



NEWSLETTER

SONA NEWSLETTER VOL. 16

Jan 12, 2024



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WORLD ARCHITECTURE 2023: An Overview

Let us tell you about world architecture in 2023! It was a year filled with innovative designs, sustainable practices, and breathtaking structures. Architects around the globe pushed the boundaries of creativity and incorporated cutting-edge technologies in their projects. From futuristic skyscrapers to eco-friendly buildings, the architectural landscape was truly awe-inspiring. It's fascinating to see how architecture continues to evolve and shape the world we live in.

WORLD BUILDING OF THE YEAR 2023: Huizhen High School: "Floating Forest"

The World Architecture Festival 2023, held at Singapore in which hundreds of shortlisted projects were presented by practices from around the world, announced the ultimate accolade of World Building of the Year.



PROJECT NAME: Huizhen High School

LOCATION: Ningbo City, Huizhen, People's Republic of China.

ARCHITECTS: Approach Design Studio/
Zhejiang University of Technology Engineering Design Group Co. Ltd in China

"The architects have managed to create a school which is very different to the usual model where students are boxed in and put under teaching and architectural pressure. By contrast, this design encourages walking, fresh air and the possibility of reflection away from academic intensity."- Paul Finch,

The campus design takes an audacious leap, prioritizing efficiency while re-defining the value of time, as highlighted in an official release. Transforming into a mesmerizing "floating forest," the school's classrooms are suspended at the forest's corners, interconnected by winding pathways. Amidst this natural canvas, scattered treehouses serve as fleeting sanctuaries for students seeking respite from their academic pursuits.

Ascending a gradual ramp reveals a gently sloping roof, ingeniously crafted to serve dual purposes: an open-air lecture hall and a rooftop park equipped with sports facilities.

Noteworthy is the accessibility of this multifaceted space to the public during weekends, presenting a pioneering architectural innovation that reshapes the traditional campus landscape.



WORLD INTERIOR OF THE YEAR 2023: 19 Waterloo Street by SJB Studio

LOCATION: Sydney, Australia

With a footprint of 30 sqm and a Jacques Tati-esque façade of recycled and broken brick, this house playfully engages with the street through arrangement and geometry of openings. Ultimately, it's about sustainability, doing more with less, reusing a site, reusing materials.

From the street the facade is punched with a random set of openings, but once inside, these reveal a highly tuned stack of rooms. Judges felt that "these generated a satisfying alignment and play of light". There are unique furniture pieces and a work of art that was commissioned as a catalyst for the project. Craft and detail are everywhere, partly as a result of using materials salvaged from other projects. Judges described this winning interior project as "not only a building or an interior, but a pocket-sized tour de force".



Architecture's Prevailing Trends in 2023:

1. AI IN ARCHITECTURE

AI's impact on architecture is transformative, offering architects new avenues for swift, efficient design. Yet, hurdles accompany this technology: the loss of personal touch, dependency on data, costs and ethical concerns. To wield AI ethically, architects must confront these challenges head-on.



2. INDOOR OUTDOOR FUSION

is fueled by a post-COVID desire for outdoor energy. Trend to blend nature with built environments using features. It creates fluid living areas, inviting the outdoors inside, harmony with nature.

3. TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENT

Technology-driven trends, particularly with smart homes and widespread VR adoption is seen. Utilizing VR as a powerful tool for immersive design experiences, revolutionizing built space.



4. 3D PRINTED HOMES

This cutting-edge technology allows for swift, cost-effective construction of customizable homes, marking a significant shift towards sustainable and efficient housing solutions.

5. EARTHY MATERIALS USE

Trends lean towards earthy materials like rammed earth, mud, bamboo and wood, chosen for sustainability and natural charm. Eco-friendly structures, emphasizing both durability and environmental.



President's Message

- Ar. Iswar Lal Joshi

As we turn the page on 2023, it's with immense pride to present you with Volume 16 of the SONA Newsletter. This past year has been a whirlwind of activity, marked by initiatives, insightful discussions, and an unwavering commitment to architectural excellence.

In my President's Message, I take a look back at the challenges and successes of the year, sharing my vision for the continued growth and impact of SONA. Among the highlights, we'll explore the engaging "Architect Speaks Series," where diverse voices sparked conversations that challenged and inspired us. From celebrating women architects across sectors to delving into urban cycling, we'll uncover how design has the power to shape not just spaces but lives. If you're curious about the minds behind visionary architecture, our "Architect Interview Series" featuring Ar. Bisma Sami Askari reveals the secrets behind groundbreaking design and limitless creativity.

Recapping ARCASIA ACA20 in Boracay, Philippines, SONA members, architects, and students collaborated

for enriching roundtables, illuminating seminars, and unforgettable experiences. For eco-conscious architects and design enthusiasts, Nepal proudly showcased two outstanding green and sustainable projects. These contributions by Ar. Prabal Thapa and Ar. Alex Shrestha received well-deserved attention for their dedication to responsible architecture.

In our journey towards a sustainable future, the "EarthBag Construction Training Session" demonstrated the transformative potential of eco-conscious building practices. Seeing walls rise from earth, not concrete, serves as a reminder that innovation and responsibility can coexist, shaping a built environment that's both beautiful and earth-friendly.

Our pursuit of excellence reached its peak with SONA DAY and the Architecture Excellence Awards 2023. Let's celebrate the top projects that pushed architectural boundaries, showcasing ingenuity, artistry, and an unwavering drive to exceed limits.

Yet, our commitment to a better built environment goes beyond awards. This year, we submitted a crucial letter to Honourable Minister Sita Gurung, urging the appointment of at least



one architect in every municipality. We believe architects, with their holistic approach to planning, play a vital role in shaping aesthetically pleasing, functional societies. The ongoing discussion about the necessity of an Architecture Council in Nepal underscores our commitment to upholding professional ethics and maintaining the highest standards.

As we close this edition of the SONA Newsletter, let's reflect on the year's milestones and challenges as stepping stones toward a brighter future. Together, let's continue building communities that inspire, innovate, and thrive. May our blueprints testify to our passion, our structures express our ideals, and our voices forever advocate for a world shaped by the transformative power of architecture.

SONA Futsal Tournament

- Ar. Udgam Lohani

On August 12th, 2023, the Society of Nepalese Architects (SONA) organized a futsal tournament at Chaur Recreational Center Bansbari, Budanilkantaha. This event marked a preliminary activity for the 15th SONA executive committee. Roughly 100 participants, including SONA executives, architects, volunteers, and students, were part of this dynamic gathering.

Leading the inauguration of the tournament was Ar. Iswar Lal Joshi, the

President of SONA, who initiated the matches by officially kicking off the ball. The tournament featured eight teams, consisting of architects and architecture students from the 2074 batch. It followed a league format with two groups, each comprising four teams. The semifinals featured the leading two teams from each group. In the first semifinal, Royal Design Studio competed against Team Himalaya, while the second semifinal saw Pulchowk FC facing off against

Necgoatians.

Following spirited matches, Royal Design Studio secured the championship title, with Pulchowk FC earning a commendable second place. President Ar. Iswar Lal Joshi then presented trophies to both victorious teams during the trophy presentation ceremony. The event reached its conclusion with President Joshi's closing remarks, providing a fitting end to the tournament.



Architect Speaks Series:

1. YOUNG ARCHITECTS

- Ar. Sabin Maharjan



The architectural landscape of Kathmandu witnessed a captivating blend of innovation, creativity, and inspiration as the SONA (Society of Nepalese Architects) Committee of Young Architects (SCYA) hosted "Architects Speaks" on the 25th of August 2023, at the exquisite Bougainvillea, Kathmandu. The event brought together young architects, design enthusiasts, and industry professionals to celebrate the diverse visions that shape our built environment.

Three distinguished young architects graced the stage, sharing their insights, experiences, and groundbreaking projects that are pushing the boundaries of contemporary architecture. Among them were Ar. Suyog Kayastha from Three Dots Architects, Ar. Toran Pandit from Zero Dia Designs, and Ar. Rahul Bajracharya from Little More Studio.

