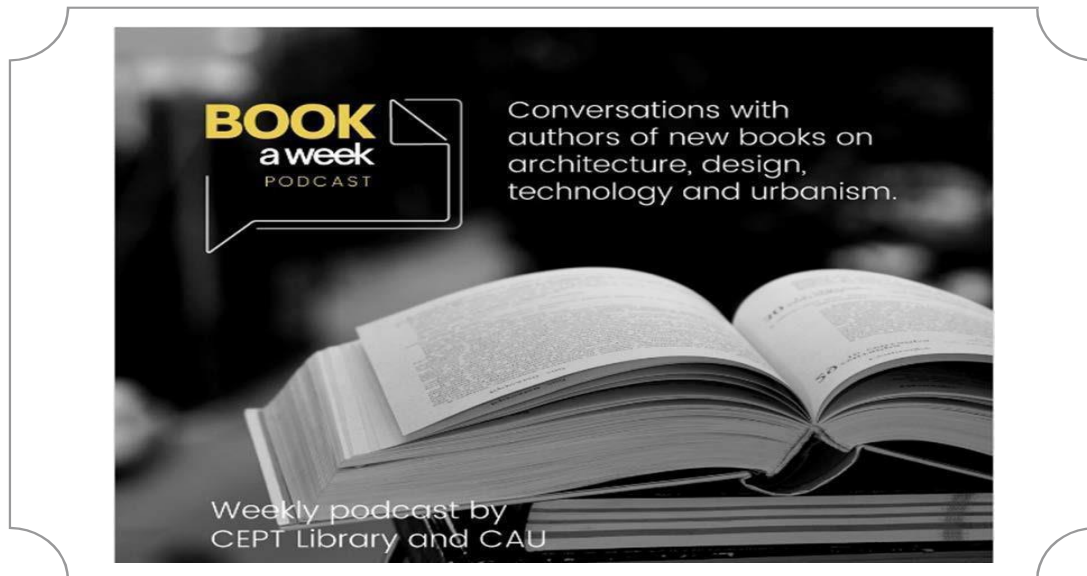


QUICK GUIDE
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BOOK a week PODCAST Series
Season - 2























About Book a Week Podcast - 2nd Edition

CEPT Library in association with the Center for Research on Architecture and Urbanism (CAU), CRDF, launches the second edition of the weekly podcast series titled 'Book-a-Week' in 2024.

It features 10 episodes, each focusing on a different book covering topics such as architectural history, urbanism, design theory, ecological thinking, and anthropology. Each episode, approximately 30 minutes in length, offers a reflective and genial conversation about the book, discussing its context, significance, and relevance in today's times.

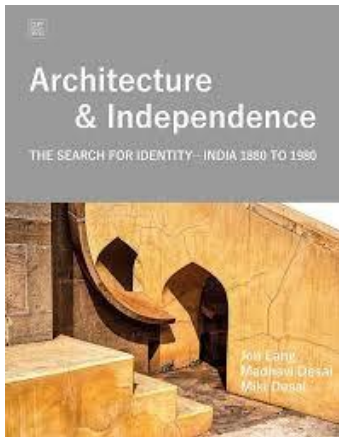
All episodes of this series are available for streaming on Spotify. Simply click on the provided links for the episode description and to access each episode directly.

Podcast Series - Season 2:

Titles	Description	Play
Episode 1: Bhavin Shukla in conversation with Prof. Miki Desai and Prof. Madhavi Desai on their book, ' Architecture and Independence: The Search for Identity – India 1880 to 1980 '		
Episode 2: Soumini Raja in conversation with Lindsay Bremner on her book, ' Monsoon as Method: A Book by Monsoon Assemblages '		
Episode 3: Shreyank Khemalpure in conversation with Vasudhendra Shroff on his book, ' The Unforgiving City and Other Stories '		
Episode 4: Soumini Raja in conversation with Professor Kazi Khalid Ashraf on his book, ' The Great Padma '		
Episode 5: Bhavin Shukla in in conversation with Anjan Mitra on his book, ' Durga Pujo and the city of Kolkata '.		
Episode 6: Bhavin Shukla Shreyank Khemalpure in conversation with Pinkish Shah, Editor of ' Sen Kapadia Architect: In Pursuance of Meanings '.		
Episode 7: Bhavin Shukla in in conversation with Snehal Shah, Editor of the book ' Footprints of Visvakarma: Studies in Indian Sculpture and Architecture '.		
Episode 8: Soumini Raja in conversation with Amita Baviskar on his book ' Uncivil City: Ecology, Equity and the Commons in Delhi '.		
Episode 9: Bhavin Shukla in conversation with Sarita Sundar on her book ' From the Frugal to the Ornate: Stories of the Seat In India '.		
Episode 10: Shreyank Khemalpure engages in conversation with Eric Denis and Marie-Hélène Zérah, Editors of the book ' Subaltern Urbanisation in India: An Introduction to the Dynamics of Ordinary Towns ' and Solomon Benjamin, author of the chapter ' Multilayered Urbanisation of the South Canara Territory ' in the book.		



