

blab



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blab.

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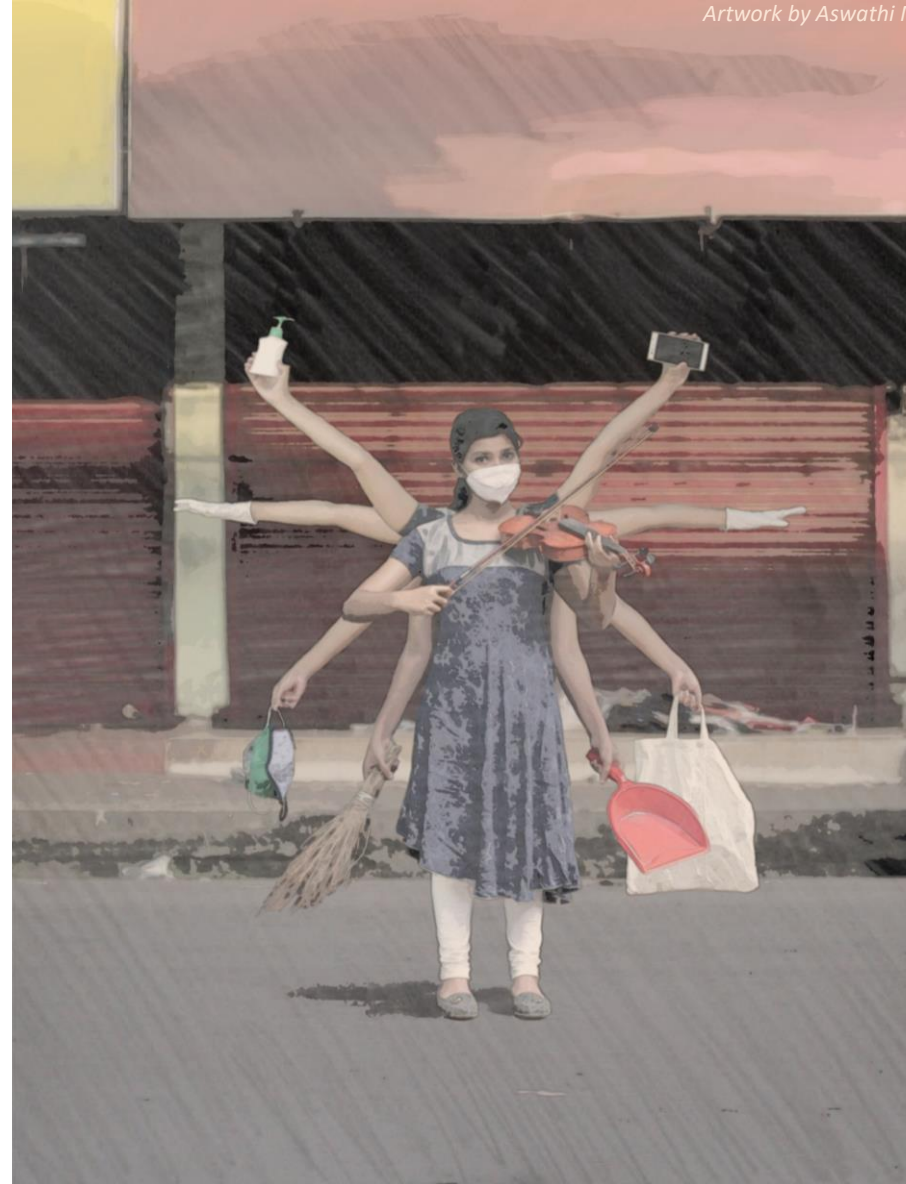
QUARANTINE
CREATIVITY
CORNERS

foreword

I am delighted to see that the students of VSPARC have been producing BLAB with a variety of thoughts in architecture and design. I understand that these are difficult times and the students have taken brilliant efforts to produce quality material and reach out to their colleagues and others. In the past I have had a chance to go through the magazine and found it interesting and fun to read. I am reminded of "Archigram" which started as a student magazine and then became a movement in architecture, which revolutionized the architectural thinking of the mid 20th century. This gave birth to the so called "High Tech" movement where technology dominated architecture, with an outstanding example of "Pompidou" in Paris. I hope BLAB becomes more inspirational to creative young minds and look forward for the future of built environment with climate change issues as the main focus.

Wishing you all the best with this issue.

Dr Jaffer AA Khan
Director/Dean
V-SPARC VIT Institute of Eminence



from the editor's desk,

Of all the times we've wondered what would happen if zombies attacked and all the wish candles we've blown hoping for a long long vacation, we never quite made it clear to the universe that one was a need of the hour and the other was meant to be just a crazy dream. Should've taken the phrase 'be careful what you wish for' a bit seriously, *chuckles regretfully*. We started curating the theme for the magazine quite a while before all the frenzy and quite honestly were out of hooks. Now that the whole world is ... bored, they've started what all parlors brew. Talks, talks and talks.

Quarantea - A peep inside the reality of what happens when the world comes to hold and where people are forced to live with their true thoughts as well have a clear view of what they've been missing amongst the blind race that we've made of our lives. So straighten your hunched backs and enjoy the tea.

This issue we have decided to focus more on you, our readers. You can find all that your fellows have been doing in and out of this virtual semester. Explore, interact and support their pages and who knows it might just rekindle your dormant yet fiery passions. This section is a new addition to the magazine and a recurring one, so no matter what niche you fall under, you can showcase it here. Blab has and will always remain a magazine curated for You.

indian tourism post pandemic

ASMITHA KOTHARI

HOW CAN ARCHITECTURE HELP ?

The Indian economy is in shambles ever since the erratic lockdown announced by the Government all over the country. One of the most affected sectors would be tourism. With about one-tenth contribution to the GDP, many have lost jobs and losses were incurred by the hospitality industry. There is an urgent need to revolutionize the way travel, in general, is approached.

Some states like Rajasthan have reopened their forts and other places of interest, but the number of visitors has reached a new low. One reason could be the fear of being exposed to densely populated areas. Here is where rural tourism and budget travelling comes into play. Unconventional destinations which have controlled subjection to the pandemic might welcome the enthusiasm of tourists.

Rural tourism showcases its lifestyle, art and culture hence benefitting the local community financially and socially. It aids in counter-urbanization and decentralization of resources. The aftermath of pandemics stays for decades. Now that the idea is in place, how can architects help?

Firstly, one must explore more than what's known to many. The Gagron fort, though being a UNESCO site, doesn't witness new faces. Lack of knowledge and coverage from media could be a reason.

