

mc book

mcgans ooty school of architecture 2012-2013





From the Director's Desk

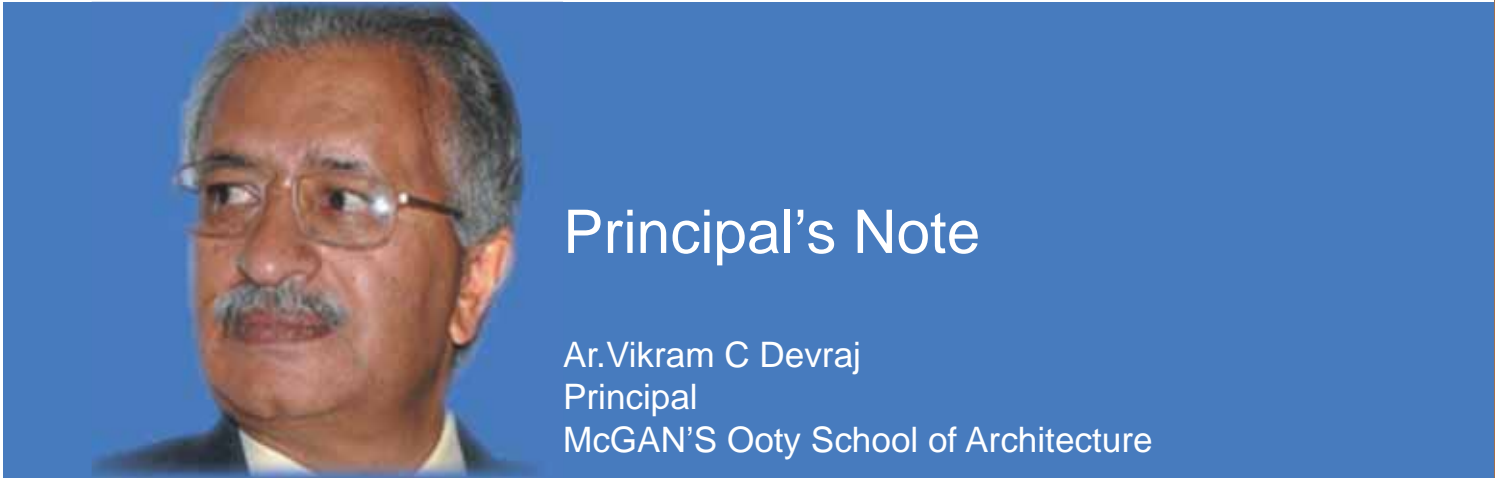
Ar.Solomon D Vedamuthu
Director
McGAN'S Ooty School of Architecture

One of the most important reasons, which was instrumental in compelling me to accept the appointment as Director, McGan's Ooty School of Architecture (MOSA), was its Location. I still feel it will always remain McGan's major PLUS POINT.

Ideally set, not only in one of the country's most scenic spots, the college has all the potential of shaping up into one of the finest Schools of Architecture in the country, in which any ardent, passionately aspiring architecture student can get groomed in totality ; into becoming an "Architect" in the true sense. The air that one breathes in the campus is not only rejuvenating, it also stimulates the five senses of anyone who is creatively inclined. This apart, the teaching faculty - each and everyone of them hand-picked by the Academic Board, which in turn is wholeheartedly and strongly supported by the Management - are a dedicated, diligent and vibrant young lot.

With more than thirty years of experience, not only as a practicing Architect, but also as a Professional Design Educator, who has trained scores of aspirants in all design disciplines, I can without the slightest hesitation state that creative learning in a stand-alone architectural academy of MOSA 's potential standing and location can truly be a very exciting and fulfilling experience.

Last but not the least, the management of McGan's, a family of lawyers who have been the legal consultants for the Council of Architecture for more than ten years, and whose primary aim is to establish a School of Architecture of global prominence and international standards, will, I am sure, achieve and realize their dream, considering all the major factors that contribute to make any lofty dream come true are in their favour. But the vital factor is the ideal setting and environment in which McGan's Ooty School of Architecture is situated, most conducive for any School of architecture to flourish, given all the other necessary conditions are uncompromisingly adhered to.



Principal's Note

Ar. Vikram C Devraj
Principal
McGAN'S Ooty School of Architecture

Welcome to the Nilgiris. Now that you have chosen to spend your next five years at the McGans Ooty School of Architecture, away from the cocooned comforts of Home and a structured school environment, you will experience, along with pangs of loneliness and feelings of anxiety, a sense of independence and freedom.

As you will be sharing space with your contemporaries with varied interests and Backgrounds, inevitable in a country as diverse as ours, You will learn to respect and be sensitive to their needs.

A quick scan of the "Handbook for Students" will give you an insight of what is required of you as a Student - A broad framework of the Rules and Regulations you are expected to adhere to. The College Calender will help you keep track of your Academic schedules. Members of the Faculty will guide you if you need clarity on any issue.

Our intention on campus is to provide you a suitable environment and allow you the space to dream and the freedom to express your thoughts in the language of Architecture. To help you unleash your creative and other hidden talents inherent in each one of you, to monitor your performance in the studios and be a mentor for your activities within and outside the gates of McGAN'S.

I wish all of you a wonderful journey ahead.



Correspondent's Note

Mr. Jayaprakash Gandhi
Correspondent and Advisor
McGAN'S Ooty School of Architecture

As we understand Architecture is a challenging profession, we at McGAN's Ooty School of Architecture tend to create a reformation through Architectural education to meet those challenges. Our students are motivated to work on the competition designs, exposed to latest trends of architecture and its components that helps them in developing Innovative thinking for a life beyond 'just a survival' state. The undergraduate program at McGAN's Ooty School of Architecture affiliated to Anna University, Chennai provides grounding in liberal and technological knowledge through studio-based design education and emphasizes creativity and the ability to seek and solve problems related to the built and inhabited environment. There is a level of programmatic richness and complexity here, which you will not find at many other schools. We also offer Masters in Architecture (M.Arch) - Environmental Architecture, a specialization that has been framed with a forethought to the futuristic need of the architecture industry.

