

ARCHITECTURE
RENDEZVOUS

INDO FRENCH
PERSPECTIVES

24 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2011
VISUAL ARTS & OPEN PALM COURT GALLERIES
INDIA HABITAT CENTRE

ARCHITECTURE RENDEZVOUS

INDO FRENCH PERSPECTIVES

24 - 30 September 2011

**Opening on 24th September 2011 at 6:30 pm
Visual Arts & Open Palm Court Galleries, India Habitat Centre**

The French experience in architecture in a global scenario is highlighted through six architecture weeks across six Indian cities from September through December, opening up a dialogue with India in the context of its burgeoning cities and overall economic development. The National Capital Territory is one of the most interesting crucibles for a discourse on an urban debate.

The week unfolds with the opening of three exhibitions on architecture and landscape architecture in the galleries of the India Habitat Centre on 24th September at 6.30 pm. The week that follows will see a broad range of exchanges through film screenings, presentations, conversations and a workshop by participants from both countries. Overall, the different rendezvous will see several French experts, both professionals and academics, visiting India, many of them for the first time ever, to interact with India on a diverse range of subjects in the six cities.

Architecture Rendezvous in Other Cities in India

AHMEDABAD 9-16 September 2011

DELHI 24-30 September 2011

GOA 10-15 October 2011

CHANDIGARH 11-25 November 2011

PUNE 2-9 December 2011

BENGALURU 14-22 December 2011

A PRESENTATION OF:



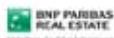
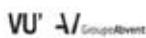
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SUPPORTED BY:



A special thanks to the Sushant School of Art & Architecture (Gurgaon), the Council of Architecture (India) and architect, Iftikhar-mulk Chisti.

EXHIBITIONS

FROM FRANCE

Opening on 24th September 2011 at 6:30 pm

Exhibitions on view until Friday, 30th September from 11 am - 8 pm

Visual Arts & Open Palm Court galleries / India Habitat Centre

> **French Architects Overseas: Grand Prix AFEF 2010**

The organisers of this exhibition aimed at developing a reflection on the theme of architecture and photography. Dwelling on French architecture in the world, the exhibition focuses on nine buildings and a bridge. These were then photographed by photographers of the VU' agency, who by virtue of not being specialists in architecture photography bring forth a completely unusual perspective.

AFEX, the association of a hundred French architects abroad, develops French architectural and urban management throughout the world. In 2010, it instituted the biennial AFEF Grand Prix, which rewards an outstanding project undertaken by a French architect outside France, thus highlighting the vitality and diversity of such projects.



> **New Albums of Young Architects & Landscape Architects / 2009-10**

This exhibition presents the engagements of twelve agencies of architects and landscapists aged less than 35 years, 24 laureates of the 2009-2010 session of the New Albums of Young Architects and Landscapists, of the French Ministry of Culture and Communication. The jury, co-chaired by architect Christian Hauvette and the landscape architect and designer Pascal Cribier, selected fifteen teams of architects and landscape designers who distinguished themselves by the conceptual quality of their project and their capacity to overcome spatial issues, but also by their unconventional careers. The exhibition highlights the particular concern over the role that young architects and landscape designers have to play in developing an urban and a landscape fabric that will contribute to an art of "living well together". This is an open page on young creation.



> **Garden, Nature or Landscape? A Projected Exhibition by French Landscape Architect Pascal Cribier**

Born in 1953, Pascal Cribier became an architect in 1978, and then decided to specialise in landscape architecture after having experienced the world of tree nurseries. Pascal spends more time in gardens than in his atelier. Well beyond his influences, especially those of botanical & Mughal gardens, Pascal Cribier tries to provide perspectives for the garden of the future, which is above all respectful of nature's resources. For him a garden is anything but a pastiche or a computer designed décor, in fact it is a place where economics and maintenance issues are as important as formal & aesthetic aspects. At 57, Pascal Cribier is one of the most innovative 'gardeners' today. He has been awarded many times and still remains an explorer.

