Year Postgraduate Diploma for architects and non-architects*



**Program 2023-24 : Module IV**

## Construction Workshop

***Rammed Earth and Timber Construction***

**Location: The Mountainwind Programme of the Himalayan Rilung Foundation,**

Bhuira Village, Himachal Pradesh, India

**Course Duration: 14th May to 21st May 2023**

49 Hours (9:00 am to 5:00 pm / 7 Hours everyday)

**Course Fees - 25,000 INR**

**Total Capacity of workshop = 10 Persons only**

*Admission to workshop on first come first serve basis*



[www.buildingbeautyindia.org](http://www.buildingbeautyindia.org)

[www.thrlf.org](http://www.thrlf.org)



# Construction Workshop

## About the Workshop:

The workshop focuses on making a small structure with rammed earth walls and timber roof frame inside and for the MW Campus. It introduces participants to very basic earth and timber construction hand work skills and techniques and the use of hand and machine tools therein. During the 7 day workshop, training in basic improved hand tools and a few machine tools for timber work will be introduced. The timber and earth construction instruction will overlap on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> day after the first 3 days of only earth construction sessions. Day 4 to Day 6 will be for making the timber truss and roof structure along with rammed earth wall construction ongoing until Day 4. Day 7 will be focused on placing the slate roofing slabs and final finishing of the structure including façade fenestration and then culminating in a feedback and discussion session. Earth construction session will go on for 4 days.

**Facilitators:** Nungshi la, Tashi la ,Ritu la

## Location:

The Mountainwind Programme of the Himalayan Rilung Foundation,  
Bhuira Village, District - Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh, India  
*Individual to reach the location on Saturday, 13th May 2023*

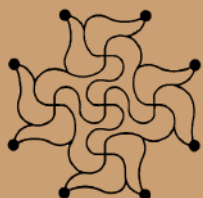
## Inclusion:

Workshop fees are inclusive of food and stay from Sunday, 14th May to Sunday, 21st May 2023.

## Exclusion:

Workshop fees do not cover travel cost from individual's place of stay to the location of workshop

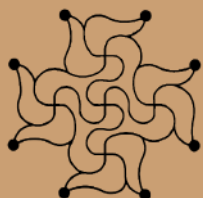
**Application Deadline - Saturday, 15th April 2023**



# Construction Workshop

## Workshop Schedule

Day <b>0</b>	Saturday, 13th May 2023	Arrival at the Mountainwind Programme of the Himalayan Rilung Foundation
Day <b>1</b>	Sunday, 14th May 2023	Meditation Introduction to Rammed Earth Technique
Day <b>2</b>	Monday, 15th May 2023	Earth Construction Session I Building Walls
Day <b>3</b>	Tuesday, 16th May 2023	Earth Construction Session I Building Walls
Day <b>4</b>	Wednesday, 17th May 2023	Timber Construction Session I Introduction
Day <b>5</b>	Thursday, 18th May 2023	Timber Construction Session I Making of Roof Truss Structure
Day <b>6</b>	Friday, 19th May 2023	Timber Construction Session I Making of Roof Truss Structure
Day <b>7</b>	Saturday, 20th May 2023	Slate Stone Slab Roofing Finishing of the Structure
Day <b>8</b>	Sunday, 21st May 2023	Departure from the Mountainwind Programme of the Himalayan Rilung Foundation



# Construction Workshop



Photos of the Mountainwind Campus, Bhaira





# Building Beauty India

*A GREHA & CDSA Program at CDSA, Pune, India*

Ecologic Design and Construction Process

*One Year Postgraduate Diploma for architects and non-architects*



**Program 2023-24 : Module V**

## Full Program

**Module I +II+III+IV+ Design and Craft Studio + Webinars\***

**Course Duration: Sem I - 16 Weeks + Sem II - 16 Weeks**

512 Hours (16 Hours/Week)

**Course Fees - 2,00,000 INR**

*\*Webinars are open for all, and free of cost*



[www.buildingbeautyindia.org](http://www.buildingbeautyindia.org)

# Design and Craft Studio

This course is a melting pot of all other courses -Reading Text, Self and Wholeness, and Short Seminars where students learn by making, and bringing theory into practice. The course is about understanding intuition and feelings as prime drivers of process of making and creation. In studio projects, design programs are emerged from deeper feelings that people share with places around them. Here, design and construction are not separate stages/processes but integral. Design and craft studio start with a small scale project and gradually moves to more complex and large scale projects:

## Semester I

*Design of Personal Object.*

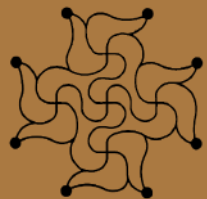
*Design of a Furniture Unit.*

*Design of Your Own House.*

## Semester II

*Community Design Project.*



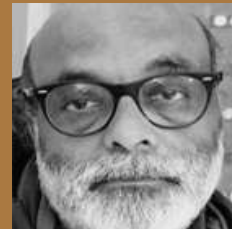


# Design and Craft Studio

## Faculty Team



**Narendra Dingle**  
Architecture



**Savyasaachi**  
Sociology



**Minal Sagare**  
Architecture



**Ritu Varuni**  
Architecture



**Rohit Gulati**  
Architecture



**Chetan Sahasrabudhe**  
Architecture

# Full Program

## Tutors Team

Each of the courses, especially the full program is supported by a team of young tutors who will guide students through their assignments and projects on one-on-one basis.



**Mayank Pandey**  
Architecture



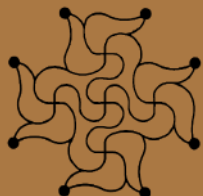
**Aarti Dhingra**  
Architecture



**Hera Saud**  
Sociology



# Full Program



Module I

## Reading Text

*Theoretical foundations of the program*

Module II

## Self and Wholeness

*Understanding of Self as the creator/generator of wholeness*

Module III

## Short Seminars

*Richness of interconnectedness*

Module IV

## Construction Workshop

*Hands on experience of materials and making*

## Design and Craft Studio

*Learning the processes of creation of wholeness through making*

## Webinars

*A meeting point of Building Beauty Community*

Module IV

# Full BBI Program