Existing hotels are trying to adapt to new social distancing and safety norms, but tweaks in nooks and corners won't suffice. People migrated from the outdoors to the indoors to experience better living standards and comfort and now the process has reversed. Highly populated confined spaces are breeding grounds for everything against personal hygiene. We must concentrate on designing comfortable and convenient public spaces and landscapes. Outdoor dining could be an option. Passive design methods and temperature control methods could be adopted.

Fixtures and switches need to go digital, perhaps could be operated by mobile phones and QR codes. Materials like copper and brass which are known for having anti-bacterial properties could be used in more versatile ways. Makeshift furniture could help make rooms multi-functional.

One of the first countries to accept tourists after four long months is the UAE. With their "go safe" certification program, hotels are now following strict safety protocols to earn the tag. A recent video on NAS daily- a travelogue, showed how offbeat places like a desert could be fun.

Architects imbibe so many personalities, branching out to so many fields and playing different roles. From journalists who could spread information about new destinations among people, to practicing architects who could ensure the safety of users of spaces designed by them.

HEMANTIKA NATH

This year has been nothing short of a dystopian novel. Humanity as we know it is on its knees and unlike a dystopian novel, there isn't a very handsome hero with very defined abs, running against time to overthrow an evil corporation and its evil plots to destroy human kind as we know it and finding the "cure" it had conveniently hidden in a lab. I mean its real life, and it's not really in the same pace as a blockbuster movie. I myself don't really know the point I am trying to make, however, bear with me!

Imagine this, you are writing a test on Microsoft teams, and you are racing against time to finish the paper but still keep your hand writing legible (it is a wasted effort but you still try). As you rush to the last corner of the exam a phrase catches your eyes in the question "Examples can be real or fictional". The word "fictional" echoes in your brain in Homer Simpson's voice and your brain shifts gears. You feel impulsiveness take over and you make up a ridiculous answer. You explain how conservation of architecture is relevant in the Rick and Morty Universe. Its ridiculous but you don't care, nothing had given you as much of an adrenaline rush before this. The rational part of your brain knows that you will live to regret it. However you keep writing. Time is running out and something is better than nothing. You are so desperate that anything is better than nothing. You waste no time and write down how Rick and Morty are fighting the Galactic Federation and most of the lab is now destroyed. (You are just on the verge of madness here, making things up as you go). You write the values Rick had for his garage lab and how much efforts he puts in it to keep Jerry out.



CONSERVATION OF ARCHITECTURE.

(My take on it in a moment of impulsivity)

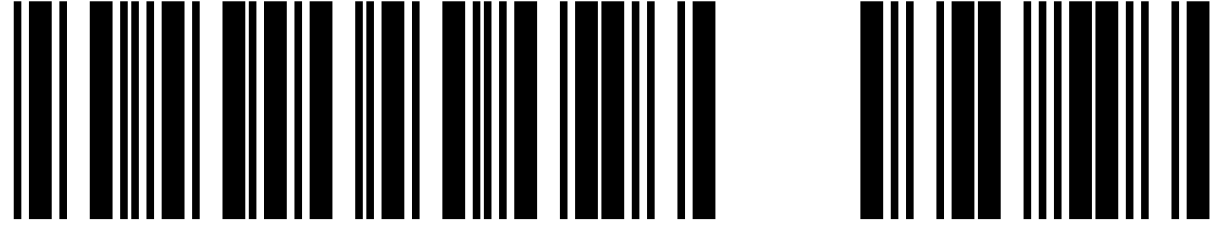


You are momentarily disgusted by Jerry as his face clouds your mind, and the effort he keeps putting to keep Morty to go on adventures with flashbacks from the show helps as you remember that he allows himself to be vulnerable in the garage. You glance at the clock on your screen and panic. You start writing in turbo speed now, you write how Rick perceives authenticity and how he fixes problems him.

Then you remember that one episode where Morty spread and infection that made everyone like him and Rick ends up mutating most of the earth's population (you shrug at the irony of the context in the real world, but you don't ponder too long, time is of the essence!), and you remember that he jumped to a different timeline and killed himself and Morty from that timeline and replaced the pair then. That's how Rick solves his problems, but he did say that there were a limited number of possibilities for jumping through time.

This is all you needed, you knew now that Rick was bound by rules of time travel as much as we are (at least in theory). You return your focus on the answer at hand, and write down your musings in the most solemn way possible. You continue to write concepts such as restoration, consolidation, conservation in the context and rules of the Rick and Morty universe. You remember to quickly make a sketch. You quickly scan it and upload it and a sea of regret drowns you.

By you I mean me. Luckily for me I know how to swim, and by swim I closed my laptop and I opened Netflix to binge Narcos.



I N S I D E O U T



With the recent pandemic slowly blurring the lines between virtual and reality, our laptops have become our world. People started focusing on their interests but they often stumble upon the harsh realities of life and the never-ending deadlines. The clutter on your laptop screen is often a reflection of your own mental state. Sometimes it is okay to hit Ctrl-Alt-Del for your own brain and reset yourself to a happier life.

~~FAST FASHION~~



For a very long time now, we have been producing more than we can consume and we have been disposing of way more than the earth can renew and replenish. The fashion industry is a significant contributor to that pile of waste that has been accumulated in various landfills and dumping yards around the world.

The key to moving beyond all this is super simple *sustainable fashion*

Sustainable fashion is one of those effective practices that holds the power to utterly transform the face of any situation. By making the shift to sustainable clothing, we can significantly lower our impact and produce less waste that is usually a gigantic component of the fashion industry. Let's make a choice of sustainable fashion for better generations ahead.

Welcome, Director Sir

A BLAB INTERVIEW

The Blab team interviewed the new director of VSPARC, Prof. Dr. Jaffer AA Khan. In the interview Sir has discussed his career path, life at Vellore and has given his message for the VSPARC family.



Q: You are a world-renowned architect. You have been practicing as well as teaching in many countries and you are also a member of the Royal Institute of British architects. How did you get yourself into this profession and in the field of architecture?

A: I think actually it was by chance, I was born and brought up in Vellore and I studied at this school called St Mary's Convent, then I went to Voorhees high school then Voorhees college and then went into architecture. We were not exposed to the very word architecture because, it was different those days. So, it was one of my friends who by chance asked me to apply at SAP (School of architecture and planning). So, I just took it to my father and my father said, let me go and explore it in the library, so he went to the central library and he came back and told me that architecture seems to be a great profession I was impressed and then I applied for it and then luckily for me I got enrolled into the batch of 1977.

I used to get a lot of drawing certificates and prizes in my school, I used to draw in my free time, during my school days and had my own small studio at the back of my house and I used to do paintings and at one point of the time, I wanted to become an artist but that was a far cry for me because from a small town like this I wasn't privy to certain kind of exposures. If I was in Chennai, I would have become an artist, and that wasn't happening so I joined architecture absolutely by chance, it was not by choice. And I didn't understand it for quite some time.