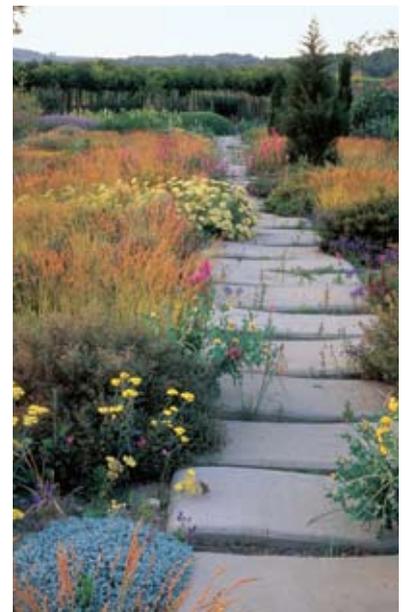


Photo Credits from Top to Bottom:

Footbridge (Yangzhou, China) / Architect: Marc Mimram / Photo © Fu Xing (Agence VU')

Neocitta (Seraing, Belgium) / © Thomas Raynaud - Building Building (2008)

Garden in a dry environment, Aramon (Gard, France) / © Pascal Cribier

PRESENTATIONS

TALKS / WORKSHOPS

> **Architectural Horizons: A discussion curated by Jagan Shah**
(Director, Sushant School of Art & Architecture, Gurgaon)

Tuesday, 27 September, 6:30 pm, Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre

Never before in the history of architecture has eclecticism of language and diversity of expression been as celebrated as today. The earlier preoccupations with styles, ideologies and personalities have now given way to richness of a multiplicity of approaches, which are increasingly grounded in the real and the social. Jagan Shah will curate a discussion between architects, about the challenges of contemporary architectural practice, and the specific issues of how architecture defines (or erases for that matter) national identities and upholds collective traditions, be they of a community, an individual or a profession. An underlying pursuit of the session would be to discuss the continuity of the French intellectual tradition, at least over the last three hundred years, and whether the structural rationalism, or the romantic traditionalism, or the communitarian and utopian visions that were born in France, have permeated into our present.

Set inside the Visual Art Gallery at India Habitat Centre, which will already be activated by exhibitions of French architecture and landscape, the discussion will engage the audience in thinking about three different practices that have earned repute. It is expected that the session will offer insights and ideas that might stimulate and challenge the audience beyond the session itself.

> **France-born architect Olivier Vidal in conversation with architect Raj Rewal**

Wednesday, 28th September, 6:30 pm, Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre

French-born architect, master planner and design consultant, Olivier Vidal interacts with one of India's best-known architects, Raj Rewal, recognized internationally for buildings that respond sensitively to the complex demands of rapid urbanization, climate and culture. With his keen sense of international mixed use planning, Vidal approaches the use of sophisticated technology and a sense of history and context in Rewal's work. Participate in a dialogue between the creator of the Louvre Carousel, the Havre Passage, the rebuilders of the Beirut and Lebanese souks; and the creator of the Parliament Library building in Delhi, the Olympic Village in Paris, the Pragati Maidan Exhibition Complex and the Asian Games Village in Delhi.

> **Garden, Nature or Landscape? A workshop with Pascal Cribier**

Thursday, 29 September, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm, Open Palm Court Gallery, India Habitat Centre

Curated by architect Iftikhar-mulk Chishti in the framework of Design x Design platform in partnership with ISOLA Delhi Chapter. Special intervention by musicians Rajesh Prasanna (flute), Ahsaan Ali (Saarang), Amaan Ali (tabla) and Anil Chawla (keyboard & sound effects). Participation restricted to students and professionals of architecture or landscape architecture or gardening only.