Episode 1: Bhavin Shukla in conversation with Prof. Miki Desai and Prof. Madhavi Desai on their book, 'Architecture and Independence: The Search for Identity – India 1880 to 1980'



The book written by Miki Desai, Madhavi Desai and Jon Lang explores how Indian architecture has evolved over the past century, reflecting the spirit of its times, particularly during the fight for Independence. It delves into how architectural styles and designs have changed in response to political shifts in India and globally since the establishment of the Indian National Congress.

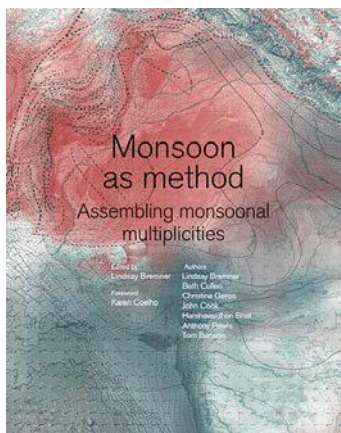
Jon Lang is an emeritus professor at The University of South Wales where he headed the School of Architecture and taught in the Masters of Urban Development and Design Program (MUDD). He was director for urban design of ERG/Environmental Research Group Inc. in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He directed the joint MArch/MCP program in urban design there before settling in Australia. He has authored and co-authored numerous books on urban design, architectural theory and modern architecture in India.



Miki Desai retired as a professor from the Faculty of Architecture, CEPT University, Ahmedabad after teaching there from 1981 to 2014. He has authored and co-authored books and held national and international exhibitions, based on his extensive research as well as drawing and photo-documentation, especially from his study of the vernacular, colonial and modern architecture of India. His books include *Wooden Architecture of Kerala* (2008), *Architecture and Independence: The Search for Identity: India 1880 to 1980* (co-authored with Jon Lang, Madhavi Desai, 2022) and numerous other notable works.

Madhavi Desai is an independent researcher, teacher and writer. She was an adjunct member of the Faculty of Architecture, CEPT University, Ahmedabad. She has authored, co-authored and edited several books on Indian architecture, especially with a focus on gender and built environment.

Episode 2: Soumini Raja in conversation with Lindsay Bremner on her book, 'Monsoon as Method: A Book by Monsoon Assemblages'

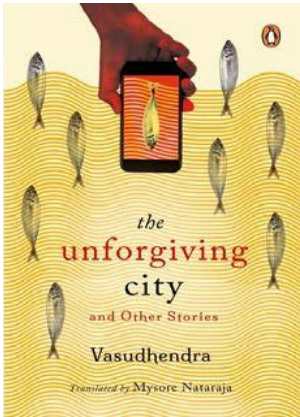


The book written by Lindsay Bremner, Beth Cullen, Christina Leigh Geros, Harshavardhan Bhat, Anthony Powis and John Cook explores how the Monsoon Assemblages project engages with the monsoon as an active force in shaping urban life and space in South and Southeast Asian cities. It challenges the perception of climate as passive, highlighting its role in influencing urban politics, ecologies, infrastructures, buildings, and human bodies.

Lindsay Bremner is a South African scholar and architect, and is currently Professor of Architecture at the University of Westminster, in the United Kingdom. Renowned for her contributions to the field, Bremner has authored numerous acclaimed books and has been honoured with several awards, notably the Jane Jacobs Prize in 2011. Her research focuses on the intersection of oceans, design, and climate change, reflecting her commitment to addressing pressing environmental challenges through architectural innovation and scholarship.