McGAN'S School is completely dedicated to Architecture education and is in a developing process, yet we are proud that we have much better facilities and cream layered faculty members available at this residential campus helping the students in their progressions. It is just a five year old institution that has still not got its alumnus has established its remarkable presence amidst numerous Architecture collages in India. There are regular celebrity guest lecture conducted in the campus, to enhance and appreciate the quality delivers from the students.

This year, the students association of MOSA, called 'illuminati' has been set to shine through the online blog that is available in this site, to help the students in easy sharing of Architectural Case studies and an unanimous understanding of their Design projects. We have worked on the online portfolio management system for the convenience of the students in showcasing their works whenever required. We are still coming up with such innovative ideas and lots more infrastructure facilities to bring in a better learning experience in the years to come.

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Cover Photo :

An evening view of Signature Bridge, Mumbai by Josu B Sebastian
III year, B.Arch., McGAN'S Ooty School of Architecture.



“McGan’s Ooty School of Architecture” in conjunction with the Council of Architecture (CoA), New Delhi, and its academic unit - National Institute for Advanced Studies in Architecture (NIASA), Pune, hosted the 7th Annual National Awards for Excellence in Architectural Thesis 2012- South Zone V which was held on campus on the 13, 14, and 15 September 2012.

The event included a three day exhibition of the best Thesis projects submitted by the final year students in B.Arch undergraduate courses this academic year from different Architectural colleges under South Zone V



The exhibition was inaugurated on 13th September 2012 by the Chief Guest, Prof. Althaf Ahmed in the presence of the College's Director Prof. Solomon D Vedamuthu, Principal Prof. Vikram C Devraj and the then Dean Prof. David Carun." Then the exhibits were open for the students and the exchange of ideas happened among students. It gave everyone a variety of ideas related to design and presentation.



Stalwarts from the field of architecture- Prof Jayashree Deshpande (Director- NIASA Pune), Ar. Prakash Deshmukh and the special jury members constituted by the CoA namely Ar. Sirish Sukhatme, Ar. Anirudh Paul and Ar. Surya Kakani were involved in short listing the 10 best entries which were presented by the students on the final day of the event.

The jury was open to the general public, students and faculty from all regional Colleges of Architecture, eminent citizens and the media.

After the brain storming session of the Jury, 2 best Thesis were selected for the All India competition of the same.

“The jury was open to the general public, students and faculty from all regional Colleges of Architecture, eminent citizens and the media”



Clay Modelling



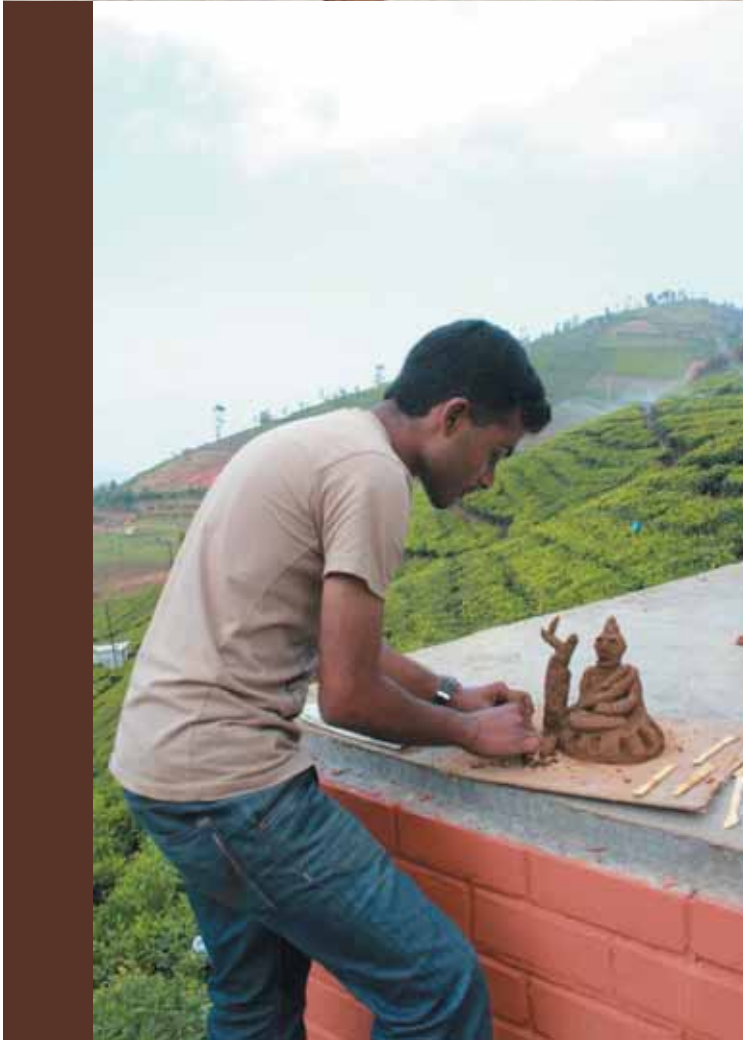
The college organized a sculpture making workshop for the students of first year as part of an Art Studio assignment. This workshop was headed by Artists Harikrishnan and Gnana Sooriyan. The students were first given dry clay mud which had to be mixed with the right proportion of water to make the clay for sculpting. They used their feet to make the mixture in a huge open barrel. After the right consistency was derived, it was divided in equal mounds sufficient for 75 students. The mounds were left aside for a day to set.

Next noon, after the clay was set, each of them was asked to make an interesting sculpture out of it. The theme was left to their choice. While they were pondering over what to make, the art studio professors had begun their journey towards making something that later looked like a sizeable dino's jaw.

With some identifiable, some abstract, some creative products and some castles falling apart, the day closed at 4.30 p.m.

