



13TH ISOLA CONFERENCE

REIMAGINING LANDSCAPES

IDENTITY | APPROACH | STEWARDSHIP



ISOLA

ORGANIZED BY

INDIAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

KOCHI
KERALA, INDIA



15-16
FEBRUARY
2019

2 DAYS | 6 SPEAKERS | 4 WORKSHOPS
+ 3 POST-CONFERENCE TOURS



REIMAGINING LANDSCAPES

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As India and the world confront the challenges of rising waters, fragile ecosystems, extreme climate events, polluted cities, rapid, unplanned development and degraded environments, equitable healthy living environments and continued ecological appropriateness have become critically endangered. The self-healing capacity of natural systems is becoming severely threatened.

The role of the landscape architect transcends boundaries, in integrating intangible values of culture, people, places, land, water, air, context and site-specific conditions into ecologically healthy places to meet present and future challenges. Landscape architects play a critical role in synthesizing a range of professional expertise and skills and are best trained to function as members and heads of multi - disciplinary teams that can work on healing the Earth.

We come from a rich tradition of ecological wisdom and landscape aesthetics; a tradition that can help us direct, distinguish and protect the ecological processes that will define the future of the land and our habitats. The state of Kerala is symbolic of the juncture at which landscape architects stand today. Unquestionably God's own country, its ecological heritage is abundant yet finite and fragile. How we will address the ecological processes inherent in this land, and across the world, through practice and academia, in the years to come, will be our lasting legacy as a profession.

The intent of the conference is to learn from pioneers, share with our peers, and educate policy makers in the role that landscape architects in India must play; a role that places us at the forefront of ecological processes and design practice. Ecological democracy is a new and exciting field that combines the forces of ecology and participatory democracy to design urban landscapes that help us to create resilient communities." To understand also how a landscape reacts to a change or disturbance over time on its own or how human intervention can help it, can help us imagine ways of mitigating the effects of future disturbances. It is vital to understand how ecological process is addressed by designers across the globe, as it is to study how Nature adjusts to changes over time.

A few landscape and planning related professionals around the globe have been using ecological principles and processes to guide and inform their work. It is time to learn from them, as well as from the almost-lost cultural practices that for centuries have been using the Earth's natural processes and rhythms as a basis for development and design. It is time to study, design and create landscapes with ecological processes as their primary function.



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FEBRUARY 15 & 16, 2019
KOCHI, KERALA, INDIA

SPEAKERS



Yossapon Boonsom

Co-founder and Director, Shma Company Limited, a landscape architectural firm in Thailand

Shma Company Limited is a landscape creative platform that aims to make the Earth better by working towards 'inclusive territory'. This landscape design firm uses the principle of a human-centred approach to understand human behaviours, needs, insights throughout the design process to improve the lives of people living the ongoing and future city challenges. This creative and interactive approach requires not only a collaborative platform to pull all the resources and tools from different stakeholders, shareholders, organizations and multidisciplinary to implement the territory, but also, it broadens perspectives to identify the appropriate strategies.

WEB URL:

<http://www.shmadesigns.com/>



Dr. T. V. Ramachandra

Co-ordinator, Energy and Wetlands Research Group
Convenor, Environmental Information Systems (ENVIS) at Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc, Bangalore

A passionate researcher at the Centre for Environmental Studies (IISc. Bangalore), Dr TVR's research interests range from specialised ecological studies to energy renewability and further, to curriculum planning of environmental education. His in-depth knowledge and expertise in these fields is widely sought after, by the State of Karnataka and the Govt. of India to develop environmental policies and their implementation strategies at the state and national level.

WEB URLS:

<http://ces.iisc.ernet.in/energy>

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/T_V_Ramachandra/publications



Gena Wirth

Design Principal, SCAPE Landscape Architecture & Urban Design Studio, New York

As the Ddesign Principal of SCAPE, Gena draws from her inter-disciplinary training to create ecologically rich and culturally relevant landscapes from the infrastructure level to the site level. She has been actively involved in several of SCAPE's pioneering State-initiated research and design programmes for New-York State. Examples include 'Oyster-ecture' (adaptation strategy for climate change and sea-level rise in NYC), SIRR (Special initiative for Rebuilding and resiliency of NYC), 'Rebuild by Design' (pro-active design strategies for disaster management), 'Living Breakwaters' (a climate change resiliency strategy for the South Shore of Staten Island).

