# Addressing what *builds the blocks of architecture* with stalwarts of the Indian design community

**IDF DEBATES _ architecture: BUILDING BLOCKS**

**curated by Rajshree Pathy & Mrinalini Ghadiok**

**28th November & 5th, 12th, 19th December 2020**

Architecture as a profession is perceived to be one replete with glamour, accessorized with awards and basking in glory. However, for most, the reality of designing splendid spaces and establishing oneself is often a reality that is riddled with struggle, peppered with roadblocks, confronted with conflict and afflicted with conundrums of ethics, responsibility and values.

'Building Blocks' by IDF hopes to raise the dust to question what builds the blocks of architecture—and to do so, bring practising professionals in conversation to address prevalent conditions that frame the architecture profession. **The four sessions, scheduled every Saturday beginning 28th November, will include industry stalwarts Brinda Somaya, Sanjay Puri, Ambrish Arora, Abha Narain Lambah, Soumitro Ghosh, Ayaz Basrai, Akshat Bhatt, Smita Gupta, Asim Waqif, Riyaz Tayyibji, Niels Schoenfelder, and Vicky Richardson.** These discussions will address fundamental concerns that are often overlooked or disregarded, but are critical cogs in the architectural machinery - What is 'good' architecture? What is more valuable - architectural education or professional training? What is the business of architecture? How does one build responsibly? Rajshree Pathy & Mrinalini Ghadiok - curators, IDF Debates, say, "The idea germinated from many conversations over the months where we found ourselves repeatedly questioning 'what builds the blocks of architecture'. So, we thought - let's fearlessly question the mechanisms that make architecture relevant today!"

This forum aims to look beyond the presentation of finished projects or host a showcase of portfolios—and instead, provide an opportunity to have candid discussions and express personal curiosities and enquiries.

Register here: https://www.indiadesignforum.com/event-registration/

## Sessions
⬇

Session 1: 28<sup>th</sup> November | 6:00 pm

*What is 'good' architecture?*

- Brinda Somaya | Somaya & Kalappa Consultants
- Niels Schoenfelder | Mancini Enterprises
- Soumitro Ghosh | Mathew & Ghosh Architects

Session 2: 5<sup>th</sup> December | 6:00 pm

*What is the business of architecture?*

- Akshat Bhatt | Architecture Discipline
- Sanjay Puri | Sanjay Puri Architects
- Smita Gupta | Gensler

Session 3: 12<sup>th</sup> December | 6:00 pm

*How does one build responsibly?*

- Asim Waqif | independent fine art professional
- Abha Narain Lambah | Abha Narain Lambah Associates
- Ayaz Basrai | The Busride Design Studio

Session 4: 19<sup>th</sup> December | 6:00 pm

**Architectural education or professional training?**

- Riyaz Tayyibji | Anthill Design
- Ambrish Arora | Studio Lotus
- Vicky Richardson | Inter

#IDFDebates #BuildingBlocks