The next morning the sculptures were set to a certain extent although they couldn't be baked to perfection. The open corridor outside the studios was lined up for the jury to mark the works. The sculptures were diverse. They ranged from replicas of iconic buildings, to regular products redesigned, to interesting busts, to abstract depictions of life. Ultimately, each of the works distinctively portrayed the character of the sculptor.





“Ultimately, each of the works distinctively portrayed the character of the sculptor.”



To Revive

-Athira Sathyan



Indian architecture encompasses a multitude of expressions and culture, accommodating new ideas, resulting in an evolving range of architectural production. Starting from the earliest ruins of the Indus valley civilization, characterized by the well laid out cities and houses, the architectural styles have been constantly shaped according to the necessities of human and the local traditions.

Under the Mauryan, the Gupta, the Chola Empire and their successors, several Buddhist structures such as the monumental Sanchi stupa were built in the North, while the South produced several Hindu temples like the Madurai Meenakshi temple, the Shore temple. With the advent of the Islamic influence from the west, Indian architecture adapted itself to encompass the traditions of the new religion, creating structural monuments like the Taj Mahal, Qutb Minar, often used as the stereotypical symbols of India. The colonial rule of the British empire witnessed the amalgamation of different styles, Indo-Saracenic being the main architectural style.

“Indian architecture encompasses a multitude of expressions and culture.”

Under Nehru, international modernism which had made only a hesitant entry into India gathered speed after 1947. International modernism in public architecture, consciously inaugurated by Nehru in a bid to look to the future rather than the past, the 200 years of bondage. Leaning towards science and technology, influenced by imperialism, modernism and revivalism, architectural works by Le Corbusier and other modern artists opened up a new outlook, turning its back on cultural continuity in building style. A radical shift was observed in the aesthetic position to adopt the goodies that modernism offered in steel, glass and concrete on one hand and avenues, roundabout and bungalow on the other.



Architectural style was developed to improve the energy efficiency of a building, that needs high initial investment and are based on technology. Though low cost technologies, like mud architecture are being developed, it does not fit in with the aspirations of the internationally oriented urban population. A universal culture, or a fabricated culture, the culture of Simulacra that Umberto Eco has written about is being created, impairing our sense of locality and identity. Thus we are shifting from a simple copy of the alien lifestyle to a whole new Indian identity.

Culture is an entity, not composed of elements, which can be dissembled or recomposed. Culture matures and sediments slowly as they become fused into the context and continuity of tradition. Though culture is still incorporated, it finds itself hanging on the walls or lying on the floors here and there in the form of artifacts. In Aalto's thinking, the task of architecture was to meditate between man and technology and support his social and cultural integration. Identity is always seeking for stability. The technological



understanding of sustainable architecture in India, should extend to the socio-cultural aspects in its production.. Evolution, stability and sustainability are in a cycle, which should not be accelerated or disturbed by mankind. The growing gap between technology and nature should be reduced for the revival of our culture. Architecture should see the synthesis either of traditional materials and techniques used in modern design or the vice versa. To discover the identity in architecture, one needs to fathom their cultural roots. The search for identity in our architecture lies in creating the building of the contemporary plane which will recognize and develop out of the historical plane and not purely out of modernism.

Fresher's Day



One of the most awaited days of college life. The day that makes that transition, from being juniors into seniors. FRESHERS DAY! Held on 2 March 2013, organized by the current second years, the batch of 2011. Although it was slightly delayed, the spirit was not lost! 73 different minds working together, we came up with the theme 'shadows'. Organizing themselves into different committees, they managed to pull the day off.