In the first year one of the teachers came and told me that probably he had something else in the mind, he said I should leave and sort of discouraged me. When I told my father this, he wanted to give the choice to me, so I got architecture by chance but I decided by choice, those are two different things and then I told my father I would like to continue architecture and my father said it is your choice now son, and he went back thinking that I'm fine with architecture. That was 1977 and that was such a wonderful thing but this teacher who came from Delhi school came to know about this gentleman who was discouraging, he was an artist teacher. She actually thought of encouraging me and said (they used to call me Adam) she said 'Adam you are doing absolutely well! you are good and I think you should continue, don't leave the course' and that was very encouraging support from a teacher and then the rest is history.

Q: You were born and brought up in Vellore and you were abroad for a while and now you have come back after a considerable period of time. What are the best and worst changes that you have seen in Vellore?

A: When I was still young, Vellore had some top institutions like CMC Vellore a world class institution, not just the hospital but also the medical college That was a big pride for us. Now, what interests me the most is the fort and the temple inside the fort, which was like a big inspiration Now the fort is not in a great condition and now the foreground of the fort is used for exhibitions and public meetings.

One good thing happening to Vellore is VIT I should say, the reason why I'm telling you this is not because the chancellor is a good friend of mine but I'm telling you because VIT has established itself and our chancellor has worked so hard, I remember visiting somewhere around mid of the '80s or early '80s to one of the old houses in Abdullahpuram and I think they started the college there. There are many more environmental issues which have completely degraded the town. Vellore sits in the valley region of eastern ghats, so the mountains what you see is the ghats range. These water channels have been encroached by people with western interests or commercialization, so the concern for this is lacking and I think, that is one of the major problems I find because Vellore is home for a proper river, as a young child I used to see water flowing through the river, whenever there is heavy monsoon rains we used to go and stand near the old brick bridge built by the British, it doesn't exist anymore and we actually stood on the bridge to see the water flowing and it was a wonderful scene,



... she said Adam you are doing absolutely well and you are good and I think you should continue and don't leave the course ...



but nowadays you hardly see water except when there is a real big flood happening somewhere else.

Q: They say you should never meet your heroes. We would like to know whom you looked up to as a young architect and if you have ever met them what was the experience like?

A: I never had any heroes as such in my life, even though I was born and brought up in post-modernist era. I started practice in the mid 80's but I really can't say that I had any heroes or anybody I looked up to or whatever. It is because I was reading a lot on history of architecture, reading a lot on spiritual stuff, I was reading a lot on meditation, sociology, urban affairs and a whole lot of things and even politics for that matter, but nothing really in architecture inspired me. But one architect who inspires me through his buildings which I would like to often visit in England is Denys Lasdun he is one of the finest architects of brutalist era. When I listened to his lecture in London in 85 or 86, I was so impressed by his work, and every time I go to London, I always go to see his buildings. When I went to IIM Ahmadabad, I fell in love with it, and definitely that building is speaking and I am always longing to go to Bangladesh to Louis Kahn's National Parliament House to see and feel it. So, there are a few architects whom I did not look up to as heroes or look at their works directly in detail but when you visit them you feel and that it is the most important thing.

SCRAP JOURNALING



...my books and notebooks in my school bag then packed
...bag of clothes. I couldn't think straight. I took the trousers
...one set and the top from another so I had a
...I didn't match. I didn't take any of my school
...personal belongings as we were travelling in
...and there was little room. We didn't
...a laptop or jewellery - our
...fridge and a washing m
...Pashtuns prefer to
...holes in the
...My f

...I END NOT HAVE THE STRENGTH TO SPEAK

CONESVILLE, OHIO

Fragments of my Literature, Library and Life.

PROF. MOHAFIZ RIYAZ

Who would not want to comprehensively experience a world brimming with adventure, emotion, miracles and euphoria that profoundly educate us? Yes, it's there; Right there interspersed within words of good literature. Honestly, my meditation is through books. It has calmed me down, made me pause and observe the world from dimensions I haven't accessed before. Surprisingly the perspective gets sharper when the thirst for good literature keeps increasing.

When I tried to kick-start my reading, unlike most people, I stumbled upon a complex fiction "My name is Red" written by noble prize winning author Orhan Pamuk. After letting my mind being thrown, twisted and rotated in the air of unfathomability, I stopped the book in middle. I understood that I lack necessary taste buds to explicitly enjoy this delicious palate of literature.

My second lap of search begins with simple fictions of contemporary writers and to mention few from many – Sudha Murthy, Jayakanthan, Arundhati Roy, Sujatha Rangarajan, Scott Fitzgerald, Paulo Coelho, Khaled Hosseini, Chetan Bhagat and so on. This routine exercise of reading has exterminated bigotry, condescension, insolence from my mind by infusing the quality of patience, empathy and focus onto it. The extraordinary ability of these authors to handle simple vocabularies to deliver huge messages, has given me enough confidence to pursue literature that deals with complex scenarios.

Books like God of small things, Sila Nerangalil Sila Manithargal Kite runner and Alchemist etc has helped me retrieve the inherent qualities of being a life on this surface of earth. Compassion, Resilience, and Embrace and so on. Then I went back to taste "My name is Red" followed by an extraordinary fiction of Markus Zusak called "The book thief" that ended up giving me a subtle understanding of plight of society during tough times of medieval and war history.

*You have a problem,
the manuscripts have a
solution already,*

*Are you bored?
An enticing world appears
between the words,*

*When you are depressed;
the morphine lies between
the bundles of pages,*

*You not making a good
relationship;
the texts are your love gurus.*

The habit of reading literature is highly addictive once your palms and eyes start to love the texture of prints, pages and phrases, it is merely impossible to dissociate the habit. Hence, my inclination on the internet shifted towards non fictional books for technical and scientific information. As a person with the privilege of being born in a coastal village, my life has an organic love for nature, ecology and wildlife.

My comprehension of ecological and cosmic landscape elevated to a newer level after reading "Becoming animal" written by David Abram.

I am still not able to recover from astonishment this book has given me. This ecological section of my library has got books like, to mention few, Great soul of Siberia, that talks about peculiarity of Siberian tigers; followed by Jenifer Ackerman's Genius of birds, On thin ice by Richard Ellis, Silent springs by Rachel Carson, The practise of wild by Gary Snyder and works of Frans de waal.

I bet my life to you if these books don't make your dominant attitude of being a human seem miniscule. Your six senses would appear insignificant in front of the intellectual and behavioral aspects of our animal ancestors and wilderness.