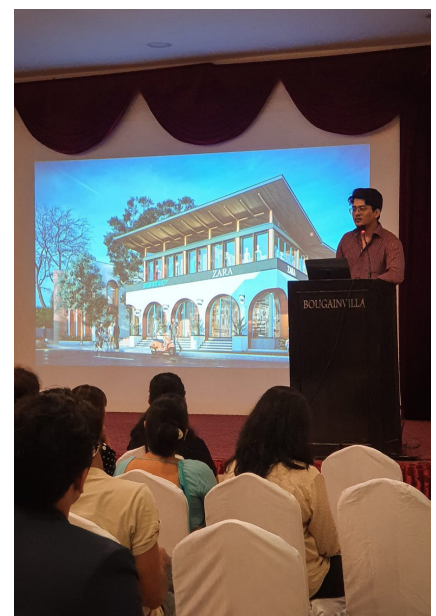
Ar. Suyog Kayastha, the visionary mind behind 3 Dots Architects, mes-

merized the audience with his journey through the world of design. His projects, characterized by a harmonious blend of functionality and aesthetics, reflect a commitment to sustainable and contextually responsive architecture. From innovative residential spaces to dynamic commercial structures, Kayastha's work captivates not only the eye but also the soul.

Following suit, Ar. Toran Pandit from Zero Dia Design unfolded the narrative behind his studio's avant-garde designs. Pandit's projects seamlessly integrate technology, culture, and sustainability, showcasing a commitment to creating spaces that not only stand out in the urban context but also resonate with the spirit of the community they serve.

Ar. Rahul Bajracharya, the creative force behind Little More Studio, concluded the event by sharing his distinctive approach to architecture. Bajracharya's projects provides a sense

of playfulness and innovation, challenging conventional design norms. His work reflects a deep understanding of the evolving needs of modern society and a passion for pushing the boundaries of architectural expression.



The event was not just a platform for young architects to showcase their projects but also an opportunity for the audience to engage in meaningful dialogue. The Q&A session that followed allowed attendees to search deeper into the minds of these architects, gaining insights into their design philosophies, challenges faced, and the future of architecture in Nepal.

"Architects Speaks" not only

celebrated the creative brilliance of these young architects but also catalyzed the exchange of ideas, fostering a sense of community within the architectural sphere. As we reflect on this event, it is evident that the future of Nepalese architecture is in the hands of visionaries who are pushing the boundaries of design, shaping a built environment that is not only functional but also a documentation

to the rich cultural shades of Nepal.



2. CYCLE IN THE CITY

- Ar. Rakesh Maharjan

Architect speaks episode No. 2 was held jointly by SONA committee for Social Responsibility and Nepal Cycle Society on 1st September 2023, Friday at Himalaya college of Engineering, Chyasal on the topic "Cycle in the city". Three Architects involved in different social sectors namely Ar. Navin Devkota, Urban Planner and Chairperson of SONA committee for social responsibility, Ar. Baburam Bhattarai, currently associated with the City Planning Commission of Kathmandu Metropolitan City and Ar. Rakesh Maharjan, then General Secretary of Nepal Cycle Society presented in the session that was moderated by Ar. Kiran Joshi, Urban Planner, actively involved in Planning bicycle infrastructures in various municipalities in Nepal.

Ar. Navin Devkota, also a

regular bicycle commuter, briefed about different situations that bicycle commuters had to face while riding bicycles for commuting in the city and also put forward the need of respect and space that bicycle commuters deserve while commuting in bicycle.

Ar. Baburam Bhattarai talked about the limited statements about bicycle commuting and infrastructures that have been mentioned in existing standards like Nepal Roads standards 2070, Nepal Urban Road standard 2076. He also added on the need for standards for sustainable mobility and asked for suggestions on how CPC of Kathmandu metropolitan City can contribute to the development of sustainable urban mobility.

Ar. Rakesh Maharjan lighted upon the importance of bicycles as a sustainable mode of transportation in



the current situation of Nepal of trade deficit, pollution and unhealthy mobility practice. He also shared the experience of development of bicycle infrastructures in Lalitpur Metropolitan city through Nepal Cycle Society. The session held a very informative discussion about the role of bicycles in the city and ended in the positive commitment of working together for the establishing dignified and sustainable mobility in the cities of Nepal.

3. CELEBRATING WOMEN ARCHITECTS IN DIFFERENT SECTORS

- Ar. Srijana Koirala



The committee on Woman in Architecture and 15th Executive Committee organized the 'Architect Speak Series' program on September 8, 2023 at Bougenvilla Events, Tripureswor. The event was participated by more than 100 people from different architecture fraternity.

The main aim of the Woman in Architecture sub-committee to enhance visibility of women in architecture and increasing their role in shaping the built environment of Nepal through network building, recognition of their contribution and supporting women into architecture. The program aimed

to recognize, appreciate and motivate the contribution of Women in Architecture, by bringing together leading women working in diverse sector and celebrating their experience and achievements.

The speakers for the program were Ar. Sarita Shrestha Maskey, Former Joint-Secretary of Ministry of Urban Development; Ar. Rojana Joshi, Team leader, Interior work of Federal Parliament; Ar. Sujata Tuladhar, LEAD AP, Architectural Manager of KC Group; and Ar. Pragya Pradhan, Country manager of UN Habitat Nepal. All the speakers talked about their experience on studying architecture, returning back from abroad studies, starting

their career in Nepal from junior level to pursuing the leading position. They also inspired young and mid-career professional on following their dream, avoiding self-doubt and trying to be out of comfort zone to explore more in opportunities and professional av-

enues in life. The program was moderated by Vice-chair of Committee on Woman in Architecture, Ar. Dristi Manandhar which included, question and answer session and discussion from the floor. Remarks of Thanks was delivered by chair of the com-

mittee Ar. Uma Devi Shangachhe and closing remarks was provided by Ar. Ishwor Lal Joshi, after handing over the taken of love to the speakers and moderator of the event. High tea was served after the closure of the event.



4. AR. BISMA SAMI ASKARI

- Ar. Anup Chhetri

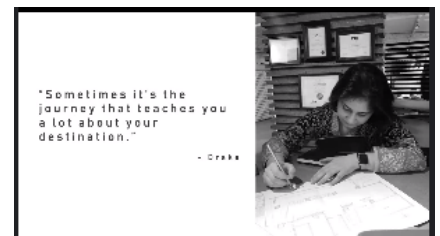
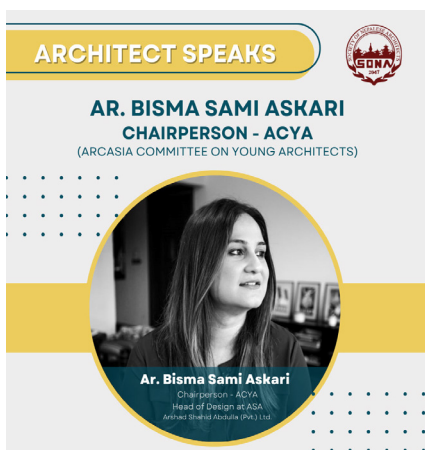
This event was organized to bid a warm farewell to the chairperson of the ARCASIA Committee on Young Architects (ACYA) for her successful tenure. The program aimed to honor her achievements and reflect upon the challenges encountered during her term. The event lasted for 1 hour and 30 minutes, with around 100 participants from across the globe, mostly young architects from Nepal, who aspired to sharpen their skills by engaging in different events organized by the SONA's Young Committee. The program was a total success, with positive responses and feedback from the participants. The entire program was hosted by Ar. Rumi Singh and was formally inaugurated with welcoming remarks from the President of SONA's Young Committee, Ar. Sugandha Subedi.

Bisma began her presentation by providing the background of the ARCASIA Committee on Young Architects (ACYA) and sharing her personal experiences. She described her vision of making the committee a platform for the growth and evolution of young architects, despite their diversity, by working on their personal, professional, leadership, and advocacy skills. She explained the objectives of ACYA, its current status, working modality, and plans for achieving its goals, highlighting the potential of this committee in shaping the future. She emphasized the committee's dedication to the development of young architects through various collaborative programs aimed at promoting and exchanging ideas. She stressed the importance of responsible and sustainable management of natural resources to ensure their long-term productivity and highlighted the significance of social awareness and environmental sustainability for aspiring architects. For her, this is a lifelong learning process that would imbibe the character of resiliency, adaptability, and interdisciplinary hybridity of young architects, preparing them for future endeavors.

During the event, she shared her professional experiences and thought process while working on various projects. She also highlighted

the challenges faced by the architecture fraternity due to earthquake vulnerability and emphasized the need for collective efforts during such disastrous moments. In the interactive session, she compared the use of steel structures in Pakistan with Nepal and discussed their potentiality.