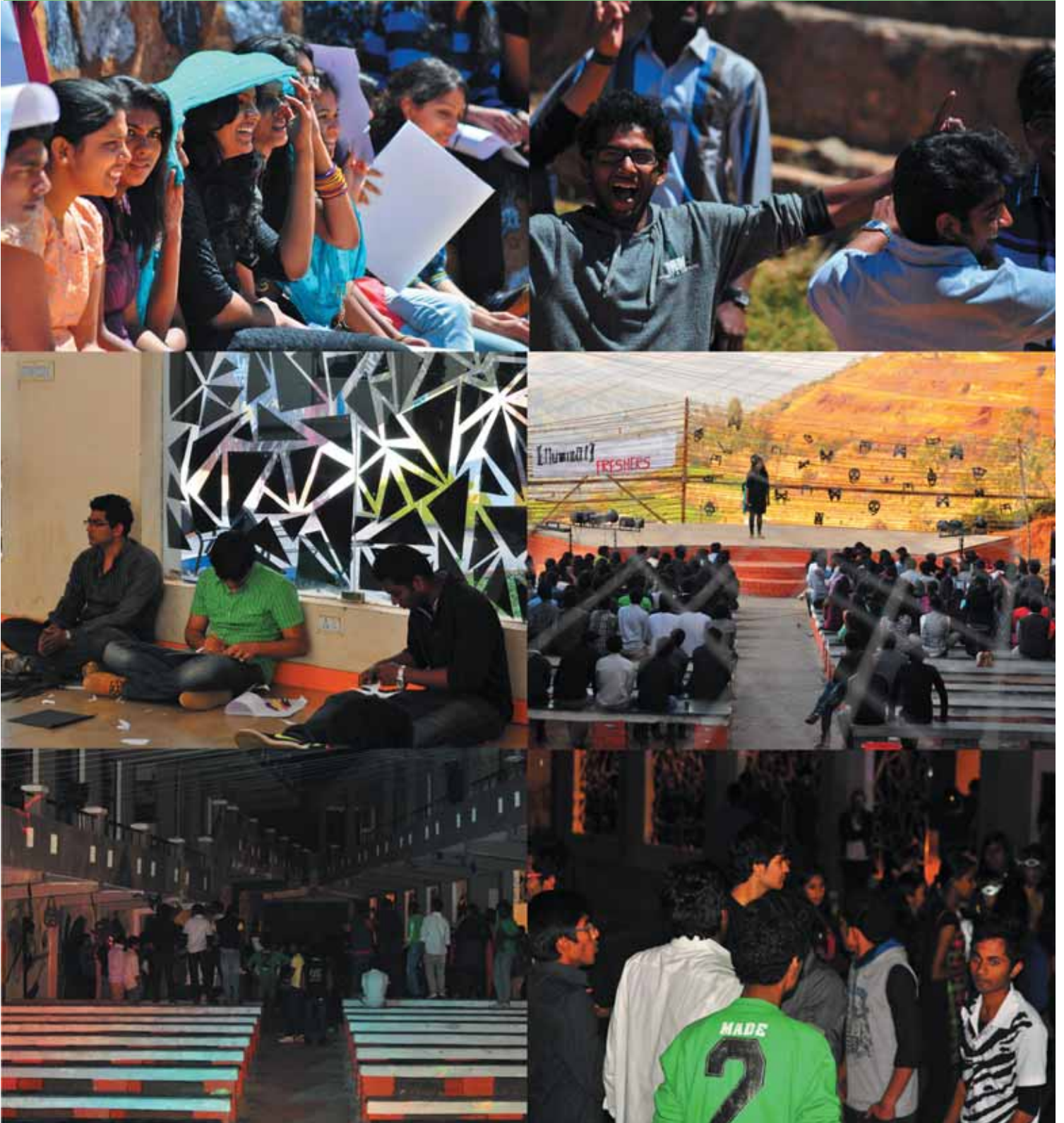


To start the day, we had a renowned architect. J Subramaniam, who spoke about his professional life as an architect and showed his work, the ideas and design process behind them. After transcending into another world and coming back down to earth, the events of the day began. The events were mostly games related to the theme of shadows.



The students had a design competition where the freshers were made to make their own masquerade masks to go with the theme of our 'D.J night'. Ending the events was the mingling session where the freshers were dared to do something OUT OF THE BOX The day ended and the evening began, which was entirely owned by the juniors.

They performed a range of cultural events, displaying talents that entertaining us all. This finished off by crowning our very own Mr.&Ms. Fresher and on to the most exciting part of the day- the D J night !



Independence Day



On the 15th of August 2012, McGAN'S Ooty School of Architecture celebrated the Independence day program. The chief guest for the program was the Anna University vice chancellor Mr. Adinarayana Kalanidhi. The flag hoisting and march past were led by Tshering phuntsho, 5 year student. During the gathering, the welcome speech was made by the Principal Vikram C Devarj and the gathering was addressed by the chief guest. After the speeches, followed the cultural and informal events where everyone was treated to a series of patriotic themed dances and songs. With the commencement of cultural events, thus ended the celebration, a day which proved to be a lot of fun and instilled a feeling of Patriotism in everyone.





Onam Festival



Even though known for its popularity within Kerala, McGAN'S showed that there is no disparity within its family. Respecting their fellow colleague's culture, all students took part in the celebrations and cultural events organised by the students community (Illuminati). From dressing styles to food all day long the entire campus welcomed the cultural exchange without hesitation.



With no differences between students regardless of age, year or semester, the day turned out to be fun to the brim. Active participation from faculty and staff turned the highlight of the day and once again showed that in McGAN'S; all are family where respect bonds each other.





ZONASA or the Zonal Nasa was nothing but a stepping stone for the students in Mcgans to reach the national level – NASA.

It was on the we left with all our hard worked sheets too RAC, Coimbatore. They were all set up to take success or failure. It was at this level that we could see the works of the other colleges and encourage ourselves to do better than them.

We arrived at the college with a lot of enthusiasm and confidence. We were to prove ourselves admirable not only with our sheets but also with the other talents. From the part to cheer for our college to the “on the spot events” and also the culturals, we gave the other colleges a tough fight.

It was a three day stay in RAC. We could showcase our talents, our works and prove ourselves individually . It had become a routine to get up early with a fighting spirit in our heart.



The day started with the on the spot events, the different kinds of workshops and then the best part was where we pinned up our sheets for the competition. Anticipation, hope, eagerness was what we did after we pinned up the sheets. With the feeling of what is going to happen, none of them went to sleep. We stayed up all night playing games and cheering for our college.

The three days had gone by with the small competitions, workshops and meeting new people.. it was the day we had to leave and also the day when the judges announced their results.



“Anticipation, hope, eagerness was what we did after we pinned up the sheets.”



Evrybodys shouted, congratulated the winners and left with something-to know the way every architecture student worked. We won and we lost, it was a competition where we fought until the end and we achieved trophies for Ruebens, RAC and South Indian design competition .at the time of leaving, we knew in our heart that we had made a mark on the streets of the RAC campus.