WEB URLS:

<https://www.scapestudio.com/people/gena-wirth/>

<https://www.scapestudio.com/projects/oyster-ecture-moma-rising-currents/>

<https://www.scapestudio.com/projects/living-breakwaters-competition/>

SPEAKERS



Jelle Therry

Design Director, Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl, Singapore

The Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl strives to be a catalyst for 'liveable public spaces that integrate natural systems'. Their work is grounded in the belief that a vibrant public realm is at the heart of liveable cities. The innovative design solutions of the studio, derive from collaboration, active public participation and cross agency co-ordination. Their developed design philosophy is honed all over the world by their multicultural teams in Germany, Singapore, China, the Nordic countries and the Middle East.

The firm's stated vision is:

- To lead Integration in planning and design to improve quality of life
- To value precious Water as a source of life in planning and design
- To use Landscape Architecture to connect People to urban nature
- To use Art to enhance the experience of people

WEB URL:

<http://www.dreiseitl.com/en/start>



Dr. John D. Liu

Ecosystem Ambassador for the Commonland Foundation

Visiting Fellow at the Netherlands Institute of Ecology

Director, Environmental Education Media Project

Known to many as the 'Indiana Jones of Landscape Restoration', Dr. John D. Liu (ecosystem restoration researcher, educator and filmmaker), has dedicated his life to sharing real-world examples of once-degraded landscapes newly restored to their original fertile and biodiverse beauty. Liu, through his work, attempts to prove that when humans work with nature, degraded landscapes can be restored in a matter of years, and economies can be regenerated, putting food security and climate change mitigation within our reach. He believes that humanity must shift from commodifying nature to 'naturalising' our economy, in order to survive as a species.

WEB URL:

<https://knaw.academia.edu/JohnDLiu>



Breck Gastinger

Senior Associate, Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, Charlottesville, VA, U.S.A

NBW creates resilient landscapes by artfully combining eco-technologies, aesthetics, and the embedded histories of a site. We understand that sustainable landscape architecture design succeeds when it is based on ecologic performance, beauty, and an authentic engagement with the public. In design projects of all scales, emphasis is placed on the symbolic, ecological, and practical potential of plants, water, and natural processes in the sustainable landscape. Careful response is made to the environmental considerations of a site such as stormwater retention, wildlife conservation and habitat creation, and energy efficiency. These landscape designs engage the site in a way that informs the observer about the environment we occupy and the greater world around us.

WEB URL:

<http://www.nbwla.com/>

WORKSHOPS

W1

WORKSHOP 1 Living Waters

LEAD BY: Latha Raman, Inspiration and Consortium for DEWATS Dissemination CDD Society, India

DAY-1 | 15 February 2019
04:00 PM – 06:00 PM

W1 SESSION 1A

30 minutes

Conducted by Gilles Boulicot, Auroville Centre for Scientific Research

- Introduction – ‘Living Waters’
- Mechanics of aquatic and semi-aquatic ecosystems – the processes at work and how they function together
- Introduction to natural and constructed wetland ecosystems
- Constructed wetlands – Applications in the designed landscape
- Design principles for wetland ecosystems

W1 SESSION 1B

30 minutes

CONDUCTED BY: Ganapathy P., Director–Programme, CDD Society, India

- Rejuvenation of water bodies
- Restoring ecosystem processes in dead water-bodies
- Naturally self-cleaning water bodies
- Case studies of different approaches towards rejuvenation of water bodies
- Regulatory context for water body rejuvenation and for wetland treatment systems

W1 SESSION 1C

60 minutes

CONDUCTED BY: Latha Raman Jaigopal, Governing Body Member, CDD Society, India and Karthik, Senior Engineer, CDD Society, India

- Case Study 1 – Participative approach towards sustainable rejuvenation of water bodies – the Alleppey case study [15 minutes] by Latha/ Karthik
- Case Study 2 – by Gena Wirth [15 minutes]
- Case Study 3 – by Jelle Therry [15 minutes]
- Live project – Rameswaram Canal System, Fort Kochi
 - Problem definition by Latha/ Karthik [15 minutes]
 - Approaches and invitation of solutions [by workshop leaders]
 - Division into 3 groups led by workshop leaders/ guest speakers