Her experiences and stories were both inspiring and engaging for the audience, providing new insights on ACYA and the architecture of Pakistan. The session was formally ended with a note of thanks and closing remarks from Ar. Abhishek Mananda Bajracharya, the Joint-Secretary of the Society of Nepalese Architects (SONA).



ARCHITECT EXTRAORDINAIRE - Educator and Practitioner :

Ar. Saurav Shrestha - Baha Spatial Agency

"If u want change Architecture practice in Nepal go to Architecture college!"

-Ar. Saurav Shrestha



1. How did you start your architecture journey and how did it transition to today?

The area I am currently living in was developed during 1990's and was suburb before. When I was six years old, my father showed me the blueprints of our new house. After that, I was able to see the whole construction process based on these few drawings. This was very fascinating for me so later, I decided to become an engineer who designs homes! I had no plan B except for going to architecture. This was essentially my goal. I feel that in life we are always discovering things about ourselves. In the initial days, there was no one really to guide me so we went on our ways. In student life whatever we did seem to be the best. Naikap house was one of the first projects I completed. Then I was basically implementing the stuff learned from SketchUp. At the same time in 2011, I had started a page called vernacular architecture of Nepal.

The transition started after gaining experiences from different offices. I did my intern and first job at Prajwal Hada and Associates. The trend there was more into modern architecture; the box styles and geometric manipulations. Working on such designs, I felt very unhappy with the architecture style. It did not interest me much. After

that, I joined Prabal Thapa architects. The reason I liked it was because of its rural environment projects. The rural and organic building style as if had grown on the site were very fascinating to me. After working for two and half years there, I was able to work on the Kopila valley school; The first rammed earth project of my life which was again a very rewarding experience. Later on, I joined NeedleWeave architects. There I again felt the same heaviness of not finding any joy in my designs which were mostly commercial. I started to introspect; I was so happy in PTA but why am I feeling low here? Why did I not enjoy work as much as before? After the earthquake, a lot of projects were cancelled. At this time, I got the opportunity to go to Solukhumbu, where a lot of monasteries had collapsed. There I did a few projects related to dry stone masonry which again invigorated my spirits. I find that during your youth stumbling, falling and finding yourself and what you want is very important and that is what I was doing.

But we always cannot compete with fate as after completing these projects, came the economic blockade. All works were into a complete halt and I decided to study Masters in the UK. During this time there was a NEA design competition called rural housing, where we won the second prize. Af-

ter which I left to join University. Even then, what I studied in my masters was not sustainable architecture but more building and urban design in development

When I returned to Nepal, the work I got was not related to what I had studied so I was planning to go to Africa to work in such related fields. My turning point was in 2018. In this year I started to teach and also got the first rammed earth project. It was for the director of ICIMOD who wanted a rammed earth structure for his home. A client of PTA, Hemendra Bohra had recommended my name as Prabal sir already had his hands full. Hemendra dai had a company called 'mato ghar' and has once approached me to join his company before leaving to the UK. Now looking back at things, everything seems to circle around. It feels like maybe rammed earth had been calling me for a while now, but I was too oblivious to it. After that I started getting continuous projects related to rammed earth. Almost a series has been developed and currently mato ghar. no.18 is being done. In mato ghar, I wanted translate our vernacular architecture to a contemporary form. Not to mimic or copy the decorative details but to translate it via its proportion and scale.



As I was teaching design studio at that time these things really helped me. To prepare for class, I started studying a lot of form and proportion ideas to help the students which in turn was also very helpful to me.

As a self-practicing architect, the sad thing is that you won't have any mentor guiding you thus you need to create your own mentors. I started following Sri Lankan architect Geoffrey Bawa, Austrian architect Bernardo Badar and their works in rural architecture. With the mentorship of Prabal Thapa sir, I have slowly started to feel that my design has started to go in a particular direction now.

2. You have taken part in a number of competitions and even won the resilient homes challenge in the earthquake category. Your words 'a village should look like a village and not like a mass housing' were very impactful. Could you elaborate on that?

The first competition we took was the JARS Nepal China earth reconstruction project, after that came the 2016 Rural housing design competition where we 2nd place. The resilient homes project was further developed from the ideas of the previous two competitions.

In my Fourth year when we studied

neighborhood planning, I did a case study of Aranya housing by BV Doshi. I was very impressed with his style of work. From his ideas, we stood by in our project that housing is a process where we enable users to design themselves. It was best to give them a structural model to work with such that, user can use it to expand and adapt to their own needs rather than adapt to what we design.

Our aim to take part in this competition was to challenge the status quo. For whatever that is happening right now in the name of reconstruction, we wanted to show that there is an alternative for so. In BV Doshi's Aranya, the owner could decide the style of house they wanted, and had the power in decision making. Even today I feel for a housing we should not be providing same style modular houses but rather giving them options for the same so that they can choose at will. This will omit the condition of row housing and take the shape of a settlement. The idea of this was while studying in the UK, I lived in a suburban area. Everyday watching the same styled same colored, quiet, row housing; what we might find very systematic and sophisticated is quite depressing to live in. There, I was constantly looking for variation, that feel of a settlement rather than an orderly

civilization. I believe we gravitate towards such chaos and the feeling of liveliness than total order in our environments. We need the controlled chaos purely from a psychological point of view. In architecture it means a controlled irregularity. So, in the competition our idea was to retain that character.

In another competition Co Design Milan Urban design, we proposed a design statement; Building that lives grows and dies. The them was an agile building or building that lasts forever. We still chose to challenge that statement by questioning why does a building need to last for ever why doesn't it just live grow and die. Our design was such that when the building is at its last stage, it can be dismantled to form a park. We took the honorary mentions for this project.

3. With almost 50+ certifications in online class of LinkedIn, are you very focused in self growth? How does your personality trait help in your field?

I am a person who constantly tries to self-improve. My favorite pass time is to read, I don't socialize a lot. I dislike dealing with a lot of people. I like working on myself more. I take a lot of business-related courses, as I run my own firm. I take course related to

teaching as well. To live according to your own, you can't work under others, but to survive on your own you need skills to keep you afloat. To take your fees from your clients is not easy, especially for young architects, you will wake up to reality once you enter society. You have to be very careful especially with the big clients as they will really round you up. A lot of negotiations, financial thinking is required. To not compromise your values, you need learn practicality.

4. As a teacher don't you think students should be taught these early on?

I personally feel this should not be included in the initial phases. To be too practical is still a problem because we become too commercial then. This should rather be included either during the internship or added in the licensing exams. The responsibility of academia is to teach a core set of skills. The practical part is to be learnt in internship and in practice. We should rather be rigorous in the design discipline. Our challenge is to learn the design in the real life.

5. What exactly is this real world design?

Design is always divided into academic design and real-world design. Academic design should always be 20-30 years ahead of the real-world design. Academia must be the one pushing the boundaries rather than learning from the real-world designs. It should think outside the box while real world design should be more problem solving to the need, requirement and aspiration of clients. Just like how Bauhaus pushed a whole movement, if we see throughout history, it has always been the academia that has pushed and brought forth new ideas and trends that shape the architecture of the decade.

Our problem is that, we are so much under the shadow of our heritage that we have been unable to get out of it. By keeping our heritage as a benchmark, we are trapped in a situation where anything below it seems unacceptable, but to live in the heritage of our past is also difficult. In the west, they are trying new trends, accepting its flaws then changing and evolving themselves. But we are stuck. Neither able to completely let go nor able to

embrace and move forward.

6. What is the core problem in our academic field according to you?

If we look at our own history, our academia was fueled by teachers studying in two different ideologies. From the Soviet Union and the from regional ideology. The technique of study, of both these places are totally different. The Soviet Union study's philosophy is that design has to be rational, it is a problem-solving tool but the teachers who studied in more regional nations believe that the design should be more artistic. The concept of abstract, philosophy of aesthetics come from here. My criticism is that everyone who followed these concepts did not try to read further up on them and understand the pros and cons of each. There is a book called design methods which shows many methods of design out of which we have learned only three. Response to site, Rational method and Abstract method. We have missed out on all other methods of design thinking. The cause for this is we don't read enough, as students and as teachers as well.

The main problem is that the syllabus has not been revised, there is no vision in the syllabus to show the type of architects we want to produce. By the end of the semester what should be expected is very vague. When I first started to teach school design to the 2nd years, written in the syllabus as goal was to introduce bubble diagram! That is the goal for a whole semester? A bubble diagram? I feel in academia, goals should be semester wise. In the third semester maybe, the goal should be problem solving of a family, how to address the need of a family etc in residence design. Then the goal in school design maybe sustainable architecture, in commercial the goal maybe effective ways of circulation, in stadium design perhaps the goal should be learning structure to relate in architecture. In this way when each semester has a different useful goal, the design methods are properly understood by students.