Architecture and Filmmaking

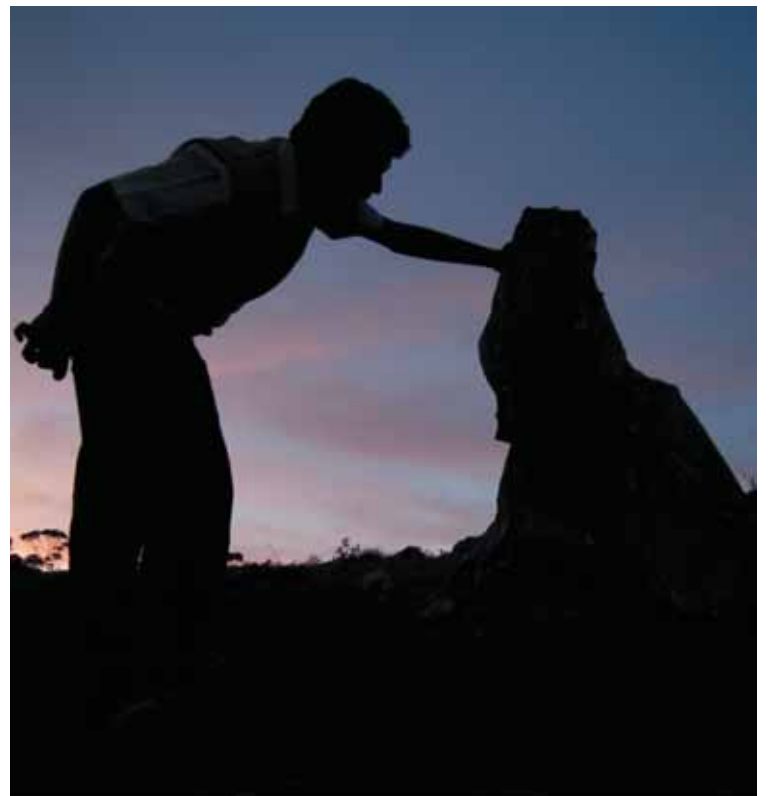
-Abisheik



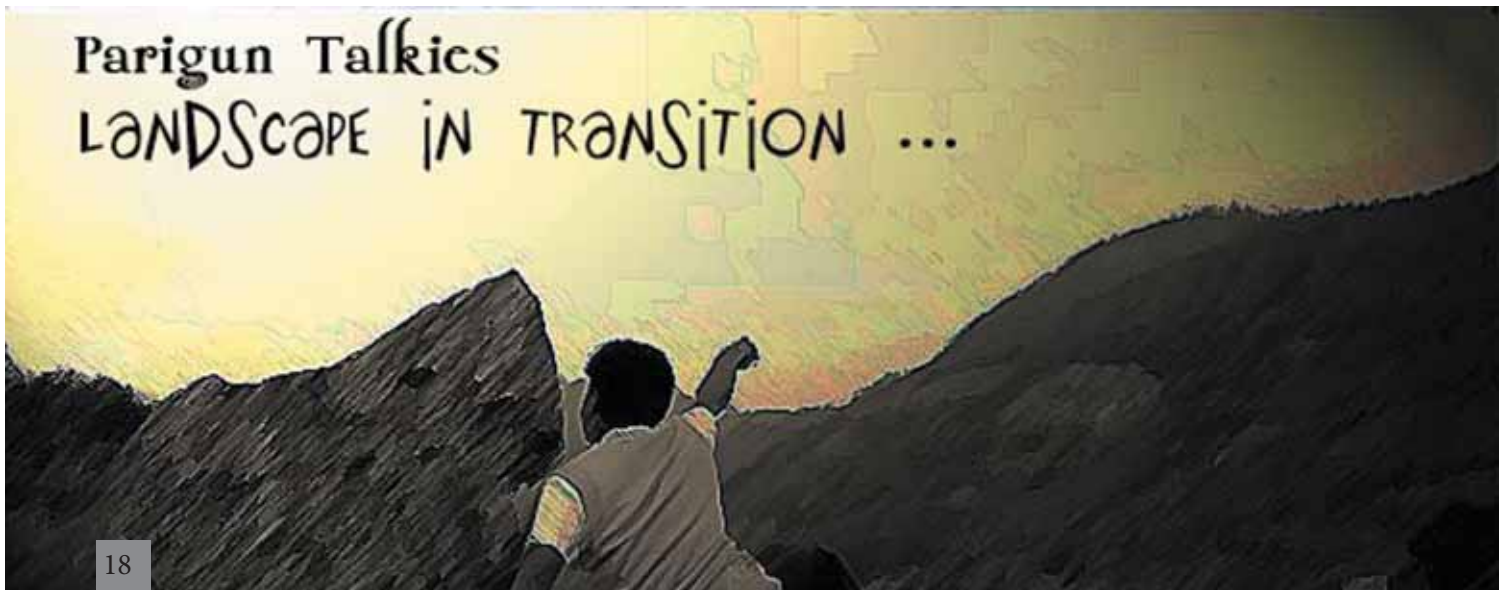
Architecture is the art of creation. An Architect can involve himself in a variety of creative fields.

Architecture and filmmaking are related in many ways. An architect makes presentation sheets of a building he is to build. A filmmaker on the other hand writes the script and makes the storyboard before making his film. The flow from concept to product can be compared in both cases.

My short film, "Landscape in Transformation" is a remarkable one which has won an award in Kerala's Trishur Architecture fest.



Parigun Talkies
LANDSCAPE IN TRANSITION ...



The concept of “Landscape in Transformation” is that humans first enjoy nature and in time begin to manipulate it to their wishes, rendering it unenjoyable. A mentally retarded boy, who is ignored by other boys, begins to play with a stone which more or less looks like a horse. The next day he brings a board saying “My horse” to place on the horse only to find that some others had sculpted it into a horse and placed a board saying “Please do not touch”. He goes back disappointed.

The “horse” in the movie was a set made by Madan Raj. It looked so real as if it were a real stone.

Thus filmmaking has been one of the activities by students at McGan’s. We hope to emerge as successful Architect-Filmmakers in our respective lives.



“Architecture is the art of creation. An Architect can involve himself in a variety of creative fields.”



Induction day

September 8th 2012 marked a special day for the 2012 batch students of McGAN'S Ooty School of Architecture as this day marked their start as architecture students. All throughout the day the college was a bustle of energy with the arrival of the new batch students and their parents. The program started off with the welcome speech by the Principal Vikram C Devraj, after that introductory and motivational speech was made by the Director Solomon d Vedamuthu who addressed the gathering and spoke about the architecture profession. His speech was followed by the Correspondent Mr. Jayaprakash Gandhi who spoke extensively about the difference between talent and intelligence. Speeches were also made by chairman Mr. Murali kumaran and Prof. Vaibav Prakash. The chief guest for the event was Mrs. Nalini Thakur



Apart from the Induction day, this day was also important for being the day of the inauguration of "CONTINUUM", which is the McGAN'S centre for the conservation of Heritage structures. The chief guest for the event Mrs. Nalini Thakur addressed the gatherings and inaugurated "CONTINUUM". After this, members of the rotary club who were also in attendance spoke to the audience. With the commencement of the speeches, everyone was assembled for the lunch and senior students interacted with the freshers.