DAY-2 | 16 February 2019

09:30 AM – 11:00 AM

W1 SESSION 2A

90 minutes

- Discussion of solution among each group [15 to 30 minutes]
- Presentation of solution [10 minutes each, with total of 30–45 minutes]

W1 SESSION 2B

- Assimilation of the solutions and conclusion [30 minutes]

W2

WORKSHOP 2 Gardens that don't need Gardening

LEAD BY: Paul Blanchflower, Auroville Botanical Gardens, Puducherry
Dr. John D. Liu [Speaker]

DAY-1 | 15 February 2019
04:00 PM – 06:00 PM

In the past fifty years we have learned a lot about the characteristics of native plants. We know that they are “low maintenance” – adapt to low-fertility soils and easily survive with the seasonal rains of the region. We now realize that for every exotic plant we are using in our gardens, there is a native alternative. Blending native with exotic may be the way of the future. Native plants need not be viewed as “specimens” any longer and Permaculture need not remain a “demonstration”. The workshop aims to open up whole new avenues in blending these themes with our present horticulture styles, with experts elaborating on the theme.

W2 SESSION 1

Introduction of Topic

Introduction of Experts [Paul and Dr. John]

PART A

NATIVE PLANTS IN THE PLANTING PALETTE

45 minutes

CONDUCTED BY: Paul Blanchflower, Auroville Botanical Gardens

Format: Power Point Presentation

- Introductory Session
- Context: Where and why to use native plants
- Environmental analysis
- Choosing the right plants based on suitability
- Building a plant-palette: What goes together, what doesn't



WORKSHOPS



- Designing with a palette of natives
- Combining natives with conventional nursery stocks
- Potential and pitfalls of working with natives
- Sourcing/Propagation – Auroville Botanical Gardens
- Introducing some native plants for planting design
- Some projects presenting planting schemes with natives

PART B PERMACULTURE

45 minutes

CONDUCTED BY: Dr. John D. Liu, Speaker

Format: Video

GARDEN AS PERMACULTURE

- What is Permaculture?
- Permaculture garden: Its relevance
- When to consider designing your garden as a Permaculture
- The steps in the process

DAY-2 | 16 February 2019
09:30 AM – 11:00 AM

W2 SESSION 2 INTERACTIVE SESSION

- Exploring avenues open to Landscape Architects to use native plants
- Challenges faced like:
 - Plant Knowledge
 - Access to Plant material and developing the contractors skill set
 - Limitations to the design palate
 - Client expectations and perceptions of what a landscape should look like
 - Times lines and the concept of successional landscapes
- Relevance of Permaculture

The session would be followed by brainstorming sessions and discussions on the topic.

For the Interactive Session, participants may be divided into groups of 5-6 people. Participants would work on large sheets of paper with markers and would eventually pin them up for a group discussion.

W3

WORKSHOP 3

Flow of Nature – Drainage design following natural systems

LEAD BY: Dr. T. V. Ramachandra, Speaker
Dr Sunny George, Director, SCMS Water Institute,
Cochin
Breck Gastinger, Speaker

DAY-1 | 15 February 2019
04:00 PM – 06:00 PM

W3 SESSION 1 WATER AS A RESOURCE AND PROCESS OF NATURE

30 minutes

CONDUCTED BY: Dr. T. V. Ramachandra

- Water bank : Equilibrium in nature
- Nature's design: The holistic water-system
- Catchment area analysis and flow dynamics of Urban water bodies

W3 SESSION 2

PART A URBAN HYDROLOGY: MANAGE WATER WAYS FOLLOWING NATURE'S DESIGN

20 minutes

CONDUCTED BY: Breck Gastinger

- Active design measures to replicate nature
- Passive design measures to ensure preservation of existing surface flows
- Innovative methods of efficient surface water management currently practiced in different countries

