

## SANJEEV SHANKAR - BIOGRAPHY

Sanjeev Shankar was born in the Nilgiri hills of Southern India.

As founder of a transdisciplinary creative studio, Sanjeev uses his training in design, science and architecture to merge traditional crafts-based knowledge with contemporary cultural and technological trends to construct cutting-edge, socially responsible and life enhancing architecture. Over the last ten years, he has inspired and galvanized communities globally by walking the thin, exciting line between restraint and risk. Through revolutionary leadership, rigorous research and experimentation, and an inclusive hands-on methodology, he has reshaped the way people think, create and dream. A recipient of the Chevening fellowship from Britain and the DAAD fellowship from Germany, his critically acclaimed works have featured at the Royal Institute of British Architects in London; Centre for Architecture in New York; Doors of Perception in Delhi and the Craft Nouveau session in Brussels. He was recently awarded the Emerging Architecture award at the Royal Institute of British Architects, London and has won the “10 Great Ideas to change the world” project, a global initiative focussed on revitalizing the planet by the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay.

Sanjeev continues to explore a collective and critical agenda for human ingenuity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century by blurring the boundaries between fields. His recent project, ‘Jugaad’, won the emerging architect of the year award at RIBA in 2010. *Jugaad* has been used as a benchmark for participatory methods in architecture and was published in 'Together Alone: Architecture and Collaboration' by Petra Havelka (Artist Books, 2011) and ‘Limited Language: rewriting design: responding to a feedback culture’ by Colin Davies and Monika Parrinder (Birkhauser Architecture, 2009). Other projects, which have received critical acclaim, include we all fly, silent rivers, bamboo lamps and handmade footwear. *We all fly* was published in ‘How to use type’ by Lindsey Marshall and Lester Meachem (Laurence King, 2012) and the handmade footwear project is being used as a reference case study for exploring bicultural identities in products. His research interest lies in using nature and biology as a springboard for material invention and innovation. Currently he is developing a collaborative research framework to realize the green brick vision.

Sanjeev Shankar earned his B.Arch(with distinction) from the School of Planning and Architecture in New Delhi in 2004 and a M.Des in Industrial design from the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay in 2006. He also received a M.Sc in Emerging technologies and design from the Architectural Association London in 2010.

He is an avid photographer, traveller and writer who can be found most evenings between 4 and 5, observing the movement of light, water and wind in a nearby forest.

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