McGAN's Ooty School of Architecture has Heritage Conservation centre called "CONTINUUM". It has been setup with aim to document and conserve tangible and intangible heritage across India. As one of the activity of this centre, Conservation and Renovation plan for Madras Regimental Centre was taken up. Around 30 students along with Conservation experts from CONTINUUM visited the site. Documentation of the structures along with their condition mapping was done. After proper documentation of the centre, proposals were presented to Commander – in – chief of MRC along with other dignitaries.



Sports day



Inspiring Leadership to the world, that is what Mc GAN'S is going to give the World. "Healthy body and healthy mind goes together parallel", says Physical Director Sampath.



Time has come for the students of McGAN'S to display their talents in Games and Sports to make their studies even more lively and energetic. 'Annual Sports Day '2013' gives all McGAN'S a different life through sportive competitions.

The events range from Chess, Caroms, Basketball, Volleyball, Throwball, Football, Cricket and Athletics. The events are scheduled to take place from 14th to 16th March 2013 in the McGAN'S campus and HADP Ground, Ooty. Collin Jose Thomas & Jagan M respectively lead the students clubs 'Tornado & Hurricane'.



I Will Always Remember...

- P.Prasad Rao



A watery sun looked down through angry grey clouds on my father and me as we made our way to the Ooty office of Mc-gan's for admissions. The road was wet and marshy, the air thick with mist and my heart filled with anticipation as to what was in store for me. We entered the office and showed the Director my C.V. He was impressed. We (my dad and me) also met another potential student who had also come for the same reason.



I had no idea then that we would be spending the rest of our five years together in the same college. My first day of college was a lot more interesting in many ways than I had expected. The idea of meeting total strangers and unknowingly bonding with them for the rest of our five years was a little vague to me at the time as I had never shifted schools and had done fourteen years of myschooling in the one place. We were like fresh clay, ready to be molded. We would succumb to the slightest of pressures or influences at the time. Some of us had no idea about what Architecture would be like.

Although most of us had never been away from home, the home-sickness had not crept in yet. All of us were happy to stay in this desolate, yet bustling campus that we now called home for the rest of the four years. The very thought of going home, after a whole semester of frantically calling home every day to describe in great detail to our thoroughly bewildered and worried parents, had brought the late pangs of home-sickness. The second semester passed without consequence and by now we had gotten friendly with our seniors and had surpassed the longing for home.



Photograph of my campus during its construction time (2009)

The Annual NASA Design Competition (ANDC) had cropped up. Us first years, who had no idea of what National Architecture Students' Association (NASA) was all about had learnt and started designing for it in a matter of days. We had obtained most of our information from our seniors and had started our design after many a long and tiring, but productive class meeting. Our design had gotten short listed as one of the top 10 design entries out of all the Architecture colleges in India. It was a great achievement for our class, not to mention our first.

We were both proud of ourselves and grateful to our seniors for their much valued input. Our fourth semester brought us more good fortune with our most successful, although with a few hiccoughs in between, Rural Survey project. It comprises of a hundred and one chart-sized sheets of painstaking detail of the nearby village.. I guess that this was also a good thing as we now possess various forms of knowledge that will guide us through the years to come.

“Life doesn’t wait for us to get back on our feet. That’s why we’ve learned to take it all in stride and look to the future.”

We have had both good and bad experiences throughout our stay here, but we have all taken these as just that, experiences. Life doesn’t wait for us to get back on our feet. That’s why we’ve learned to take it all in stride and look to the future. We will pass on the torch of hope and prosperity, ablaze as a brilliant flame from all our hearts, to our successors in due time and hope that no misfortune encroaches on the serene and pristine mountains of the Nilgiris, and amidst it, Mcgan’sOoty School Of Architecture.



Paper Sculpturing

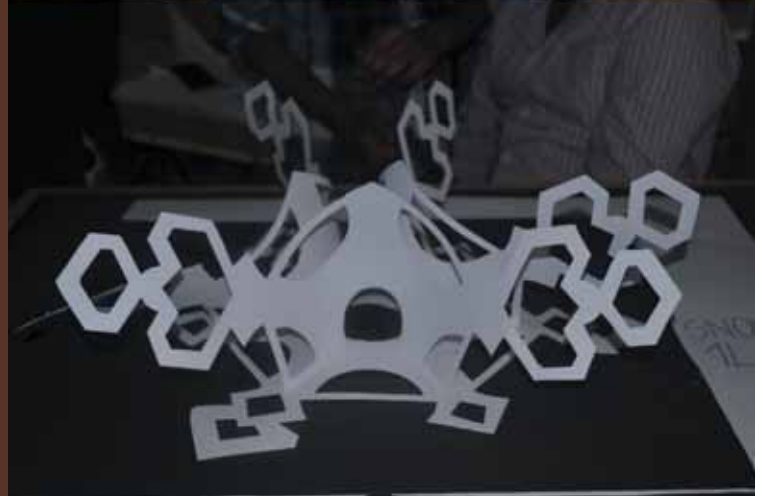
The brief given to the students, instructed them to create a 'Bio-Mimic Model'. A bio-mimic model is something that obtains its form from a biological form. They were asked to make an abstract sculpture only. They were split into groups of three and they immediately started storming ideas.. There was an exchange of ideas and development of models happened in a very good way with the help of design faculties and artists.

Then their seniors were invited to analyse and judge the finished sculptures Thus the students set up an exhibition of models in their studio for their seniors. The jury session went on for about two hours. The student jurors questioned them on why they have chose a particular concept and how the model explained it. Though the models were abstract, students were questioned for how the concept could implement the design in architecture.



The final products ranged from abstractions of jelly fish, life cycle of a butterfly, flight of a bird to snowflakes, the basic cell structure etc. After the jury was over the winners were announced. The third place was shared between the group which made the model of a fish and the group whose concept was DNA. The second place was secured by the group which had the concept of an eyeball. The winners were declared as the group who made an abstraction of the coral reef.