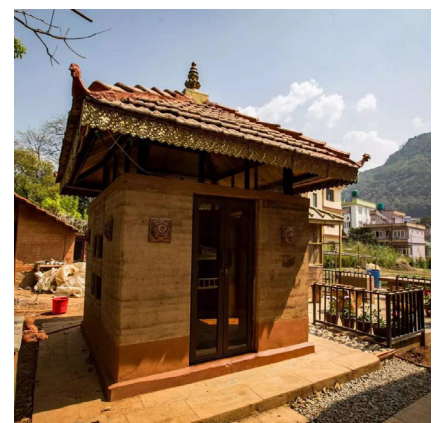
7. How do you see yourself as a teacher?

As a student, we had a teacher named Jayendra Dosh Sunwar, where he taught us design. He always focused more on process more than result. He

was so influential that, I have always felt that if I teach, I want to follow him. To be the person we wanted, when we were young is my teaching philosophy. I find academia very fulfilling when you want to go back to your core values and reassess yourself. In design studio I feel alive. A generation changes in 3 years, so I have also vowed to keep changing my teaching methods every three years to be more relevant. This is called pedagogical experiment i.e. to experiment on the methods of teaching. For the first three batch I followed the theme, 'learning from masters.' We gave each student two contradictory architects to study and follow one in their design while understanding the criticism of the other. This showed them multiple ways of thinking in design. The next batch followed elementalism in design. Taking the five elements and understanding their characteristics, students were to design based on so. For example, stable heavy structures for earth, dynamic forms for fire etc. I am now thinking the theme for the three next batches. This gives me the sense of fulfillment. As a junior teacher I had the opportunity to be paired with persons who listened to my ideas, and criticism. Who allowed me to set a new direction to the class and steer away from the traditional styles for which I am very grateful towards them. A collaborative environment is very necessary for academia to move forward.

8. Any concluding remarks for readers?

I feel it is necessary to make the life of others easy. Draw such that is easy on the contractor, design such that it simplifies the life of the client and teach such that it is not complicated for the student.



ARCASIA ACA20 – Boracay, Philippines



The ARCASIA 20th Asian Congress of Architects (ACA20) took place on 17th -23rd September 2023, in Boracay Island, Philippines. Organised by the United Architects of the Philippines, the event mainly brought to focus the Asian response to transformative change introduced by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which aimed "to build a new culture: one that embraced complexity, actively managed risk, continually adapted and seek to learn alongside delivering results" amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Congress had launched a call for papers that fit in the theme of the congress - : "Weaving a Future-Ready Environment" - with sub-themes:

1. Smart and Innovative Technologies
2. Community and Social Resilience
3. Architecture Education Gearing Up for the Future
4. Resilient and Adaptive Environments Sustainability and Our Future

Roundtable Meeting of Arcasia Committee on Architectural Education (ACAE) (18th September, 2023), Boracay, Philippines

Physical meeting of Arcasia Committee on Architectural Education (ACAE) was organized by United Architects of the Philippines (UAP) under the chairmanship of Adj. Prof. Ar. Adrianta Aziz from PAM. Besides the members of ACAE, there were ACAE delegates & observers, ACAE past chairs & guest from different countries. The coordinator of SONA committee on architecture education (SCAE), Ar. Arjun Basnet participated as official delegate while Ar. Shreesti Lohani participated as observer.

The meeting started with the adoption of last minutes of meeting at Ulaanbaatar, Mongila (42nd meeting of ACAE, 5th Sep, 2022) followed by special address by various ACAE past presidents. Then there were presentations from each member institutes that started from Zone A followed by B and C. Ar. Basnet, official delegate from SONA (Zone A), highlighted activities of SONA and Education Committee in addition to Arcasia students' thesis and design competition. He also highlighted on the needs and possibilities of cross

border internships, guest lectures from member institutes, research opportunities and students exchange program.



Roundtable Meeting of Arcasia Committee on Green and Sustainable Architecture (ACGSA) (18th September, 2023), Boracay, Philippines

The ARCASIA event in Boracay, Philippines, held from September 18 to September 22, featured a roundtable hosted by the ARCASIA Committee for Green and Sustainable Architecture. The coordinator of the SONA Committee on Green and Sustainable Architecture (SCGSA), Ar. Ruchi Bajracharya, took part as the main speaker, accompanied by Ar. Anju Malla Pradhan and Ar. Binaya Rajan Shrestha as observers.

The Chair of ACGSA, Ar. Tushar Sogani, commenced the session with an introduction, outlining the primary objective of the roundtable. The designated theme centered around the topic of NET ZERO CARBON EMISSION. Representatives from 11 other countries,

namely India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Macau, Japan, and South Korea, delivered comprehensive country reports during the roundtable. They shared valuable insights into their unique approaches and strategies aimed at addressing the challenge of achieving net-zero carbon emissions.

Beyond formal sessions, the event provided a networking opportunity. Professionals engaged in exchanges of ideas, experiences, and best practices. The collective commitment to a greener and more sustainable future was evident, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts within the global architecture community. The pos-

sibility of hosting a similar roundtable program even if online, was explored, ensuring continuity in the exchange of valuable insights.

In summary, the ARCASIA event in Boracay offered a focused discussion on net-zero carbon emissions, with professionals from various countries contributing insights and fostering collaboration in sustainable architecture.



ARCASIA thesis of the Year Award 2023

ARCASIA Thesis of the Year organized by ARCASIA and commissioned under the United Architects of the Philippines was announced on May 20, 2023 with a deadline on July 10, 2023 to ARCASIA member institute. Submission of 3 finalists from respective National

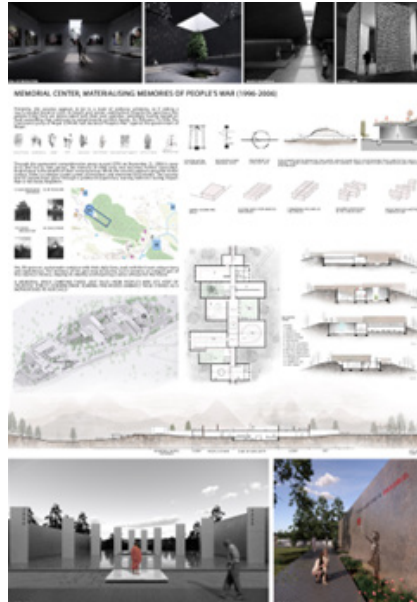
Institute of Architects to ACA20 team was on July 24, 2023. The declaration of results was out on August 18, 2023. As per the guidelines set by ARCASIA, Society of Nepalese architects selected top 3 finalist through a jury process. Renowned architects comprising of

Ar. Poonam Shah, Ar. Rajani Joshi and Ar. Rahul Muni Bajracharya provided us their valuable time for finalizing the top three. This year due to delay in final result of some universities, entries were received only from seven colleges which were sent to ARCASIA.

TOP 3 FINALIST



Sandeep Thakur
Innovation Center "A Cheerful Space for Collaboration and Creation"
 Institute of Engineering (IOE),
 Thapathali Campus



Rupa Sahukhal
Memorial Center, Materializing Memories of People's War (1996-2006)
 Institute of Engineering (IOE),
 Thapathali Campus



Bidhya Gupta
Vidaha Mandap: A Center for Mithila Art and Culture
 School of Engineering (KU)

ARCASIA students Architectural Design Competition 2023

ARCASIA organized design competition among the students from ARCASIA member countries organized by the ARCASIA Committee on Architectural Education (ACAE) Secretariat. The theme of competition was "Designing a Future-Ready Community Responding to the Most Challenging Social Condition" which

provided an opportunity for students from different cultures to exchange and share idea on particular design issue that is raised by ARCASIA every year. Total of 14 entries were received and group of three prominent architects were selected for the panel of jury for evaluation. Although submission of 3 finalists from respective

National Institute was initially announced, all 14 entries were submitted as requested by the organizers as there were less participation from other member institutes. The declaration of results was out on August 18, 2023.



ARCASIA STUDENT JAMBOREE 2023

From September 16 to September 26, 2023, Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCASIA) hosted the series of activities for the 20th Asian Congress of Architects (ACA20). Among them, ARCASIA Student Jamboree 2023 was one. It attracted more than 100 students and mentors from the 15 member association of architects of ARCASIA.