PART B WATER-WISE TRADITIONAL PRACTICES IN INDIA

20 minutes

CONDUCTED BY: Dr. T. V. Ramachandra

- Case studies
- Applicability in the current urban scenario

W3 SESSION 3

PART A URBAN NATURAL CANAL LIVE PROJECT (THEVARA PERANDOOR CANAL – PANAMPILLY NAGAR STRETCH)

15 minutes

CONDUCTED BY: Dr. Sunny George

- Project introduction
- Data presentation

PART B SITE VISIT

30 minutes

DAY-2 | 16 February 2019
09:30 AM – 11:00 AM

W3 SESSION 4

75 minutes

CONDUCTED BY: Dr. T. V. Ramachandra,
Breck Gastinger & Dr. Sunny George

PART A DISCUSSION AND DESIGN WORK IN GROUPS

15 minutes

- Problem identification
- Study and analysis
- Design proposal

PART B DESIGN PRESENTATION

60 minutes

PART C CONCLUSION

20 minutes

W4

WORKSHOP 4

The 'How' of Landscape Installations

.....
This multi-session workshop will bring up the latest in technology for landscape installations

POST CONFERENCE

TOURS

SUNDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2019



T1

TOUR 1 Kumarakam Resorts

COST: RS. 1,500.00 PER PERSON



KUMARAKOM LAKE RESORT

The rooms, villas and suites at Kumarakom Lake Resort are a perfect blend of Kerala's traditional architectural charm with luxurious, modern.
<http://www.kumarakomlakeresort.in>

COCONUT LAGOON is located upon the Vembanad lake, one of India's largest inland lakes with its own distinctive ecology that supports a plethora of natural life. There's only one way to get to Coconut Lagoon: over the water.

Situated on the shores of the Vembanad Lake, the longest backwater lake in Kerala, **ZURI KUMARAKOM RESORT** has breathtaking views of the serene backwaters. The fresh sea breeze, miles of serene backwaters and swaying coconut palms all welcome you to an unforgettable experience of luxury and peace. The dreamy state of Kerala, the southern tip of the Indian peninsula is often referred to as 'God's Own Country' due to its pristine natural beauty.

Itinerary | 7:30 AM—2:30 PM

BUS FROM HYATT
HOUSE BOAT FROM THANEERMUKKOM
KUMARAKOM LAKE RESORT
LUNCH
COCONUT LAGOON
ZURI RESORT
BACK TO THANEERMUKKOM
BACK TO HYATT

T2

TOUR 2 Kochi-Muziris Biennale

COST: RS. 1,000.00* PER PERSON



As an artist-initiated organisation, the **KOCHI-MUZIRIS BIENNALE** was founded on the conviction that art is essential in society. The Kochi Biennale Foundation oversees a comprehensive programmes division that designs and organises critical education and outreach initiatives throughout the year. These programmes include exciting talks, conferences, performances, educational interventions, workshops, and other forms of wide public engagement.
<http://kochimuzirisbiennale.org/>

Itinerary | 9:30 AM—4:30 PM**

BOAT FROM HYATT
KOCHI-MUZIRIS BIENNALE
LUNCH*: VARIOUS OPTIONS WITHIN THE CITY
BACK TO BOAT
SUNSET

* LUNCH COST IS NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR COST

** RETURN TIMINGS ARE FLEXIBLE. YOU MAY RETURN BACK ANY TIME IN BETWEEN



Artworks shown here are from the past editions of Kochi-Muziris Biennale

T3

TOUR 3 Iringole Kavu & Paniyeli Poru

COST: RS. 1,500.00 PER PERSON



IRINGOLE KAVU is a famous Hindu In forest temple dedicated to Goddess Durga, situated in Kunnathunad Taluk of Ernakulam district, 2.5 km from Perumbavoor. This is one of the 108 Durga Temples in Kerala believed to have been consecrated by Lord Parasurama, the sixth avatar of Lord Vishnu.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iringole_Kavu

PANIYELI PORU has an amazing sight of Periyar river flowing through rocks and between dense rain forests. The vast view of distant green hillocks and the tranquility around the place is really great.
https://wikitravel.org/en/Paniyeli_Poru

