



Urban Landscapes - Indian Case Studies

Studio Mumbai Praxis

Monday 15th October 2012

18.00 Lecture by Bijoy Jain

Introduced by Francesco Garofalo and Margherita Guccione

19.00-21.00 Exhibition Opening

The British School at Rome, Via Gramsci 61

Press Release

In **Praxis**, the third event in **Urban Landscapes-Indian Case Studies**, The British School at Rome will present the work of the highly acclaimed Indian practice **Studio Mumbai**.

Praxis is the process by which a theory, lesson, or skill is enacted, practised, embodied or realized. It may also refer to the act of engaging, applying, exercising, realizing or practising ideas.

All encompassing, the practice of the architect, whether tangible, ambiguous or theoretical, is primarily concerned with the nature of being. This ontological understanding in Praxis may begin to express how the work at Studio Mumbai is created from an interactive process, where ideas are explored through the production of large-scale mock-ups, material studies, sketches and drawings to form an intrinsic part of our thought and body. Projects are developed through careful consideration of place and a practice that engages intently in an environment and culture, the physical and emotional engagement of the people involved; where building techniques and materials draw from an ingenuity arising from limited resources. Bijoy Jain

The exhibition will concentrate on the unique working method of **Studio Mumbai** and will present, for the first time, documentary photographic studies that describe how the merging of the formal and informal city has influenced the design of their buildings. Preparatory drawings, working drawings and films will also be exhibited as well as illustrations of the completed work, including Palmyra House, Tara House and Copper House. The spectator will feel transported into the studio of the practice.

Studio Mumbai was founded by Bijoy Jain in 1995. It is a human infrastructure of skilled craftsmen and architects who design and build the work directly. The essence of the work lies in the relationship between land and architecture. The endeavour is to show the genuine possibility in creating buildings that emerge through a process of collective dialogue and a face-to-face sharing of knowledge.

Studio Mumbai was awarded a special mention by the jury at the 2010 Venice Biennale and won the BSI Swiss Architectural Award in 2012. The practice is exhibiting in the 2012 Venice Biennale and at the Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo in September 2012.

We are grateful to the Pantheon Institute, directed by Romolo Martemucci, for its help with the production of this exhibit. We would particularly like to thank the Institute's Urban Design studio, led by David Sabatello and Jody Patterson, with participating architecture students from Pennsylvania State University and landscape architecture students from University of Massachusetts Amherst.

The British School at Rome Architecture Programme curated by Marina Engel

Praxis-Studio Mumbai

The British School at Rome, Via Gramsci 61

Opening times: Tuesday to Saturday from 16.30 to 19.30, to November 3rd 2012

Info: T +39 06 3264939; www.bsrome.it

Info Press: Rosanna Tripaldi email rosannatripaldi@hotmail.com; mob +39338.196548

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