The autobiography of Yogi, Living with Himalayan masters, Holy science are the books that offer you a peep into spiritual and intellectual aspects of our native land that are now beyond the perception of a modern person.

Yuval Noah Harari's Sapiens and Homo Deus would make you feel pity about the inefficacy of your history tutors and the way history has been taught so far.

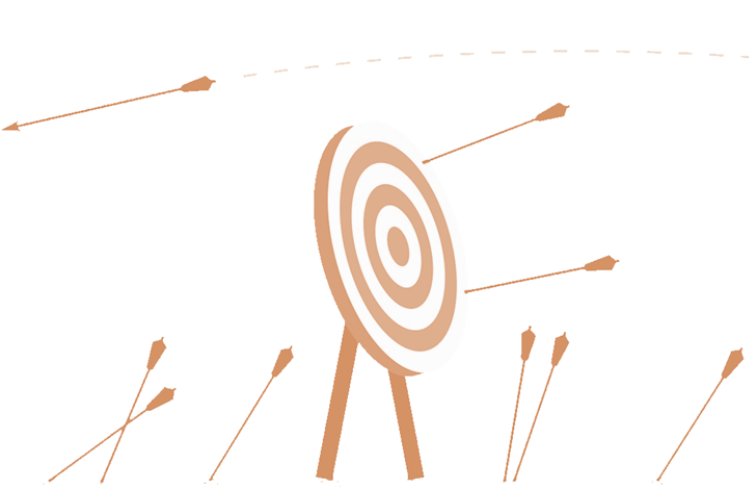
This eminent historian has a unique power and after interacting with his books - culture, religion, politics, economy and science wouldn't appear to you in the same way as before. This work will give you a distinctive understanding of difference between fictions and non-fictions in history of humanity.

“

Sometimes, we need to let go of our digital screens and try few adventurous strides on the topography of literary works. There is definitely a beautiful world out there filled with breath taking information life changing shocks and intriguing surprises. There's no new problem. Will Smith rightly said, that someone hasn't already had and written about it in a book.

”





Lets Make Lesser Miskates



PRATHIBA PADMANABHAN

I happen to read about urban spaces and its design for my dissertation and I came across a handful of case studies and guidelines. After four years into architecture the fifth has thrown a new spotlight on thoughts I never imagined. This made me realize all my previous designs were too detached from the lessons of history, the essence of architecture and was too attached to the inspiration from the internet. I don't think it's just me who got carried away by the overwhelming amount of information and inspirations. I feel we (architecture students) are more focused on our interpretations and get carried away by explorations, softwares and starchitects.

We are determined to design unique, different and dynamic buildings. Though the thought isn't wrong, there is a flaw in the thought process. Evolution is the way we grow, learn efficiency and learn from our mistakes to make less of them in the future. Have we failed in evolving and started trying out fancy things just for the sake of experimentation and exploration?! Can architecture that involves user experience and economy be experimented with? We as architects try so many different things to stand out, create 'wow' designs, aesthetic master plans and much more.

We are so focused on personal intentions that we forget to cater to actual needs. We experiment with peoples experience through space. We lack basic knowledge of history, and when I say history, its not about monuments but the impact every space would create on its surroundings and of course that which can be learnt from monuments. Inspirations : the term extensively used by architecture students! What are we aspiring from? Materials? Forms? Colours? Experience? Essence? Masterplans?

Spotting out designs taken from Pinterest is the funniest part and well never be able to confront them about it. One cannot say it was designed. The design was 'prepared' from inspirations. Prepared at levels where inspiration and preparation look similar. What are we missing out on during this process of preparation? Can our design prepared from inspiration be built in real life? Will we accept it if we did so? If this is the truth with most of us, let us not fear to confront ourselves and help us avoid these mistakes.

There is no perfect solution, we shall experiment but before we do so, we must push ourselves to learn more and be sensible towards life. When innovators are working on building the next tallest building, next fastest car, next longest roads, humans and nature who live amongst it are being forgotten. Architect Jan Gehl once stated that we should focus on designing spaces for people who are going to use it and not for an aerial aesthetic. All these years I strived to create fascinating master plans without much consideration for the people who are going to experience the space.

A beautiful masterplan is not wrong as long the experience created for the people in it is also beautiful. We need to look around at our surroundings and empathize with nature and people who use the space. 'Need' can never be distinguished as it is a broader term in itself. We don't need unique architecture over safe architecture. We need spaces that are designed safe and kind, to serve its ultimate purpose. To connect us and not make us feel more alien. To relieve loneliness and make humans a part of nature as it is supposed to be. We don't need dying cities with pollution and environmental issues, instead, we need cities to sustain and be a role model for the city itself.

through the day

POOJAROSHINI

The following 'balcony' images try to capture the activities through the day among the spaces of the neighborhood as the restrictions are being relaxed. A transition of events and users can be observed from the day-lit periods through the nightlife. In a Middle Eastern city like Muscat, the interaction of people with the interstitial environment is predominantly surrounding activities around their work environment. The vehicle driven lifestyle, along with designed public spaces, has led to the comfort based indoor standard of living.

1. Early in the morning, along the shaded alleyway, a man can be seen taking a quick smoke before work.
2. After opening his coffee shop, he awaits his first customer at the storefront lined with seats.
3. A dialogue at the parking space of the building associates the overlooking residents.
4. The landscaped median at a roundabout, at dawn draws the birds to the feeder.
5. Customers social distancing themselves while they await their order outside the restaurant at night.



A woman leaving after her day at work using the passage formed by adjoining buildings.

This is a very mundane question at this point in time, but still how has quarantine been for you?

I have been doing pretty much what everyone else has been doing which is doing a lot of domestic work. There is the professional work too. I think a lot on what the real priorities in life are. This quarantine has been an eye opener of some sort, and to look into oneself, trying to find out what exactly one wants in life has been a very good experience for me at this time as a way to understand how alternate and surprising life can be.

Compared to the daily routines we had in college you must be having different routine of the day now. How has it changed?

I was working like a robot and the rigor of running an institution is very complex. It involves a lot of administrative and academic work. Keeping all that in shape and balance was the biggest challenge. In every act that we do there must be some sense of humanness. That kept repeating in my mind.

If you are stuck at one age, which one would it be?

It's always the present. I think there is nothing like the present, you can live in the past but you really can't be there. You can think of the future in glorious terms but you never know how it is going to be. The only thing that you can be sure of is 'now', this moment. This moment is the happiest moment of my life.

A lot of us are curious to know what drove you to become an architect?