The ARCASIA Student Jamboree was a biennial event which was a parallel event of ARCASIA's Asian Congress of Architects (ACA). This 2023, ACA 20 and the Student Jamboree was held in Boracay Island, Philippines, voted as one of the best beaches in the world. The jamboree brought together students from the countries of ARCASIA's member institutes and provided a focus on a specific field of study, shared interest, or cultural exchange. The event comprised of following activities for 6 days :

- September 17 : Arrival of guests
- September 18: Registration and distribution of Jamboree Kits ; AAA Award night & Welcome dinner
- September 20: Student Jamboree Activities
- September 21: Islands Fiesta Night
- September 22: ARCASIALYMPICS & FRIENDSHIP NIGHT
- September 23: Departure from Boracay



A Student's Experience; ARCASIA Student Jamboree

- Anjana Basnet

I certainly believe that a strong determination to achieve anything in life comes with sheer luck and constant efforts. During my internship journey, I got selected as one of the students delegates amongst 18 other students to represent our country in ARCASIA student Jamboree 2023 which was held at Caticlan, Philippines and it turned out to be one of the most enriching experiences of my life.

In the heart of Boracay Island, Hotel Savoy, beneath a sky adorned with colorful flags representing countries from around the world, I embarked on a remarkable journey at the International Student Jamboree.

Upon arrival, there was an immediate buzz of excitement as students from various countries gathered in a central hall where we officially got registered for the program. The organizers had planned a diverse range of activities, including team-building exercises, workshops, and friendly competitions. This series of events, which took place from 16th September, was an unforgettable exploration of cultures, friendships, and personal growth.



From my very first day to the last, I felt surreal and a dream come true. Getting to know the architects around the world and make friends around the Asia with so much confidence and potentiality blew my mind.

One of the most striking aspects of the jamboree was the incredible diversity of participants. I had the privilege of meeting students from over 10 countries, each with their own stories, languages, and traditions. The daily interactions were a cultural mosaic - from learning traditional dances in the evenings to tasting exotic dishes prepared by fellow students, I was constantly immersed in a world of diversity.



The student jamboree offered an array of workshops and seminars that were both educational and entertaining. On the very first day, we had an interaction session where we got to know our fellow friends from around the Asia and developed a bond with them. I attended workshops on global sustainability, intercultural communication, and future of architecture. These sessions expanded my horizons and encouraged me to think critically about global issues.

Getting to hear from the Keynote speakers like Ar. Datuk P. Kasi, Ar. Jose Luis Cortes, Ar. Kate Schwennsen, Ar. Andras Krizan surely gave me an immersive experience. I also got to be the team leader representing different countries for an activity where I got to interact directly with Ar. Kasi and Ar. Jose. These sessions provided insights into potential career paths and inspired us to pursue our passions.

One of the most surreal experiences I got to encounter was the Pool party. Oh! the fun we had! Missing out a dinner never felt so good. Friendship Night was also one of the most memorable days as our dance performance won the heart and also the competition. Nepal won the friendship night competition. It was extremely overwhelming for us.



The International Student Jamboree was not just an event; it was a life-changing experience that broadened my horizons, enriched my perspective, and introduced me to lifelong friends from across the globe. It reinforced my belief that in embracing diversity, we discover the true beauty of humanity.

Earth Bag Construction Training

Ar. Ruchi Bajracharya

On October 6th, 2023, the SONA Committee for Green and Sustainable Architecture, in collaboration with Good Earth Global, hosted the "Earth Bag Construction" event at Gokarna Restaurant, Chhetrapati. The workshop attracted a mix of students and architects keen on exploring sustainable building practices.

Roshan Kumar Jha, managing director for Good Earth Global presented and conducted the theory training, shared insights into the principles and applications of earth bag construction, making the concept more tangible for attendees.

The event featured the workability of earth bag construction technique and its successful implementation on various location around Nepal. This collaboration reflects the shared commitment of two organizations dedicated to sustainable building practices. SONA, with its focus on green architecture, and Good Earth Global, with its mission of earth-conscious construction, have come together to pro-

vide with insights into Earthbag construction technology.

Good Earth Global seeks to develop and build structures in collaboration with members of local communities, aligning with their needs. The organization's mission is clear: to employ and promote Earthbag technology and other sustainable building methods while imparting these skills to others. Good Earth Global utilizes the soil found beneath our feet to help villagers in developing countries create disaster-resistant, affordable, and eco-friendly homes and schools. Additionally, they play an important role in educating an emerging class of builders, architects, and engineers in the art of safe and sustainable construction.

The event was not limited to theoretical exploration; Good Earth Global extended a unique opportunity for interested volunteers. Participants were invited to join an on-site construction initiative from October 15 to 18. The location for this training was at Nuwakot. This initiative provided vol-

unteers with a chance to apply their knowledge in a real-world setting, gaining hands-on experience in the implementation of sustainable construction practices.

In conclusion, the Earth Bag Construction workshop was a successful endeavour, bringing together a diverse group of participants to learn, connect, and explore sustainable building practices. The SONA Committee and Good Earth Global anticipate future initiatives that continue to drive positive change in the realm of sustainable architecture.



SOCIETY OF NEPALESE ARCHITECTS
in collaboration with
GOOD EARTH GLOBAL

EARTH BAG CONSTRUCTION TRAINING (THEORY)

Roshan Kumar Jha
Managing Director
Good Earth Global

SONA, COMMITTEE FOR GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE
FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
GOKARNA HOUSE RESTAURANT, CHHETRAPATI, THAMEL, KATHMANDU

6 OCTOBER, 2023; Friday
04:00 pm - 06:00 pm

BEEN Training of Trainers (TOT)

Ar. Nishaj Kunwar



At a time when environmental awareness is at the forefront of global concerns, the construction industry is making great strides towards sustainable practices. Green building initiatives have become a central force in minimizing environmental impact and promoting energy efficiency.

To advance this movement, the concept of "Train the Trainer in Green Buildings" is gaining momentum, developing a cadre of professionals who can disseminate fundamental knowledge and skills in sustainable building practices. BEEN (BUILDING Energy Efficiency in Nepal) is a four-year project from March 2022 to February

2026, funded by the European Commission under the SWITCH Asia program. The Green Building Trainer Training Program aims to develop a workforce of educators and professionals who can teach sustainable building practices. BEEN in collaboration with Society of Nepalese Architects (SONA) conducted the Training of Trainers from September 19, 2023 to September 23, 2023 at Dhulikhel Lodge Resort, Kavrepalanchowk.

Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Wolfgang Streicher Professor for Energy Efficient Building with Focus on Renewable Energy and Ar. Saswati Chetia (Director, Green Tech

Knowledge Solutions Pvt. Limited (GK-SPL), Delhi, India Team Leader-BEEN (GKSPL) conducted the training for 5 days. Total of 30 architects participated in the training program. Participants completed comprehensive training covering a variety of topics including energy efficient design, water conservation, waste reduction, and the use of environmentally friendly materials. This program educated trainers on the latest industry standards, technological advances, and innovative solutions in the green building field.

This basic knowledge is the basis for effective training. Participants developed the basic principles of green building and the importance of energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, and sustainable materials. With this knowledge, trainers can help construction professionals meet regulatory standards and obtain certification for their projects. The program includes modules on communication and outreach strategies that enable trainers to engage with and inspire diverse audiences.

BEEN Validation Workshop



Representatives from SONA participated in the validation workshop organized by BEEN on 25th Bhadra 2080 (11th September 2023), at Hotel Himalaya, Lalitpur, Nepal. The participants were Ar. Bibhutiman Singh, Ar. Anju Malla Pradhan, Ar. Prabal Shumsher Thapa, Ar. Sanjaya Upreti, Ar. Gyanendra Shakya, Ar. Ujjawal Man Shakya and Ar. Arjun Basnet. The workshop mainly focused in discussing the contents and subjects within the manual "Manual for energy-efficient building design for designers (architects and engineers) prepared by BEEN. BEEN has been working to contribute to achieve the objective of low-carbon and resource-efficiency in building sector.



