



From our Desk

BK&A on Quality Construction

The biggest challenge is maintaining the quality of the construction. When the quality of construction is poor, the durability of the buildings will be low, thereby making the buildings unsustainable in the long run. In the Indian real estate scene, the importance should be given to the requirements of the users; otherwise, many of the buildings will become obsolete in the near future.

It is important to develop new approaches and solutions. These include selecting appropriate technologies, using the best and not the cheapest method of construction, employing life-cycle assessment, seeking out local sources of energy and materials, and employing local building skills and know-how.

Being talented and putting in hard work alone is not enough to stay creative. One has to be truthful and sincere in their work.

<https://www.bennykuriakose.com/post/the-importance-of-design-details-and-workmanship-in-construction>

(Explore More on the Topic)

Recent Highlights

Dr. Benny Kuriakose Speaks at Roca Think Turf

Dr. Benny Kuriakose attended the conference by Roca Think Turf at the Indore Marriott Hotel on March 11, 2023. Roca Think Turf is a fellowship of thought leaders who aim to create a better environment through a process of inquiry, dialogue, and action. They host architectural conversations where issues are trowelled, examine conditions of the built form, and question assumptions. It is an effort to review opinions and critically evaluate them in the context of changing perspectives. Design Owl is the knowledge partner of Roca Think Turf.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VG0drBMvojw>

(Read More)





Meet Our Design

Pedanandipadu House

Pedanandipadu House mirrors the traditional context of Guntur in Andhra Pradesh. The layers of the steep roofs distinguish the house from the rest while providing a shield against the harsh heat and direct sunlight. The extensive and uninterrupted veranda on the northern side surrounding the house is also a protective measure from heat and rain, apart from its aesthetic and contextual factors. Nature is welcomed indoors through open areas and courtyards, where communal spaces open up and blend in.

The design of the house is planned with fluidity, where the carved pillars demarcate each space from one another rather than walls. Moreover, the fluid design permits a good indoor climate and cross-ventilation. Each of the openings has a sunshade with an elegantly carved support, which protects the walls from direct heat. The bedrooms are spacious and minimalistically designed. The brightly coloured athangudi tiles contrast with the plain, white walls, thus directing focus to the floor. The vintage decor and timber members blend well with the traditional aesthetic.

<https://www.bennykuriakose.com/residential-1/pedanandipadu-house>

(Learn More)









Latest Blogs to Explore



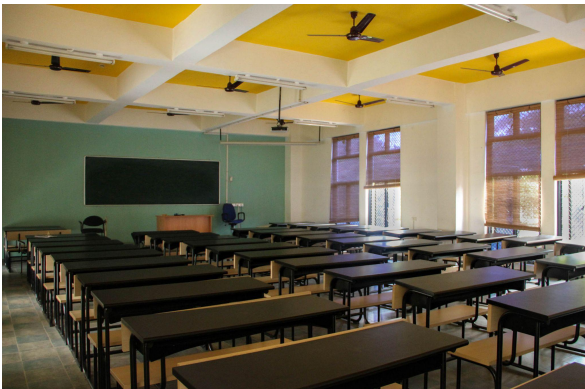
Tranquebar: The Shore of the Singing Waves

Tharangambadi translates as the shore where the waves sing. It was a Dutch colony from AD 620 to 1845. The personal travel blog is visually expressed through the words of the photographer, Naseef T.P., of his journey with his colleagues to visit Tharangambadi, and the buildings he saw were captured on the way.



Photographing the Exterior of a Historic Building: Part II

Taking an exterior photograph should be able to capture the context. It can be captured in a panoramic view or with slight variations in lighting and height. The blog will go into the depths of exterior photography and how documentation can be done on a historic building.



Designing Student Amenities That Encourage Creative Growth

Education must help achieve every child's passion and dreams. The curriculum must be flexible to the requirements of the students and not force them to be something that is not meant for them. The blog explores the spatial requirements that encourage creative growth and co-curricular activities.

<https://www.bennykuriakose.com/post/tranquebar-the-shore-of-the-singing-waves>

<https://www.bennykuriakose.com/post/photographing-the-exterior-of-a-historic-building-part-ii>

What's New?

Tedx Talk by Dr. Benny Kuriakose Is Released on YouTube

The TEDx Talk by Dr. Benny Kuriakose, which was hosted by Anant National University in Ahmedabad on 27th August 2022, is released in their YouTube channel. He was one of the speakers at TEDxAnantU 2022, an independent event licensed under TED. He delivered a powerful speech on the need to adopt vernacular architecture and sustainability over western styles of architecture. The talk has opened people's eyes to the need to make a difference in the world's climate change crisis, and the use of natural materials like timber is the key to reversing the process.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-leUMOaic4>

(Watch Video)

BBC Documentary on Muziris

Muziris: The 'First Emporium of India' Lost for 700 Years

The BBC released a documentary on the ancient port of Muziris on their website. The documentary features the glorious history of the port of Muziris and how various excavations revealed layers of its multicultural history. Dr. Benny Kuriakose shares his thoughts on the historical port and the significance of the excavation in a small village like Pattanam. The documentary also talks about the deep relationship between Kochi and Muziris—like a mother and child.

<https://youtu.be/uVAPqZQ0mgU>

(Watch Video)