Practices in Contemporary Art & Architecture CoLab-Goethe Lecture Series

REVITALIZATION OF THE RUR-URBAN GALAXIES



Venue
National Gallery of Modern Art,
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a talk by Balakrishna V Doshi on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 6 pm

About the speaker: Prof B V Doshi

Prof. Doshi is at once an architect, planner, teacher, poet and importantly a story teller. His Vastu Shilpa Foundation in Ahmedabad is an architectural practice as well as a research facility for understanding and addressing the complex issues of the Indian city. Case studies for Jaipur and the representation of those ideas in Indian miniature style are now part of architectural folklore.

Prof. Doshi's oeuvre is a vast spectrum, both in scale and building types. From the small house that he built for himself in 1960 (that has since grown), to the design of Indian cities, the sheer stretch of Doshi's canvas is overwhelming. Bangalore houses one of his more celebrated works, the Indian Institute of Management – a project that has been inspired by the complexity of 'temple cities' and in turn has inspired, through its universal character, many architects of the last two generations.

Prof. Doshi had the vision, in the late 50s, for a new architectural school for Ahmedabad. He was able to convince his patrons – enlightened mill owners – of the need for this School of Excellence in Architecture. The product was CEPT, of which he was the first director, and which has gone on to become the premier school of architecture for graduate and post graduate studies in the country. The school is housed in a building designed by Prof. Doshi and is a poetic expression of the way architectural thinking should be exchanged between teacher and student.

Prof. Doshi's work has received both national and international recognition. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 1976, an honorary Doctorate of Arts from U Penn in 1989 and from McGill in 2006. He has also been awarded the Gold Medal from the French Institute of Architects.

If one is to judge from a recent film made on him, titled DOSHI, by a Bangalore architect, his curiosity for new discoveries and sharing of the discoveries he has made, over half a century, remains undiminished.

About the lecture series: Practices in Contemporary Art & Architecture

Practices in Contemporary Art & Architecture Lecture Series has been initiated by CoLab Art & Architecture, Goethe-Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan, Bangalore in collaboration with the Venkatappa Art Gallery, Bangalore. Spread over a year with one lecture a month, the visual art series will focus on practitioners who look at both 'reconstruction' and the 'historical turn' from the perspective of contemporary artistic practice: the revisions and re-readings that take place when images, works or events from the past circulate in a changing set of configurations; the lectures on architecture will attempt to look at the radical shift in the imagining of the public space and the notion of spatial equity, and the questions thus raised.

For further details contact Max Mueller Bhavan- (080) 25205305/6/7/8 CoLab Art & Architecture – 98860 74175