Episode 3: Shreyank Khemalpure in conversation with Vasudhendra Shroff on his book, 'The Unforgiving City and Other Stories'

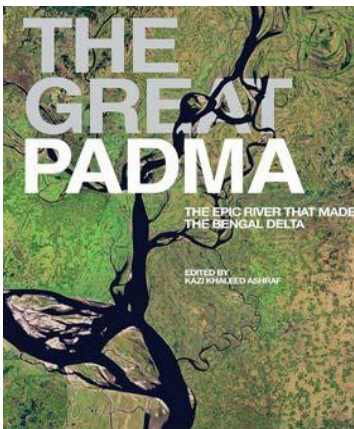


The book written by Vasudendra and translated by Mysore Nataraja, offers a raw and unflinching portrayal of urban life. Through a series of gripping narratives, it delves into the harsh realities faced by individuals navigating the complexities of modern cities. From the challenges of relationships to the pursuit of dreams amidst societal pressures, each story sheds light on the struggles and triumphs of urban existence. He captures the essence of the unforgiving cityscape, exploring themes of loneliness, resilience, and the search for meaning in a relentless urban environment.

Vasudhendra Shroff is an award-winning Kannada known for his short stories and novels. He is known for his writings that explore various aspects of urban life, including the experiences of the LGBTQ+ community in India. Through his exploration of themes like identity, relationships, and societal norms, Vasudhendra's work resonates with authenticity and depth. He is widely admired for his candid storytelling, which vividly portrays the complexities of contemporary Indian society, earning him accolades and praise from readers and critics alike.



Episode 4: Soumini Raja in conversation with Professor Kazi Khalid Ashraf on his book, 'The Great Padma'

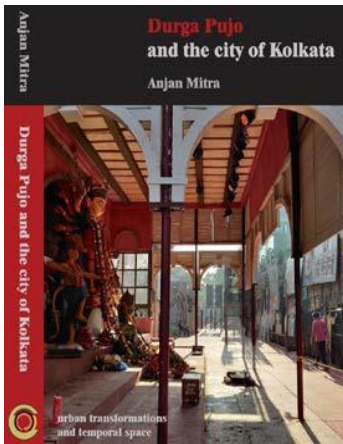


This book offers a comprehensive exploration of the intricate tapestry of life and history woven within the vast expanse of the Bengal Delta. The Book delves into the rich cultural heritage, geographical significance, and societal evolution of this unparalleled region. It offers a glimpse into the past and present of the delta, helping readers understand its importance and beauty in straightforward terms.

Kazi Khalid Ashraf is a Bangladeshi architect, urbanist and architectural historian. Working at the intersection of architecture, landscape and the city, Kazi Khalid Ashraf has authored various books and essays on architecture. Through his books and essays, he sheds light on architecture in Bangladesh and India, delves into the legacy of Louis Kahn, and examines the intricacies of Dhaka, the capital city. Ashraf's writings offer valuable insights into the evolution of architectural forms in Bangladesh, both in the past and present. Furthermore, his work on Dhaka presents the city as a focal point for understanding urban development within a deltaic setting, contributing significantly to urbanism discourse.



Episode 5: Bhavin Shukla in conversation with Anjan Mitra on his book, 'Durga Pujo and the city of Kolkata'



The book written by Anjan Mitra delves into the concept of temporality and its connection to the Bengali tradition of Durga Pujo in Kolkata. It transcends the physicality of buildings to explore how cultural practices shape our perception of time and space. Drawing from over 20 years of research, Anjan Mitra the author underscores the collaborative nature of design, emphasizing that its impact is shaped through community engagement and negotiation.

Anjan Mitra has been involved with architecture and urban development as a researcher, a practitioner and an activist. Over three decades, he has engaged in numerous research projects, advocating for responsible design practices that prioritize the holistic experience of the built environment and its connection to society. Notably, his extensive involvement with the Durga Pujo festivities in Kolkata over two decades underscores his dedication to understanding and enhancing public spaces. Mitra recognizes design as a collaborative endeavor, emphasizing the importance of co-production and active negotiation to achieve meaningful impact.

Episode 6: Bhavin Shukla Shreyank Khemalpure in conversation with Pinkish Shah, Editor of 'Sen Kapadia Architect: In Pursuance of Meanings' published by CEPT University Press in 2022.