To reserve a place, please contact: Sundar.RAMANADANE@diplomatie.gouv.fr / CC: imchishti@hotmail.com [Register Now!](#)

> **Pascal Cribier, Affinities: A presentation on the work, philosophy & ideas of Pascal Cribier**

Thursday, 29 September, 6:30 - 8:00 pm, M.L. Bhartia Auditorium, Alliance Française de Delhi

Presented in the framework of the Design x Design platform of the Alliance Française de Delhi and Studio iF

> **The Indian Perspective on the French School of Architecture: An Outlook for Future Cooperation**

Friday, 30 September, 2:30 - 5:30 pm, Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre

Grasping academic opportunities in France, increasing people-to-people contacts, or even crafting the framework of a joint project - 30 September heralds an event that is replete with potential. Through an entire afternoon of conferences, debates and round tables, the Section for Scientific and University Cooperation, Embassy of France in India has indeed the ambition to expand horizons on French schools of architecture.

The general introduction of the discipline will be a good starting point to deliberate on the prospects for furthering Indo-French academic exchanges. Four distinguished professors will express their points of view on the curriculum of the two countries and the interest behind building lasting relationships between institutions, with the guiding theme of enhancing both student and teacher mobility. Finally, two professionals will share their respective experiences, the first as a French national in India, and the second as an Indian in France. In the light of their professional and everyday experiences, they will show how the future of architecture passes via a particular idea of collective work.

For more information contact renaud.vely@diplomatie.gouv.fr

FILMS

FROM FRANCE & INDIA

➤ **Dilli / Sushmit Ghosh & Rintu Thomas / 2011 / 25 min / Documentary**
Saturday, 24th September, 7:00 pm, Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre

In this city, a dream is born every day. Simple dreams, patient dreams...Millions of people across India leave behind their homes and families, in the hope of finding a better life in Delhi. Completing 100 years as the capital of modern India, Delhi today stands at the crossroads of time. Among the fastest growing cities in the world, this is also the city that is home to India's second largest slum population. As Delhi straddles through its different worlds, Dilli tells the story of this city, as seen through very different eyes.



➤ **Dhobi Ghat / Kiran Rao / 2011 / 100 min / Fiction**
Sunday, 25th September, 6:30 pm, Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre

In the teeming metropolis of Mumbai, four people separated by class and language are drawn together in compelling relationships. Shai, an affluent investment banker on a sabbatical, strikes up an unusual friendship with Munna, a young and beautiful laundry boy with ambitions of being a Bollywood actor, and has a brief dalliance with Arun, a gifted painter. As they slip away from familiar moorings and drift closer together, the city finds its way into the crevices of their inner worlds.

Image courtesy Aamir Khan Productions



➤ **Jean Nouvel, Portrait Et Reflets / Jean-Louis André/ 1998 / 52 min / Documentary**

Monday, 26th September, 6:00 pm, Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre

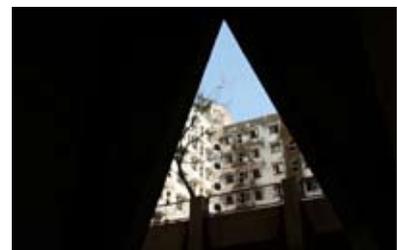
This film is a documentary produced in 1998, dealing with the work of the world famous architect Jean Nouvel, the most "modern" among contemporary architects. The film talks about the intimate world of this creator of the Institute of the Arab World and the reviver of the Lyon Opéra. This portrait provides glimpses of his biography, but the focus remains on the creations of the architect. From the Cartier Foundation built on piles which radiate light in the heart of Paris to the social experience of collective housing in Nîmes, all his works are highlighted by Jean-Louis André's camera almost like his accomplice.

Image © Atelier Jean Nouvel



➤ **Vertical City / Avijit Mukul Kishore / 2011 / 34 min / Documentary**
Monday, 26th September, 7:00 pm, Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre

This documentary presents a visual essay on the architecture of a dystopia. In the far suburbs of Bombay, residents from slums are given free houses in high-rise building complexes with the promise of a better life. The State imagined these constructions as the realization of an urban utopia. But the project is seen as a move to free prime slum land for commercial development. The complexes soon degenerate into places worse than slums. The film lets the viewer experience the living conditions of places hidden away in a 21st century metropolis.