Itinerary | 7:30 AM—2:30 PM

BUS FROM HYATT
IRINGOLE KAVU
LUNCH
PANIYELI PORU
BACK TO HYATT



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PROGRAM*

13TH ISOLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2019 KOCHI, KERALA

DAY 0: THURSDAY | 14 FEBRUARY 2019

VENUE: **BOLGATTY PALACE & ISLAND RESORT**

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	PRESS MEETING AT PRESS CLUB
02:00 PM – 04:00 PM	ISOLA NATIONAL EC MEETING & EB MEETING
04:00 PM – 07:00 PM	EC AND ALL EIGHT CHAPTER ELECTED MEMBERS MEETING & WORKSHOP BRIEFING
07:30 PM – 09:30 PM	PRE-CONFERENCE DINNER

14
FEB

DAY 1: FRIDAY | 15 FEBRUARY 2019

VENUE: **LULU GRAND HYATT**

08:30 AM – 09:30 AM	REGISTRATION
09:30 AM – 10:30 AM	INAUGURAL SESSION
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	TEA
10:45 AM – 12:45 PM	SPEAKERS SESSION 1: IDENTITY DONOR PRESENTATION
12:45 PM – 01:45 PM	LUNCH
01:45 PM – 03:45 PM	SPEAKERS SESSION 2: APPROACH DONOR PRESENTATION
03:45 PM – 04:00 PM	TEA
04:00 PM – 06:00 PM	WORKSHOPS 1,2,3 & 4 WORKSHOPS PAPER PRESENTATION
07:00 PM – 08:00 PM	CULTURAL PROGRAM: TRADITIONAL ART FORMS OF KERALA
08:00 PM – 10:00 PM	GALA DINNER WITH FUSION INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

15
FEB

DAY 2: SATURDAY | 16 FEBRUARY 2019

VENUE: **LULU GRAND HYATT**

09:30 AM – 11:00 AM	WORKSHOPS 1,2,3 & 4 WORKSHOPS PAPER PRESENTATION
11:00 AM – 11:15 AM	TEA
11:15 AM – 01:15 PM	SPEAKERS SESSION 3: STEWARDSHIP
01:15 PM – 02:15 PM	LUNCH
02:15 PM – 03:00 PM	AWARDS FUNCTION
03:00 PM – 03:30 PM	WORKSHOP CONCLUSION
03:30 PM – 03:45 PM	TEA
03:45 PM – 05:00 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION FELICITATION VOTE OF THANKS BY CONVENOR

16
FEB

DAY 3: SUNDAY | 17 FEBRUARY 2019

SINGLE DAY TOURS

07:30 AM – 02:30 PM	TOUR T1 KUMARAKOM RESORTS
09:30 AM – 04:30 PM	TOUR T2 KOCHI-MUZIRIS BIENNALE
07:30 AM – 02:30 PM	TOUR T3 IRINGOLE KAVU & PANIYELI PORU

17
FEB



ISOLA

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KOCHI, KERALA

Indian Society of Landscape Architects
www.isola.org.in

CONFERENCE ORGANIZED BY
ISOLA Kerala Chapter

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REGISTRATION, DETAILS OF
LANDSCAPE TROPHY [UG & PG]
& MORE INFORMATION
AVAILABLE ON:

<http://www.isola.org.in/conference/>



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ERNAKULAM

LULU
GRAND
HYATT
KAYAL

BOLGATTY
PALACE
& ISLAND
RESORT

VEMBANAD LAKE

K O C H I



HOST CITY

Kochi has attracted explorers and travellers to its shores for over six centuries. The port city on the tropical Malabar Coast is a fascinating blend of sea & back waters, lush nature, giant Chinese fishing nets, synagogues, ancient mosques and medieval Portuguese & British Raj architecture. Here, landscape is an integral part of life and the region is blessed with amazing nature—rain forests, wildlife sanctuaries, biosphere reserves, hills, cliffs, backwaters, lakes and sea shores. The region is equally well-known for its rich heritage and culture as well as its diverse traditional cuisines.

THE CONFERENCE IS SUPPORTED BY

RAIN BIRD

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Hunter

ELT INDIA

Basant Betons

SUPER

Vak

ADVA STAR

*There may be minor changes in the final schedule and the program will be updated continuously up to the conference.