SONA DAY

On the occasion of 33th anniversary of Society of Nepalese Architects, SONA 15th executive committee celebrated SONA Day on Nov 3, at Lainchaur Banquet, Kathmandu. The program was observed by the auspicious presence of chief guest Honourable Minister of Urban Development, Ms. Sita Gurung; special guests Ar. Aman Maskey, Parliamentarian of Bagmati Province; Deputy Mayor of Kathmandu Metropolitan city, Ms. Sunita Dangol; Deputy Mayor of Bhaktapur Municipality, Ar. Rajani Shrestha Joshi, along with representatives from Nepal Engineering Council, Nepal Engineer's Association, Nepal Geotechnical Society, Society of Structural engineers, and distin-

guished personnels from academic and professional institutions.

The SONA brochure prepared by the 15th committee was unveiled during the inauguration ceremony by SONA president Ar. Ishwor Joshi, along with special guests in the program. Welcome remark was delivered by vice president of SONA Ar. Bhuvaneshwori Parajuli, followed by a cultural performance that had won the ARCASIA cultural night award in Philippines. Greetings by representative of professional societies were given on the occasion of SONA day, including Prof. Dr. Padam Bahadur Shahi (Nepal Engineering Council), Dr. Hari Bahadur Darlami (Nepal engineer's Asso-

ciation), Dr. Rajan Suwal (Society of Structural engineers), and Dr. Mandip Subedi (Nepal geotechnical society). All of them discussed on how coordination of each sector with architecture is important and how the type of gathering at a place can help resolve difference and bring integrated outcome in projects.

Remarks were provided on the occasion of SONA day by the Chief guest and special guest, and closing remarks were provided by the president of SONA Ar. Ishwor Joshi. The program was followed by fellowship entertainment and cocktail dinner.

Celebrating Architectural Excellence: A Recap of the 2023 SONA

- Reeti Shrestha

The 33rd SONA Day in 2023 resonated with the spirit of innovation and artistry as the prestigious SONA Excellence Awards unfolded, recognizing exceptional architectural achievements across diverse categories. A remarkable 23 entries competed, showcasing the depth and breadth of architectural talent in the region. SONA had called for entries for the 'Thesis of the year Award 2023', where 11 architecture colleges participated. Similarly, SONA had also called for entries for the 'SONA excellence Award 2023', under residential, commercial, institutional and hospitality category, and the winners were all felicitated by the chief guest, honourable minister of urban development. All the entries were anonymously judged by the panel of juries including senior professionals in the architecture fraternity of Nepal.



Ar. Rakshya Raimajhi for Kopila Valley School



Ar. Naresh Maharjan for Residential Category



Sarosh Pradhan and Associates for Tenzing Norgay Sherpa Heritage Centre



Sajjan Lama fo Thesis of the Year award

RESIDENTIAL CATEGORY

In the Residential Category, Architect Naresh Maharjan emerged victorious with their contemporary brick and concrete project nestled in Kirtipur. Brick, with its timeless warmth, formed the canvas, while bold concrete elements, imbued with modern lines bridging the gap between new and old.

DESIGN CONCEPT FOR RESIDENCE

This modern space, solid and livable with a modern contemporary look in brick and concrete mixed design. The building design is a response to the client's desire of a modern house which is unique yet functional.

CONCEPT FOR PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The main challenge we faced in this project was the irregular geometry of the site. The site is a flat trapezoidal plot with a long facade on the north side (Fig. 1) and was a point of worry for the client for its irregularity. The plot is a north-facing one and hence another challenge for the designer to be addressed was the provision of an equal amount of light in every room. The main three constraints were a) availability of the site but rather 'look & as a point of inspiration for concept development.

In order to give justice to the long corridor, we designed it as a homogeneous project with the geometry of the site. The design intention was with extraction of light pockets from the site in North and South East corner (Fig. 2) which gave the precedence to the building footprint. The extraction of light pockets increased the building's external facade allowing more placement of the windows for maximum entry of light as well as facilitated cross ventilation.

The ground floor caters the public zone facilitating common areas like living room, subterranean and guest room which the private areas like the bedroom, puga room and a music room has been vertically segregated on the upper floors.

Barrier free planning has been adopted in the living room connected with an open staircase (Fig. 3). This has allowed the family members for a better interaction in the living room with each other. The south-pitched roof, clad in the exterior also continues to the exterior making the project homogeneous inside and out.

One of the interesting features inside the house is the triangular staircase which is placed centrally for maximizing the circulation. The oak-colored wooden finish triangular staircase, well-lit with a skylight above, has created a sense of dynamism while creating vertically inside the building.

CONCEPT FOR 3D DEVELOPMENT

The juxtaposition of the South-pitched brick wall and a floating protruding box creates a dynamic and visually engaging 3D in the facade (Fig. 4 and Fig. 5). This juxtaposition of the rectangular volumes (vol. 1 & vol. 2) seen in Fig. 4 connects to the people walking on the road as shown in the sketches and images. The concept itself was to make the assembly feel that the building is actually looking back to you and want to connect with you in one, by providing a sense of approach to the walkers in the respective direction (Fig. 5, Fig. 6, Fig. 7).

Fig. 1: North facing trapezoidal site

Fig. 2: Extraction of light pocket for light and ventilation

Fig. 3: open concept plan

Fig. 4: volumetric extraction

Fig. 5: conceptual sketch

Fig. 6: conceptual sketch

Fig. 1: North facing trapezoidal site

Fig. 2: Extraction of light pocket for light and ventilation

Fig. 3: open concept plan

Fig. 4: volumetric extraction

Fig. 5: conceptual sketch

Fig. 6: conceptual sketch

Fig. 7: Design sketch to Shape

Fig. 8: Final image after completion

LIVING ROOM

DINING AND KITCHEN

STAIRCASE WELL

STAIRCASE AND CORRIDOR

COMMERCIAL/ HOSPITALITY/ HEALTH CATEGORY

Moving onto the Commercial/Hospitality/Health category, Architect Rakshya Rayamajhi's Early Childhood Village in Kopila Valley School resonated with a commitment to both sustainability and cultural sensitivity. Nestled amidst the landscape, the school embraced local materials like earth, bamboo, and timber, crafting toxin-free buildings that gracefully incorporated earthquake-resistant techniques and celebrated the region's vernacular heritage. This architectural haven nurtured not only young minds but also a deep connection to the environment.

EARLY CHILDHOOD VILLAGE KOPILA VALLEY SCHOOL, BIRENDRANAGAR, SURKHET

"Earth and sky, woods and fields, lakes and rivers, the mountain and the sea, are excellent schoolmasters, and teach us more than we can ever learn from books."

— JOHN LUBBOCKE



PROJECT: EARLY CHILDHOOD VILLAGE KOPILA VALLEY SCHOOL

Location: Birendranagar, Surkhet, Nepal
Area: 683 sq. m (built up area: 371 sq.m)
Budget: Approx. 350k USD
Completed: 2018. Duration of Construction: 14 months
Clients name: Kopila valley school
Contractors Details:
Studios Name: ABARI, Dhoobhara, Marg

Early Childhood Village

Kopila Valley School is co-founded by Top Malla and Maggie Doyle who built the children's home for orphans and underprivileged children of West Nepal. It is primarily designed to cater to a holistic learning space, and living space for the children, supplemented by a permaculture farm, a women's centre and center for learning for the local community.

The school provides 400 students with health care and nutritious food most of which is grown in their own farm, and employs around 50 people, including teachers, staff, a principal, vice-principal, health administrator, counselor and a health technician. The curriculum supplements the Nepal national curriculum with additional teaching and learning in literature, art, theater, music and sports.

ECV (early childhood village) is a separate wing within the site of the school this unit was proposed to cater children with age group from 2-5 years old (capacity 50 nos). With respect to the kids health during their early years in account the client wanted the building which was toxic free so local materials were considered as such (earth, bamboo, timber).



The U-shape rammed earth and bamboo building opens up to the western sky, thus shading harsh summer sun which can cross 40 degree Celsius (over 104 F). With thick rammed earth walls, intricate bamboo truss, Early Childhood Village in Kopila Valley school is built by combining all the earthquake resistant techniques that we have learned over the last 8 years, the two storey bamboo and earth is school is finally up and running.

Located in the far-western region of Nepal in the emerging town of Surkhet, ECV aims to be a model not only in terms of pedagogy but also in terms of sustainable construction that is very proud and in sync with the vernacular architectural heritage of the country.

All the building materials are harvested locally. The colorful soils for rammed earth walls are borrowed from the surrounding mountains. There is no cement stabilization, because that would inhibit the walls breathing capacity and it will not make the materials reusable in future. Walls are coated with casein that is milk protein, in order to make them water resistant. Earthen walls are reinforced with synthetic mesh and rebars to make the structure earthquake resistant.