A huge part of my life was driven by fate and destiny. My family was one of engineers with not much exposure, so blindly I said I must become a mechanical engineer but I always had a bent for creative thinking of some sort. Actually architecture just came in. Several times I was told that I was very unfit for this profession by my teachers and in fact one teacher kept telling me "why did you come to this profession?" my drawing skills were very average and except for my analytical skills there was nothing much which was going for me when I started this learning process. Somehow I fell in love with this subject within one or 2 months in spite of all these negative remarks I was getting I don't know why. then I decided that I am going to become an architect. Whatever that meant. That's how it all began. Chance and destiny.

Farewell Devi Sir



Dearest VSPARC,

Stay bold, stay fearless, stay smart, and above all inspire yourself the most. Satisfy yourself the most in deepest sense of the word and never betray yourself. Your sense of belief in you and your respect for yourself, should be ultimate. You shouldn't be ashamed of what you do, so believe in yourself and **BE YOUR OWN GODS**. You will realize that you must continue to do the things that make you feel proud. And pride is not arrogance and ego but belief in yourself. You've got to have a great deal of self-belief and humility.

Always a call away,

Devi Prasad

If given an option to live in a place other than Chennai, which one would it be and why?

My central philosophy is that I am always happy wherever I am. But given a chance it would be in the middle of the sea, I love open spaces. I have always had a love for rural spaces, I love going to farms, I love being with nature and anything related to nature like animals and away from the dependance on artificial things as far as possible. I can't define you that place. Farming is something I like out of my own interest as I like to see things grow. Basic philosophy of all our existence which is the only wiring we have within us is the instinct of growth and survival. And Growth is something which is so basic in nature, anyplace which promotes such a growth in a natural form is something I love.

Describe each batch, in one word or one sentence.

2019 - I know very little about them honestly because I have not taken classes for them, they do feel very colloquial in nature like a small community. So that is the first impression I got. I think that the 2019 batch is very enthusiastic too.

2018 - I think they are a little more reserved. But I can say that 18 batch are closely knit and they have got their own skill set. They are pretty energetic.

2017 - Bubbly! Energy just overflows from that batch in controllable and uncontrollable ways.

2016 - Versatile is good word for them. Because they have got diverse skills and I think they are a very talented batch and I am sure that some of them are really outperforming in the things that they are doing.

2015 - I can only remember a picture of a guinea pig running on the wheel. They were the first ones running on their feet all the time and they feel like they have been the experimented batch. I'll proudly call them the pioneers of vsparc.

What is/has VSPARC been to you always ?

It is family. As I always sensed that you can call on anybody anytime for help and they will always pop in and chip in and do the needful. I have seen it across all the 5 batches I handles and my faculties too. But like every family they will some squabbles here and there you know . If we don't have squabbles we are not family. In fact the whole of vsparc is an extended family. I always refer it as family somehow I don't know that's how I have always felt about this school.

HOW TO MAKE

Gulab Jamun Cake

Ingredients you need:

- ¾ cup Gulab Jamun mix or ¾ cup nonfat milk powder
- ¾ cup all-purpose flour
- ¾ cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup room temperature milk
- ½ teaspoon rose essence
- ¼ cup oil (I have used ghee)
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon baking soda
- Pinch of salt
- 1 teaspoon cardamom powder
- 2 tablespoons chopped or sliced almonds for garnishing



Procedure

1. Preheat the oven to 180 degrees Centigrade.
2. Grease and line the pan with parchment paper.
3. In a large mixing bowl, sift the gulab jamun mix/ the milk powder, all-purpose flour, powdered sugar, cardamom powder, baking powder, and baking soda at least once or twice.
4. To the flour mixture, add the milk and ghee/oil/butter, rose essence, and fold gently to mix thoroughly. Do not over mix or your cake will become dense.
5. Gently pour into the prepared pan and smoothen the top with a spatula to level the batter.
6. Sprinkle the nuts on top.
7. Bake in the preheated oven for about 30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center of the cake comes out clean.
8. Remove from oven and rest in pan for about 5 minutes. After 5 minutes, remove from pan and place on a cooling rack to cool completely.
9. Serve this delicious and amazing eggless cake with the flavors of your favorite gulab jamun



The Quarantine Tea

Five times Arnab Goswami became a meme
Mujhe Drugs Do (Blazze Remix) | Extended | Arnab Goswami...

'Main Tera' Edits on Twitter Is the Desi Version of 'Play Date' Trend Giving Us Butterflies in the Stomach BUT It Is the Funny Memes and Jokes That We Cannot Stop LOLing At!
If your timeline is filled with 'Main Tera, Main Tera, Main Tera, Main Tera, Main Tera' song videos except with shots of different, extremely gorgeous people, you're not alone.

After Kokilaben's 'rasode mein kaun tha' memes, netizens flood social media with spoof videos
The viral video features a dialogue from the hit TV show Saath Nihhaana Saathiya by the popular character Kokilaben (Rupal Patel), who is seen questioning her daughter-in-law Gopi Bahu about 'rasode me kaun tha?'

The surprising origin story of 'Binod'
Diya Kala Bhavani

How 'Karen' Became a Coronavirus Villain
A popular joke about entitled white women is now a big pandemic meme.

Dalgona coffee: does the internet's new favourite drink actually work?
It's the South Korean coffee treat that seems to have - almost overnight - gained worldwide popularity. But is it as easy to make as it appears to be?

Nepotism to Sushant Singh Rajput's Death, All The Controversies Involving Karan Johar

The Lockdown Has Shown Us That Games Will Come & Go, But Nothing Will Ever Match The Thrill Of Ludo

SOCIAL MEDIA INTERNET
Popular on Twitter
Twitter - Mumbai Police Mumbai Police
Dear #Binod, we hope your name is not your online password. It's pretty viral!

incident

and

intent

BHARANI SRI

My experience with the lockdown during the months that were followed by the pandemic has been strange, to say the least, but here are some observations that made me rethink the position of our future profession.

I have spent about half my time with my aunt and cousins in the Southern Tamil city of Tirunelveli since March 17th. After a month and a half since my stay, my cousins and I went to their terrace to fly kites but mainly to kill time. Then was when I observed what the pandemic meant to the people of Tirunelveli, how closed streets and dead silent roads and neighbourhoods changed certain aspects of daily life. All the houses had accessible roofs that were more habitable and human friendly over the past few months. Mothers and children mainly, but at times men and older people too were found on these terraces that seemed to breathe a new life into the city during these bleak times. All the buzz of the activity that used to belong to the streets, in between buildings that are 2 to 3 stories high, located way closer than they possibly should be, was now manifesting itself on these terraces.

Neighbours who usually caught up with each other at the local marketplace every morning were catching up from each other's terraces in the evenings. The children who usually played street cricket played it on the roofs now with the added adventure of occasionally losing the ball. People who relaxed in the comfort of their homes after a tiring day were out on the terraces to feel the "outdoors" after staying inside their houses all day.