Although their models were criticized and in some cases needed improvement, at the end of the day they were quite satisfied with their products, considering it was an informal design contest. They were exposed to a lot of ideas given by their seniors and learnt to communicate their ideas to different kinds of jurors.



“At the end of the day they were quite satisfied with their products, considering it was an informal design.” contest.



A Traves' De Incredible India

Part study tour and part leisure, the batch of 2010, spend 12 beautiful days visiting places of architectural importance. Designed to cater academic needs and to provide a breath of freshness to the closed minds, the students set out from the hills to experience India. From the urban landscapes of Mumbai to the city of lakes (Udaipur) and to land of leisure (Goa), the students embarked on a journey which was utmost enthralling.



The study tour was also a chance for the students to do case studies and site surveys for the academic design part and turned out to be a efficient mix, relieving of the boredom of just academics by the fruitful mix of joy to it .



Diversity Within The Profession

-Riya Rajesh



Architecture, let's face it has a serious diversity problem. Statistics are hard to come by, but estimates indicate that only about 10% to 15% of the 110,000 registered architects in the United States of America are women. There are many reasons for the homogeneity of the field; the chief among them is the process required to become a registered architect. The course itself is expensive, costing a minimum of 6 to 7 lakh rupees and duration of 5 to 7 years to complete before you can get the accredited professional degree. This sort of bureaucratic and costly certification process in any profession for that matter tends to disproportionately affect people without economic resources, flexibility, and family/community support. Because of a lot of historical factors, the folks with those challenges tend to be women. Flexibility of schedule, especially with women with children is one of the main causes why women do not continue with their practise. This is true mainly in our Indian society where there is the existence of patriarchal dominance and where women are expected to look after the household.

While enrolment in the architectural schools is actually decently diverse-women drop out of the field at disproportionate rates. With lack of mentors, and lack of financial and professional support, and a dominant culture resistant to change, it takes a herculean effort on the part of many aspiring architects just to get through the early years of their career..



Another factor keeping women from making it as architects is straight up sexism in the work place. Women get discouraged also due to the discrimination in salary. Men of equal status get paid more than women. Men are promoted to higher posts whereas women are seen incapable of handling such posts.

Some women who have successfully stood up against all odds now stand as inspiration to other women in the society. Earlier, in the society, women were seen as puppets whose strings were pulled by the family.

They were never given a chance to explore their creativity nor were their opinions valued. Despite all these hurdles, women have learnt to rise up and stand equal with the men in the field. In fact these days women aren't discouraged by these odds. They strive towards excellence, even though their numbers are still lesser than men. This is because women have found their voice and learnt to stand up.



“Some women who have successfully stood up against all odds now stand as inspiration to other women in the society.”

N.A.S.A.



The National Association of Students of Architecture, commonly referred to as NASA, is one of the largest communities of architectural students in Asia. This is an interactive platform for students all over the country, who compete for the prestigious trophies which cover various aspects of architecture. The ideas that materialize during this conglomeration are also used to provide technical assistance to the economically backward sections. The convention also witnessed participation from various colleges in countries under SAARC.

After leaving a mark in the zonal convention or the ZONASA, held in Coimbatore in the Ranganaathan Architectural College, where we got special mentions in the SIDC, RAC and Reubens trophy works. ANDC being shortlisted in the top 40 was yet another leap forward. After the long discussions in the Illuminati meetings, we decided to do three prestigious trophies for NASA, which were LIK, Nari Gandhi and Reubens. Each trophy being unique, we had an opportunity to interact with each other, and come up with productive solutions.



The challenge behind LIK, Louis.I.Khan trophy was to document a building which was 75 years old and built of earthen materials. While the Nari Gandhi trophy directed us to analyze a building, which is a metaphorical representation of his ideology. A thorough analysis was done on Nriyagram, the brainchild of Gerald da Cunha. Nriyagram is a dance village in Hessarghatta, Bangalore following the ancient Guru Shishya parampara and built entirely of earthen materials. The Reubens trophy showcased the works of the budding architects of our college .



There were 90 colleges from all over India and 13 from Pakistan in the shamiana cheering for their respective colleges, fighting to mark their stance in this year's NASA. Following the lighting of the lamp, the conveners and the eminent architects addressed the gathering, enlightening us about various happenings around the world. The pin ups of various trophy works, the on the spot events, exhibitions, lectures, workshops and seminars by famous architects like Jaisim, Didi Contractor.

Nari Gandhi trophy was shortlisted in the top 8, much to our joy, which was followed by the audio visual presentation. The DJ night and the performance by the Pakistani band brought the delegates together.

The most amazing fact is the three day fiesta which is like a rendezvous with architects whom we admire, students of various colleges whom we don't know and yet jell along so well, and the NASA trophies which push us to strive for more and more.

Outdoor Arts



The students of first year were taken on an outdoor sketching workshop to Pykara which is about 50km from Ooty. This workshop was organised by Artists, Hari Krishnan and Gnana Sooriyan. They started at 9.30 in the morning and on the way to pykara they stopped at a magnificent lake and sketched different views of the place.



After a short trek from the place the bus stopped, Artists along with they students reached the pykara waterfalls. Before they start sketching, they found a 'haunted' house as described by the locals. The students were surprised to find the waterfalls quite scanty after imagining it to be gushing. However, they were allowed to go closer to the water area since it wasn't too dangerous. After viling away some time enjoying the location, they finally got to sketching.

They were given the liberty to sketch whatever each of them liked about the place for about two hours. They were asked to use different medias such as water colours, pencils, charcoal, colour, etc. The Students returned to college around 4.30 after learning to observe the intrinsic beauty of nature along with some interesting techniques taught by Artists who accompanied them.