The trusses, beams and rafters are made from locally sourced bamboo. Bamboos are strong, ductile and light, akin to the properties of carbon fiber, thus making the building earthquake resistant. Bamboo are sourced from Chitwan which are further treated and used. As this relatively rural district is urbanizing, the building will act as a reference point for new construction. It is creating a new building typology that seamlessly integrates the tradition with modern sensibility.



(ribcage like frame structure to safeguard our heart(children))



(students flying high concept echoed on the walls(birds))



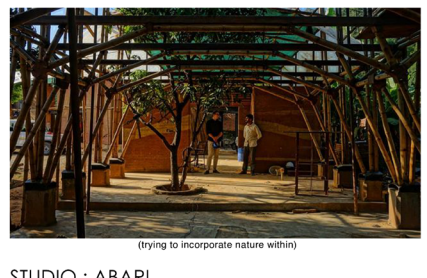
(spacious lively classrooms)



(celebrations of materials)



(outdoor setting embedded in nature)

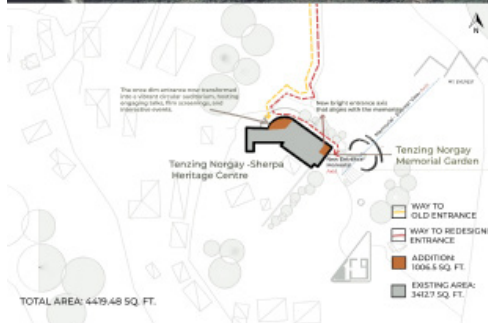
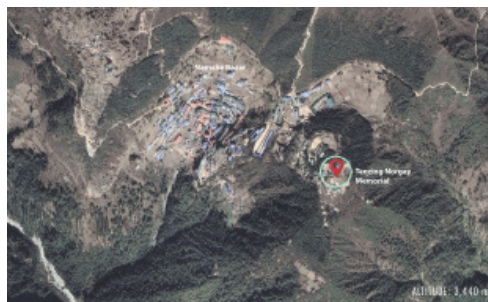


(trying to incorporate nature within)

STUDIO : ABARI
PROJECT ARCHITECT: RAKSHYA RAYAMAJHI

REFURBISHMENT PROJECT CATEGORY

In the domain of Refurbishment Projects, Sarosh Pradhan and Associates ascended to new heights with their revitalization of the Tenzing Norgay Sherpa Heritage Centre, perched at a breathtaking 3440 metres. Their meticulous vision imbued the centre with fresh life, honouring its historical significance while introducing engaging interactive spaces. A newly aligned entrance now framed the memorial, granting breathtaking views of Mt. Everest. A circular auditorium further invited vibrant dialogues and storytelling, connecting visitors to the site's rich legacy.



Tenzing Norgay- Sherpa Heritage Centre and Memorial Garden

LOCATION: NAMCHE BAZAR, SAGARMATHA NATIONAL PARK

Project: Tenzing Norgay Sherpa Heritage Centre and Memorial Garden (Refurbished Sagarmatha National Park Visitor's Centre)

Location: Namche Bazar, Everest Region

Category: Refurbishment

Client's name: Sagarmatha Buffer Zone National Park

Year: 2022-2023




INTERIOR DESIGN CATEGORY

Stepping into the realm of Interior Design, Kalpasara Studio's revitalization of the City College for NAMI stole the spotlight. Their resourceful and creative approach transformed the space, showcasing the beauty of repurposing. Debris found new life as captivating decor, while nature took centre stage as jute wove intricate patterns, imbuing the college with a unique, sustainable soul.

FRONT DESK INTERIORS

Doing Things Differently:
Turning Debris to Decor:


The art displayed as an integral part of the reception interior of this college, is a collaborative work with the local junk artist based in Kathmandu. Both the Architect and Artist with a mutual brainstorming session defines the concept, size, texture and material. All the medium and items used for making this art are junk items thrown away from the household, offices, factory etc, which are put together as a concept in the given space. This common goal of creating a unified interior ambience not only decorates the space but also helps for a sustainable cause to reduce the landfill site by turning debris to decor.




WASTE DEBRIS
ART WORK
WALL PANELING
LOCAL JUTE WEAVE

Turning Nature to Material:

Nepali jute fiber comes from a jute plant cultivated in Sunsari, Morang and Jhapa, the terai regions of Nepal. These fibers are converted to ropes, jute bags, etc. Here our effort is to turn the different thickness of ropes into intricate patterns of weaves, and using as a wall cladding, furniture cladding or furnishing products such as floor mat, door mat, floor decor etc. In this college interior, we have used it as a part of furniture wall cladding blending with the wall art as a backdrop of the reception.



Visualization




Doing Things Differently:
Using Logo:

We introduced different design approach to display the logo of the college. Instead of using the literal brand image, we used its color, maroon on the front part of the reception table and adorned it with the lotus shape in brass material. This approach of using the brand color and logo in a new way, created the opportunity of bringing variety in design and uniqueness in style and ambience to its interior giving a Nepali touch and feel!

CITY COLLEGE FOR NAMI
SCALE: 1:100

THESIS OF THE YEAR AWARD

Beyond category winners, the SONA Excellence Awards also recognized exceptional student work. Sajan Lama from the Himalaya College of Engineering received the coveted Thesis of the Year award for his innovative project titled "Dora: A Celebration Space." This visionary design captured the jury's imagination with its potential to foster meaningful gathering and connection space.



Plan at 2.5M Lvl



Section AT G-G



New Contemporary House Design






Architectural Education in the Digital Age: “Navigating Innovation, Sustainability, and Immersive Design Technologies

- Reeti Shrestha

The dynamic nature of architectural education is closely intertwined with the use of digital technologies, ranging from simple drafting to sophisticated 3D modelling and virtual reality. Recent technological progress has introduced cutting-edge tools to aspiring architects, revolutionising traditional teaching methods. This evolution emphasises the integration of technology into design and construction processes, enabling students to gain practical skills and stay abreast of the latest advancements.

Immersive technologies like Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) have completely transformed the learning experience. These tools allow students to step into virtual realms, offering a unique chance to physically engage with their architectural creations in three dimen-

sions. Beyond enhancing spatial understanding, they establish a deep connection between the architect and their design.

Parametric design software has become a pivotal element in modern architectural studios. By enabling students to explore intricate, algorithm-driven forms, this technological shift not only encourages a more iterative design process but also prepares students for the ever-evolving architectural landscape.

The intersection of sustainability and technology in education is particularly noteworthy. Simulation tools empower students to meticulously examine the environmental impact of their designs, fostering a conscientious approach to sustainability. As the architectural field leans towards eco-friendly practices, students equipped with these tools are

better positioned to contribute significantly to a greener future.



In summary, the integration of technology into architectural education empowers students to explore, innovate, and create. Beyond that, it equips them with a crucial skill set needed to navigate the evolving architectural world. Embracing these technological tools ensures that the architects of tomorrow are well-prepared to shape a sustainable and visually captivating built environment.

Unveiling the Artistry in Architectural Photography

- Reeti Shrestha

In the dynamic intersection of art and construction, architectural photography emerges as a captivating form of expression, weaving a narrative that transcends mere picture-taking. It resembles a beautiful melody composed with pixels where buildings become a source of inspiration for the discerning eye. This specialised form of photography not only captures the essence of construction projects but also immortalises their timeless beauty, showcasing the intricate details and telling a compelling visual story. It goes beyond documenting the construction process, focusing on the art, science, and craftsmanship of architecture and construction, requiring a keen eye for details, composition, and lighting.

The heart of architectural photography lies in the careful arrangement of elements. As photographers navigate through cityscapes, the interplay of lines, angles, and shadows takes the spotlight. It's not just about taking pictures of buildings; it's about telling stories with careful attention to detail. This art form requires a skilled touch, bringing poetry to the struc-

tured world of architecture.

Light, that magical artist, is both the conductor and inspiration in this visual performance. The dance between sunlight and shadows directs a dynamic spectacle, revealing the delicate details and concealed features of architectural wonders. Through the camera lens, photographers become like magicians, transforming daylight into warm tones that breathe life into their visual stories.

In the age of technological advancement, architectural photography goes beyond the ordinary. It's a canvas where pixels act like brushstrokes, and image editing is the palette, enabling artists to mould emotions and evoke feelings of nostalgia. Each photograph is like an emotional poem, inviting viewers to stroll through the stories of human creativity.