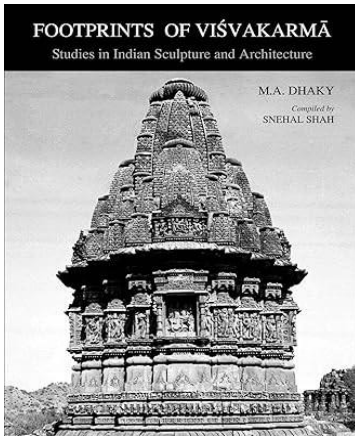
The book authored by Sen Kapadia, "In Pursuance of Meanings" is a profound reflection by esteemed architect Sen Kapadia, offering insights gleaned from over 50 years of professional practice. This seminal work, published by CEPT University, stands as a testament to Kapadia's view of architecture as a cultural endeavor. Written in the first person, the book is divided into four parts, each delving into different aspects of Kapadia's life and work. The book showcases eight carefully selected projects that exemplify Kapadia's design ethos and innovative approach. Overall, the book serves as a comprehensive compilation of Kapadia's life's work, providing a valuable resource for architects, scholars, and enthusiasts alike.

Sen kapadia is an Architect, Planner and Educationist, based in Mumbai. His illustrious career includes collaborating with renowned architect Louis Khan in establishing his own independent practice, a period that profoundly influenced his architectural journey. Beyond his architectural practice, Kapadia has made significant academic contributions through lectures, seminars, exhibitions, writings, and theoretical projects, enriching the discourse within the architectural community.

Pinkish Shah is an accomplished Design professional with a proven track record in the architecture and planning sector. With a Master's Degree in Architecture from The University of New Mexico, he brings a wealth of expertise to the table. He is also the founding Partner of the firm, S +PS Architects and former Dean Of Academic Affairs at Kamala Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute of Architecture



Episode 7: Bhavin Shukla in conversation with Snehal Shah, Editor of the book **‘Footprints of Visvakarma: Studies in Indian Sculpture and Architecture’**, published by the Akshara Publication in 2018

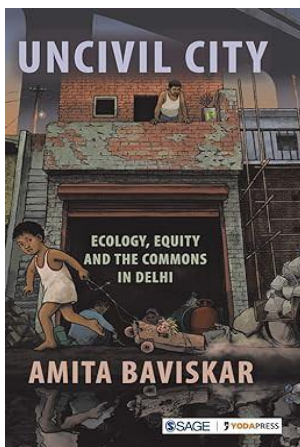


"Footprints of Visvakarma: Studies in Indian Sculpture and Architecture" is a scholarly exploration of Indian sculpture and architecture, delving into the rich heritage and artistic traditions of the region. Authored by M.A. Dhaky and edited by Snehal Shah, the book offers a comprehensive examination of the intricate details and profound symbolism found in Indian art forms, particularly focusing on the contributions of Visvakarma, the divine architect. Madhusudan Amilal Dhaky (1927–2016) was a distinguished historian and researcher of ancient and medieval Indian art, architecture, and archaeology from Gujarat. Serving at the AIIS Varanasi Centre and later at the Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Institute of Indology, Ahmedabad, he was recognized for his extensive publications, including contributions to the Encyclopedia of Indian Temple Architecture. He received the Padma Bhushan in 2010 and a lifetime achievement award from the Gujarat Itihas Parishad.



Snehal Shah, an architect with a childhood passion for drawing, studied at CEPT, Ahmedabad, under renowned professors like BV Doshi and Anant Raje. Inspired by Minimalism and Japanese architecture, he founded EssTeam in 2013, known for modern design and community-focused projects. With a growing team, Shah emphasizes collaboration and empowerment in his pursuit of innovative architecture.

Episode 8: Soumini Raja in conversation with Amita Baviskar on his book **"Uncivil City: Ecology, Equity and the Commons in Delhi"**, published by the SAGE Publications Pvt. Ltd. in 2020.

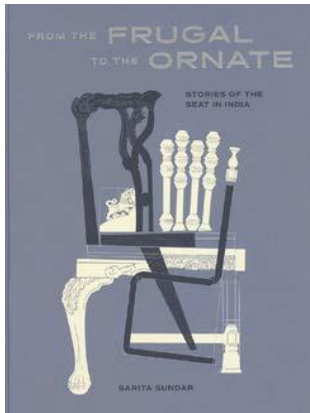


"Uncivil City: Ecology, Equity and the Commons in Delhi" by Amita Baviskar explores the complex interplay between urban development, environmental sustainability, and social justice in the context of Delhi, India's capital city. It gives a critical examination of how rapid urbanization, economic growth, and environmental degradation intersect to shape the lives of Delhi's residents. Overall, the book provides a nuanced analysis of the challenges facing contemporary urban India and offers valuable lessons for policymakers, activists, and scholars interested in creating more equitable and sustainable cities.