**“They were given the liberty to sketch whatever each of them liked about the place for about two hours.”
contest.**



Rural Survey



As part of the academic curriculum, the second year students went to their village survey. Kun-nathoor and Oduvanpatti villages, which come under Shivagangai District were chosen for the survey. Like all the study trips, this was a time for the students to broaden their knowledge on people, their culture and the architecture.

The students are expected to study in detail, the vernacular architecture, unique to the village they survey. Villages are under transformation. The socioeconomic profile is undergoing drastic change due to opportunities for education, skill formation in the face of failing agricultural means.



Tamil Nadu with nearly 50% of its population is exerting pressure on the villages. Villages were mostly self-sustained but in the recent years they have become increasingly dependent on the neighbouring towns and cities for means of livelihood, healthcare and entertainment etc.

This exercise is meant for the students to understand a human settlement, its problems by means of surveys, analysis and draw inferences and finally propose solutions. The students are expected to prepare a report and presentation to give an insight of the settlement and its problems. This activity encourages all our budding architects to know more about the exact picture of our villages.



The Spirit of the Nilgiris



The main reason for this exhibition was to know more about the tribes in south India, which was held at Light and Life Academy. We had a interactive session with all the tribes. We got to know more about their life style, present and past, which was very interesting considering the fact that they live in the forest and they survive with the food and products they collect .



We even got to eat different types of tribal food from there, which was a completely different experience; they tasted really delicious and unique. They even had presented their traditional paintings, which were for sale. Later on after the interactive session the tribals danced and sang for us, the tribal dance and songs were refreshing..

The energy they had during the dance was really high and lively. After wards we had a painting and photography competition, in which our college won a lot of prizes. After talking to few of the students there, we left by 4 p.m. And thus our day ended with a paramount of insight on our tribal people and their life.



“They even had presented their traditional paintings, which were for sale.”





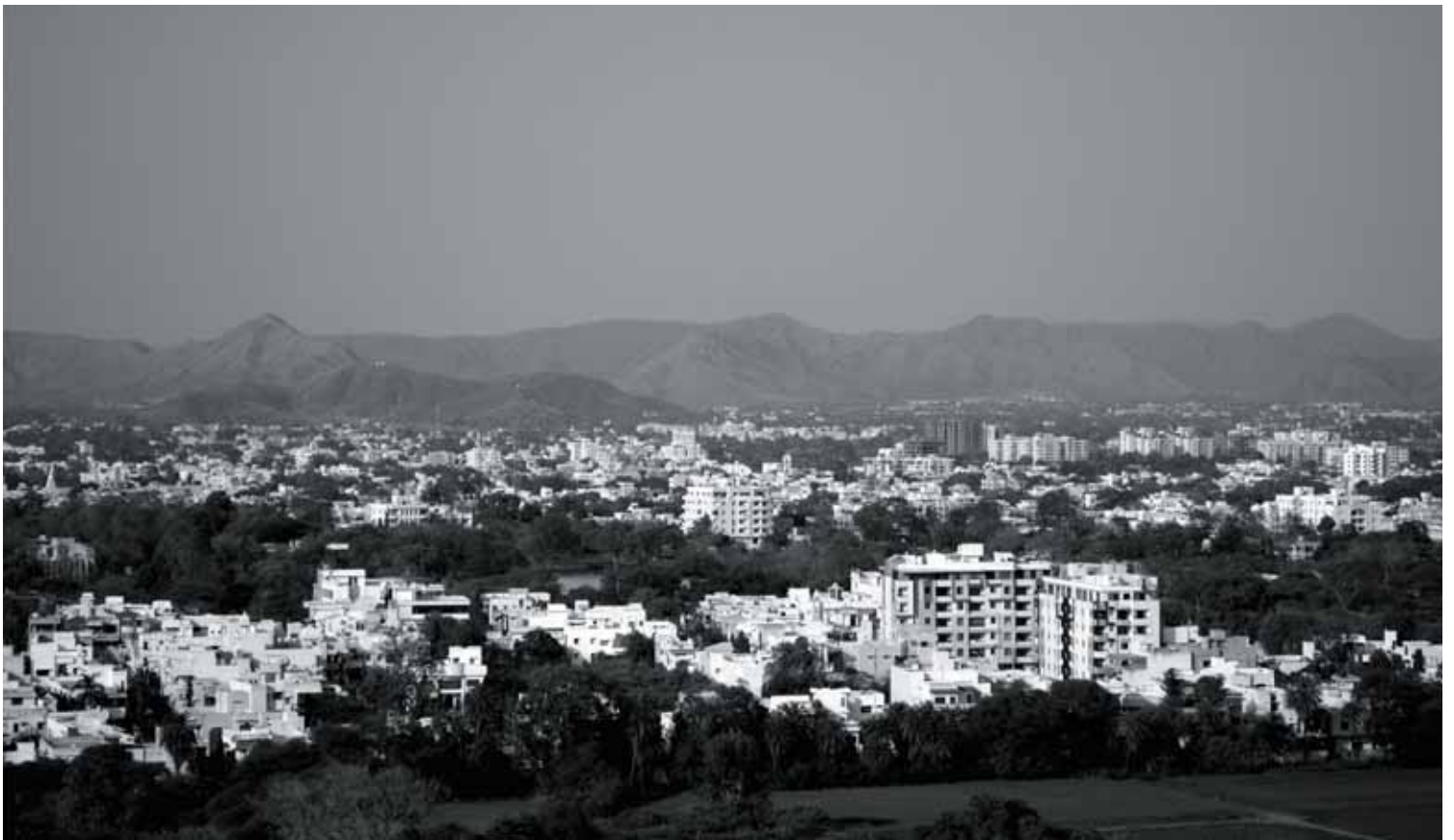
Joseph Peter Chakiat



Josu B Sebastian



Kishan Sabi



Niranjan Reddy



Rezwin Ahamed



Gowtham Nandakumar

'Mc book', an annual display of activities of McGAN's ooty school of Architecture in both formal and informal manner. This book will be published annually upon conclusion of even semester giving highlights of various events of the previous academic year.

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