Yet, beyond the technical side, architectural photography is a way of preserving culture. It immortalises the spirit of a particular time, reflecting societal nuances and dreams. Each picture narrates a story—an account of progress, heritage, and the intricate relationship between form

and function.

In the vast world of artistic expression, architectural photography serves as a tribute to human creativity, turning everyday scenes into something extraordinary. It's an innovative way of storytelling, blending engineering with artistic flair to capture the fleeting beauty of our architectural surroundings.



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THE ECO HUB

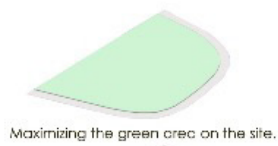
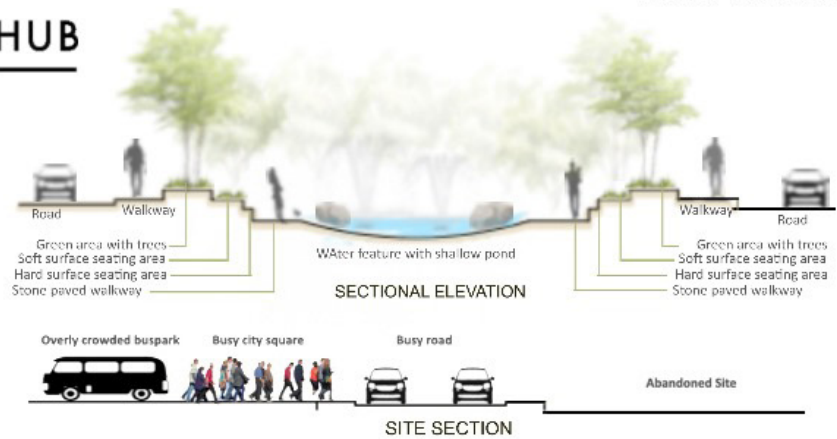
CONCEPT

-Reconceiving an underutilized city block into a catalyst for urban transformation that serves as a model for the sustainable use of natural resources in the region.

-Abandoned site into a social hub that meets the programmatic needs of the local community.

-Design characterized by a spatial system of mass versus void, open versus enclosed, garden space versus program space.

-Further inspiration from the regional landscape can be seen through the use of materials, forms and programming.



Maximizing the green area on the site.



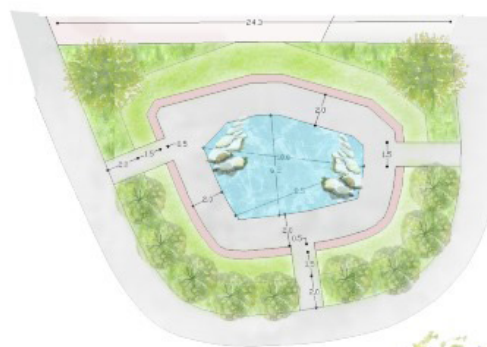
Dividing the site into three layers.



Dividing the green spaces into two halves to create soft surface for seating.



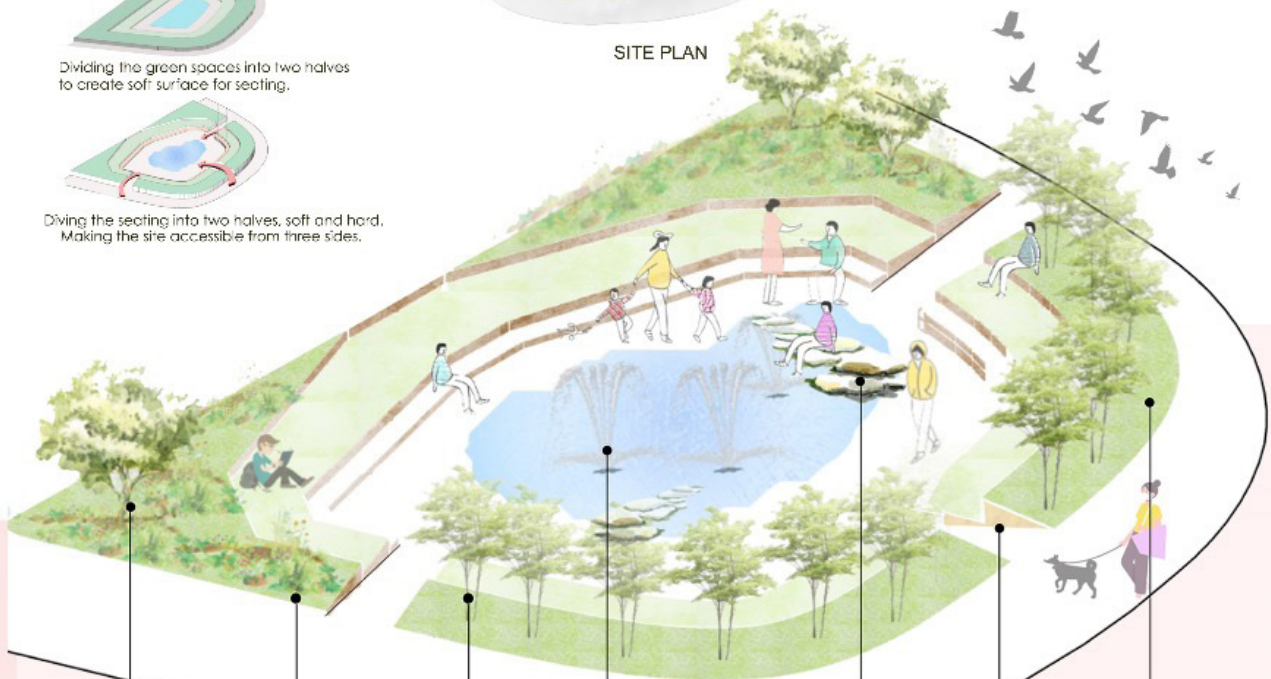
Dividing the seating into two halves, soft and hard. Making the site accessible from three sides.



SITE PLAN

DESIGN STRATEGY

- Trees acting as a barrier for noise pollution by absorbing sound.
- Trees purifying the air which reduces air pollution.
- Seating around pond creates an engaging environment for users.
- Management of crowd by providing enough seating areas.



Planting strategy imitating a true forest.



SHADE TREES



NATIVE SPECIES



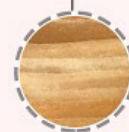
NATIVE TREES
JACARANDA TREE



WATER FOUNTAIN



LOCAL ROCKS



RAMMED EARTH



FLOWER BED

AUTHOR: AR. PRATIKSHA BHUSAL



15th National ASA Architectural Exhibition



where every steps unfold a verse in architectural journey

5th, 6th and 7th of Magh

Venue: Department of Architecture, Pulchowk Campus
Time 10:00 am Onwards



NATIONAL LEVEL EXHIBITION AND FEST

MAGH 17-18

VENUE: THAPATHALI CAMPUS, THAPATHALI

SUPPORTED BY:



COLLABORATIVE EVENT BY:



PRE EVENTS

- Ansys Workshop on Ansys
- 3D Design Competition
- Ideathon
- Tech Talk
- Automobile Component Demonstration
- Junk Art Orientation
- Multiple Talk Shows
- Architecture Design Competition
- Model Making
- Live Art Competition
- Sustainable Practice Workshop
- Magazine Launch
- Photography Competition
- Workshop on ETABS
- Speech Competition
- Meme Competition
- Code Masters
- Public Competition
- Quiz Competition
- Flash Fiction
- Public Speaking Workshop
- Ergonomic Design Competition
- Bachchal & Chungi
- Olympiad

MAIN EVENTS

- Junk Art Competition
- Automobile Component Demonstration
- Vintage Ford Display
- 3D Model Demonstration
- Catapult Game
- Tango-Charlie (Photobooth)
- Treasure Hunt
- Rubbersband Racing
- Project Demonstration
- Architecture Thesis Exhibition
- Architecture Student's Work Display
- Model Display
- Pottery
- Civil Model Competition
- Paper Bridge Competition
- Mixed Design Competition
- Shake Table Competition
- Demo of Brick Bones
- Model Competition
- Coding Competition
- Robo War
- Robo Soccer
- Industrial Final Project Demonstration
- Photobooths
- Concert

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S O A S presents

PURWANCHAL ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION 2.0



The Journey unfolds

MAGH 19, 20 AND 21

If you have any suggestions or want to publish any contents please email to us.



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