Amita Baviskar is a prominent scholar in Environmental Studies and Sociology, renowned for her research on environmental and development issues in India. With a background in Economics and Sociology, she holds a PhD from Cornell University. Her work focuses on social inequality, resource conflicts, and environmental movements, as evidenced in her acclaimed books like "In the Belly of the River" and "Uncivil City." Baviskar's contributions have earned her prestigious awards, including the Malcolm Adiseshiah Award and the Infosys Prize, cementing her position as a leading figure in the field of environmental sociology in India.



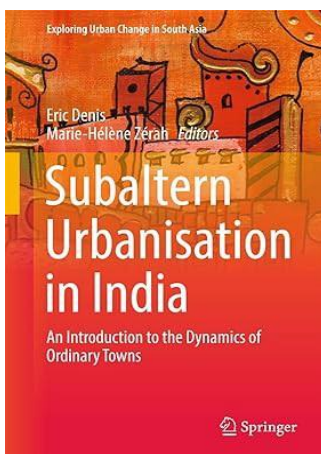
Episode 9: Bhavin Shukla in conversation with Sarita Sundar on her book **'From the Frugal to the Ornate: Stories of the Seat In India'**, published by Godej and Boyce in 2022.



In the book 'From the Frugal to the Ornate: Stories of the Seat in India', Sarita Sundar explores the significance of seating in Indian culture, delving into its relationship with users and its cultural symbolism. Drawing from her expertise in heritage studies and design theory, Sundar offers insightful reflections on the role of seating in shaping social dynamics and cultural trends, making it a compelling read for those interested in the intersection of design, anthropology, and cultural studies.

Sarita Sundar is a versatile practitioner and researcher with expertise in heritage studies, popular culture, and design theory. With over three decades of experience, she blends academic insights with professional acumen in brand strategy and design solutions. Currently focusing on seating cultures in India, her work spans from Indian vernacular typography to intangible cultural practices in performance arts. Sundar holds degrees from the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, and the University of Leicester, UK, and has contributed essays to scholarly publications.

Episode 10: Shreyank Khemalpure in conversation with Eric Denis and Marie-Hélène Zérah, editors of the book **'Subaltern Urbanisation in India: An Introduction to the Dynamics of Ordinary Towns'** and Solomon Benjamin, author of the chapter 'Multilayered Urbanisation of the South Canara Territory'



The book, 'Subaltern Urbanisation in India', edited by Eric and Marie, offers a paradigm shift in understanding India's urban landscape by shifting the focus from major cities to smaller urban settlements. Drawing on three years of original research, the volume presents a comprehensive exploration of subaltern processes of urbanization.

Eric Denis is a renowned scholar in urban geography, holding a PhD from the University of Caen, France, and a Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches from Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne University. He currently serves as a senior research fellow at CNRS and director of research at the Géographie-cités Lab, Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne University. With extensive international experience, including work in Cairo, Sudan, and South India, Denis focuses on metropolitan transformations, social divisions in urban territories, and comparative analyses of systems of cities, contributing significantly to the field through over 60 publications.

Marie-Hélène Zérah, a Research Director at IRD, specializes in urban studies with a focus on Indian cities. With a Ph.D. and HDR, she led research in New Delhi and co-coordinated projects on small towns' urbanization roles. Zérah's recent work explores data-driven Urbanism, Smart Cities, and urban energy governance. She is a prolific author, contributing to volumes such as "Quand l'Inde s'urbanise" and publications on water access and the Right to the City in India. Zérah also serves on the editorial board of Geoforum and is the Series Editor of Exploring Urban Change in South Asia with Springer.

Solomon Benjamin, an urbanist, bridges geography, sociology, and anthropology, focusing on property's role in small-scale economies in cities like Delhi and Mumbai. He collaborates with artists, exploring urban density. Outside academia, he enjoys watercolor, ceramic stoneware, and carpentry, influenced by George Nakashima. His research delves into transnational urban spaces, local governance in global economies, and critical art practice.