➤ **Paul Andreu / Marie-Paule Boisset Bayle de Saint Setier/ 1999 / 53 min / Documentary**

Monday, 26th September, 7:40 pm, Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre

Paul Andreu is the world's leading specialist in airport architecture. The film starts by showing us his last completed project, Shanghai Airport, and goes on to show us very clearly how a great architect can organise an escape from gravity by the simple evocation of light.

Paul Andreu Architecte Paris with Richez_Associés / Image © Luxigon

A special thanks to Sushmit Ghosh and Rintu Thomas, Black Ticket Films / Avijit Mukul Kishore and Public Service Broadcasting Trust / Aamir Khan Productions and UTV / Paromita Vohra, DEVI PICTURES.



CALENDAR

FOR EVENTS

DATE & TIME	EVENT	VENUE
SAT 24 /09/11		
6:30 PM	Opening of three exhibitions from France on architecture & landscape	Visual Arts & Open Palm Court galleries, IHC
7:00 PM	Screening of the documentary "Dilli" (25 Mins) by Rintu Thomas & Sushmit Ghosh with a presentation by Sushmit Ghosh	
SUN 25/09/11		
6:30 PM	Screening of the film, "Dhobi Ghat" (100 Mins) by Kiran Rao	Visual Arts Gallery, IHC
MON 26/09/11		
6:00 PM	Screening of French documentary "Jean Nouvel: Portraits et Reflets" (52 Mins) by Jean-Louis André	Visual Arts Gallery, IHC
7:00 PM	Screening of documentary, "Vertical City" (34 Mins) by Avijit Mukul Kishore	
7:40 PM	Screening of the French documentary, "Paul Andreu" (53 Mins) by Marie-Paule Boisset Bayle de Saint Setier	
TUE 27/09/11		
6:30 PM	Architectural Horizons: A discussion curated by Jagan Shah (Director, Sushant School of Art & Architecture, Gurgaon) about how architectural practice can define national identity, spur the evolution of sustainable technology, and uphold the collective traditions that are fast disappearing.	Visual Arts Gallery, IHC
WED 28 /09/11		
6:30 PM	France-born architect Olivier Vidal in conversation with architect Raj Rewal	Visual Arts Gallery, IHC
THU 29 /09/11		
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Garden, Nature or Landscape? A workshop with Pascal Cribier Curated by architect Iftikhar-mulk Chishti in the framework of Design x Design platform in partnership with ISOLA Delhi Chapter	Open Palm Court Gallery, IHC Alliance Française de Delhi
6:30 PM	Pascal Cribier, Affinities: A presentation on the work, philosophy and ideas of Pascal Cribier in the framework of Design X Design platform of the Alliance Francaise de Delhi and Studio iF.	
FRI 30/09/11		
2:30 PM -5:30 PM	The Indian Perspective on the French School of Architecture: An Outlook for Future Cooperation	Visual Arts Gallery, IHC
2.:30 - 3:00 PM	<i>Introduction on studying architecture in France: schools, procedures, funding</i>	
3:00 - 4:00 PM	<i>For Indo-French academic exchanges</i>	
4:30 - 5:30 PM	<i>Exchange of experience in architecture studies: Lectures by professionals</i>	

Programme subject to change. Please contact +91-11-30410030 for more information.

All are welcome for exhibitions. Limited seating on a first-come-first served basis for the film shows and talks.

Venue Addresses:

Visual Arts and Open Palm Court galleries, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi -110003

ML Bhartia Auditorium, Alliance Française de Delhi. 72 Lodi Estate, New Delhi 110003

Design: Red Earth (www.redearthindia.com)

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