Once the climate got better, some got comfortable enough to spend their nights sleeping right there. The terrace for these people held new meaning now and gave them a kind of satisfaction that they would have thought would only return after the prevailing situation had gone back to the normal, they knew.

In the mornings, it was a different story. Several people had made it their gym, bringing out their dumbbells and skipping ropes. But this would have to be done before 8 o'clock after which the sun would pierce through which made it uncomfortable to stand on its now burning tiles on the floor.

... and this is the kind of stuff that architects cannot predict while designing spaces, houses or even whole cities ...

The terrace was now a space for relaxation, physical fitness, and outdoor games. A thought that would seem unfit in a professional designing environment.



The users themselves wouldn't have anticipated these functions for a terrace when they had their houses built, and this was probably not the space that they expected would make their staying indoors a little more bearable. The underlying fact being that, this phenomenon took place without the users being aware. And this is the kind of stuff that architects cannot predict while designing spaces, houses, even whole cities. Today's architecture is essentially pragmatic but it, unfortunately, fails to acknowledge human tendencies. The incidents don't necessarily align with the intent of the space.

This phenomenon is much more visible in terms of a city. For example, the street parking block that is visible from the window of my home in Dubai, that has transformed into the local running, cycling, and walking track on Friday and Saturday (the weekend here) mornings. There is not one tree in that block, just roads on all sides and a large expanse of car parking spots that pretty much remain empty 90% of the time, in the middle of a residential area. The city planners who put this public parking on an awkward edge between residences wouldn't have anticipated that it would attract the residents from all these buildings for a morning or evening jog. They would have thought that people would head to the local park for these kinds of activities because it would be absurd not to. The phenomenon is quite normal, a human tendency, which manifests irrespective of the pandemic situation. But now, especially with the pandemic, it has been made visible to us. It is a whole layer of dynamism added to the intended functions for spaces, so much so that the functions tend to be replaced by humans and their interactions. The phenomenon is something that we as architects should be aware of, to understand that some aspects are out of control even when we are the ones doing all the planning.



harnessing the chakras

This illustration depicts the 7 chakras or energies in the human body in the form of body movement. Everything in our universe is made of energy, from the smallest pebble to the biggest ocean, as well as each individual cell in our bodies. Chakras are considered the center of our vital life force.

All of our senses, perceptions, and states of awareness can be divided into seven categories, and each of these categories are connected or associated with a specific chakra. What determines the direction of our energy is the frequency of our chakras that flow according to the energy that's either drawn into our body or released outwardly. So, keeping these energies active during this quarantine period by engaging oneself in practicing yoga helps us build a strong physical, mental, and spiritual health system. When combined with breathing and meditation, it acts as the best element to take care of our mind, body, and soul.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

A FEW HANDPICKED WORKS OF THE SEMESTER

SEMESTER 9 | URBAN DESIGN

SEMESTER 7 | COMPLEX TYPOLOGIES

SEMESTER 5 | INSTITUTION DESIGN

SEMESTER 3 | RURALS

Urban Transformations: Activating Uyyakondan Canal, Trichy

An interestingly titled studio, 'Urban Transformations', attempts to reinvigorate Urban precincts while understanding (and addressing) City level issues and relationship challenges. Tiruchirappalli was one of the 8 cities that the batch had taken up, to study and propose possible interventions, if needed. Following weeks of rigorous study, the team of 5 identified a glaring hole in the city's urban fabric: **A lack of good public spaces.**

The core areas of city had heritage precincts like Rockfort and poorly organized commercial spaces like Gandhi Market. The team adopted a design strategy that could solve the city's problems: Proposing a string of public spaces along Trichy's greatest asset, **Uyyakondan Canal**, and decentralize the activities from the core.

Creating opportunity for 7 large public spaces along the canal, tied together by a narrative which celebrates Trichy's culture, would also alleviate the stress on the core areas like Rockfort.



Memorial Public Space (1)



Cuisine Hub (2)



Semi-Open Art Gallery (3)



Flexible Cultural Space (4)



Sky Deck (5)

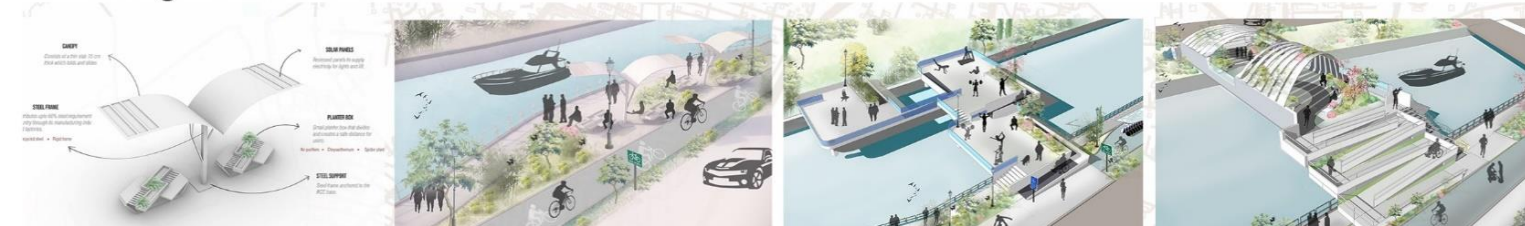


Kids' Centric Public Space (7)



Trichy Central Park (6)

The proposal also became a **tribute** to historic waterfronts of India, which would allow a multitude of activities to take place, with people congregating year round, and a **protest** to the monotonous waterfronts that we see today. The entire 3 KM stretch became walkable and accessible attributing to the network of pathways, seaters, decks and bridges, establishing a connection with the water across the canal.



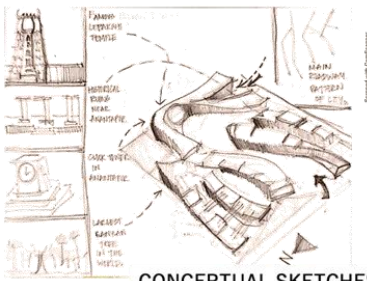
Design Team: Sona | Harni | Thenmozhi | Rajsheram | Kaustabh

Team Mentor: Prof. Vidhu Bansal

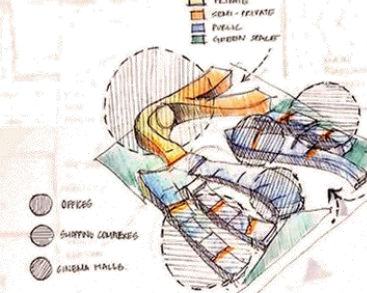
W.E.B

THE PUBLIC ARENA

BY KESHAVA
The fusion of typologies such as theatres, offices, fashion malls, food, and fun arenas in a densely populated and developing city located in Andhra Pradesh accompanying the post covid situation.



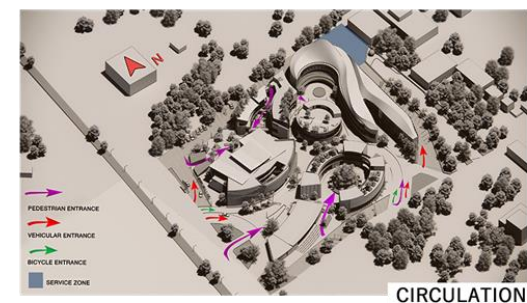
CONCEPTUAL SKETCHES



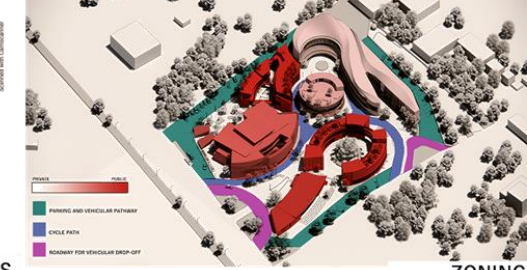
ZONING



NORTH ELEVATION



CIRCULATION



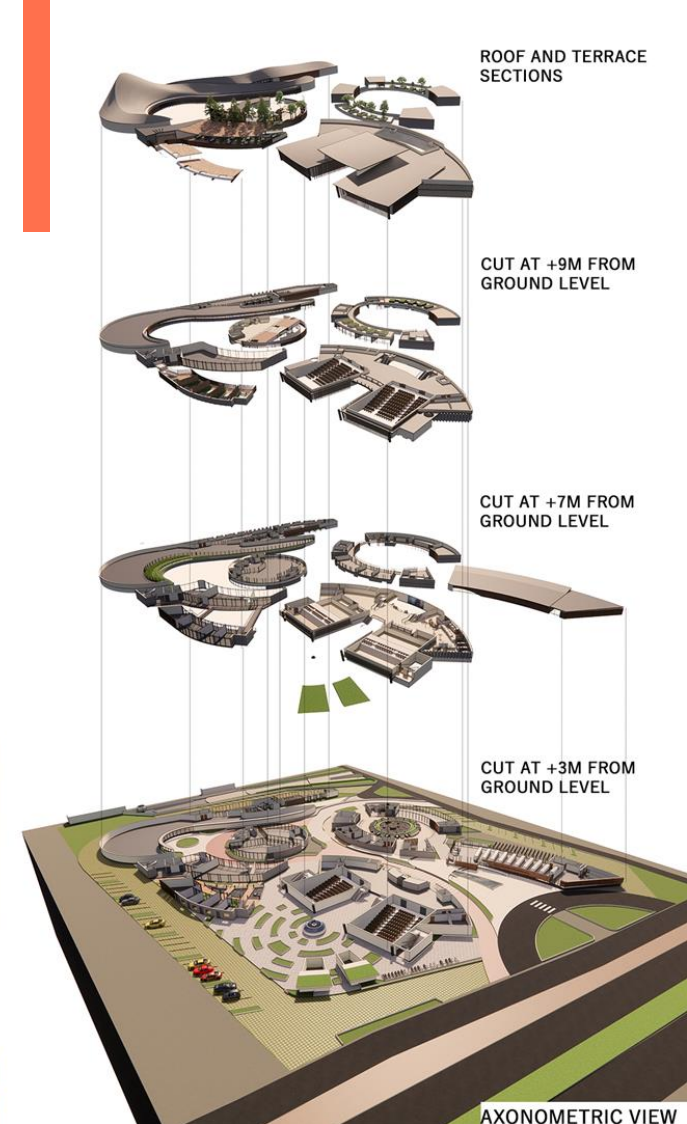
ZONING



WIND DIRECTION



NORTH ELEVATION



AXONOMETRIC VIEW



SCHOOL FOR AUTISM



KARBABAD, BAHRAIN

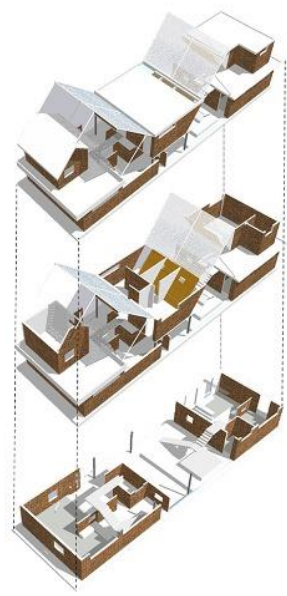
The school has given importance to an educational as well as therapeutic setting and it incorporates architectural methods to enhance the sensory experience of children with ASD. The aim was to create spaces that help the child feel less overwhelmed but at the same time help them wander safely. Some typical design features such as curvilinear pathways (for easier way-finding) usage of neutral, raw colours which are less distracting to the students, the teacher to student ratio, the avoidance of tall windows, and incorporation of more physical activity spaces had to be considered while designing. More green area has been proposed in order to achieve nature therapy to some extent.

- EMIL JOSE

Sustenance of Farming Village

BY BHUVANESH

The project is an agglomeration of farming community with knowledge centre, stores, restaurant creating a small scale economy for them to sustain. With rapid urbanisation the farming community will stand as roots for satisfying the growing food demand and encourages the growth of food in the place where we live.



*Axonometric Projection of the residential cluster



*View of the AV hall and gathering space



*Sectional perspective through the stores and restaurant



*View of facade of the restaurant

The proposed history museum deals majorly with the Sangam era. The museum would function as a source of enlightenment, recreation, cultural awareness and a medium for the conservation and continuity of value.

The Museum explores more on its form as a whole and its response to site. The concepts of regulating lines and promenade; scale and hierarchy; volume and lighting, and their importance in relation to display areas have been exploited to create a volume that would provide different experiences at every visit.

- SNEHA. S



AGARAM

An Archaeological Museum at Keezhadi, Madurai



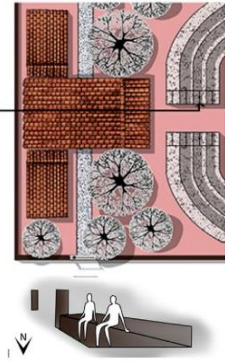
LOCATION

Vadaranthangal village is located in katpadi tehsil of vellore district in tamilnadu , India . Vellore and katpadi are the district and subdistrict headquarters of vadaranthangal village respectively . Vadaranthangal has a total population of



DESIGN

The space will have 4 entrances , a public building , and an amphitheater which faces a redesigned stage which has the banyan tree at its center . The space on the north and the southern side of the building will have gardens and a seating area and all function as a hangout spot . On western side there is a small building that will function as a shaded area for the bus , the boundary of the site is defined by a 50 cm high wall that also serves as



The walls are made of bricks , the roof is clay tiled . The highest part of the building is 4m and lowest is 3m . The wooden rafters are made of locally available wood and in vellore teak and sagwon wood is used . The flooring is made of mosaic tiles .

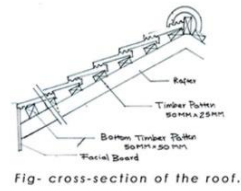


Fig- cross-section of the roof.

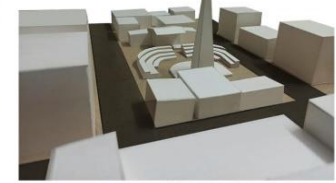
SITE CONTEXT

Site is located closer to the entrance of the village . It has a bus stop nearby and is surrounded by many public buildings . It is used as gathering space during festivals. The site has dimensions of 30m x 20m and area of 600 sqm . Pithing this area it has a small temple on the western side of the site . The space has a pedestal which s used during festival times and has a banyan tree o it which



MODEL

The model is made to show the form of the public space . The obelisk represents the banyan tree .



D SRIBALAJI
19BAR0009

ABOUT THE VILLAGE

The site is located in vadivelkarai , Madurai , district , tamilnadu , India . It is 15 kms way from the city . There are totally 400 houses houses with population of 2200 . The village has got all basic facilities that a common village could get .



PLAN

Apart from the meeting space , there are three other elements like office , restrooms , and a multi functional settings . They are positioned at north and eastern side of the plot . On the west , we have a one meeting space with green landscape and its covered by trees . Having trees as a shelter helps us in creating cooler environment and helps in wind flow as the plot is surrounded by congested narrow streets and houses .



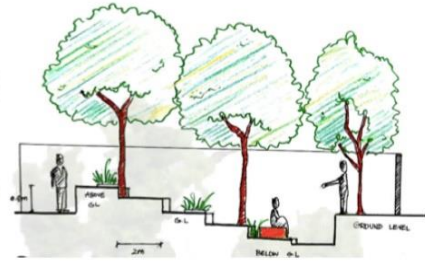
STREET PERSPECTIVE



3D VIEW

DESIGN

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SECTIONAL VIEW ACROSS THE MEETING SPACE

SECTION AND ELEVATION

FRONT ELEVATION SHOWING THE DETAILS OF ROOF ELEMENTS AND STRUCTURES



KRITHIK RAMANA
19BAR0041



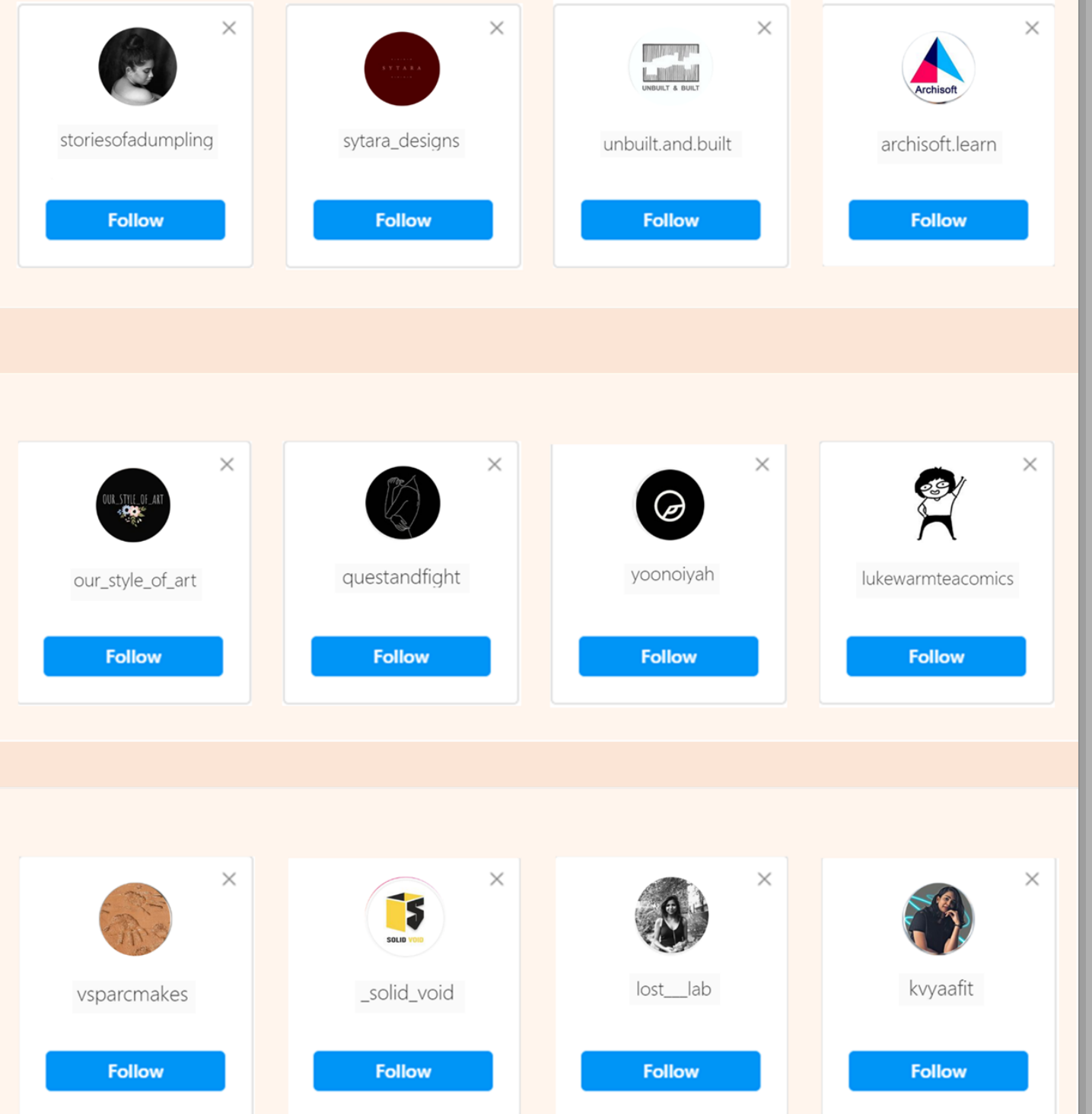
MODEL



Instagram



Suggested



Make sure to check out some other works of our school students on Instagram.



Hope you enjoyed the ~~tea~~
dalgona coffee

