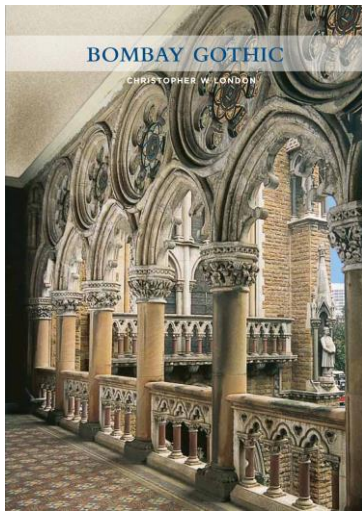


## PRESS RELEASE

**AVID Learning** will present **GOTHIC BOMBAY**, an illustrated lecture on the development of Mumbai's Gothic buildings, which are today the historic core, defining shapes and image of the city's distinctive skyline, followed by a discussion on the city's ongoing conservation plan for specific precincts and their buildings.

The evening will celebrate the presentation of **Christopher London's** iconic book *Bombay Gothic* on which the discussion is based, and which is being published in a revised edition in the **Pictor-DHF** Guidebook Series. The author will deliver the slide lecture, after which he will be joined by conservation architect **Abha Narain Lambah** for a discussion moderated by journalist and author **Sidharth Bhatia**.

The author will sign copies of the book, which will be on sale along with other DHF publications at a special discount for this occasion.



### GOTHIC BOMBAY

FEBRUARY 21, 2013

COOMARASWAMY HALL, PRINCE OF WALES MUSEUM, MUMBAI

6pm – 8.15pm

#### EVENT PRESENTED BY

**Avid Learning**

in association with Pictor Publishing and Deccan Heritage Foundation

#### VENUE PARTNER

**CSMVS (Prince of Wales Museum)**

#### MEDIA PARTNER

**TIME OUT**

#### EVENT FORMAT

- Refreshments, served in the garden
- Asad Lalljee, Vice-President & CEO, Avid Learning will welcome the guests
- Shamina Talyarkhan, President, DHF India, will outline DHF's activities in India and introduce the panelists.
- Christopher London will give a slide lecture on the book.
- Panel will discuss the importance of conservation of Mumbai's classic architecture and the preservation of an important cultural and architectural legacy. Problems of state and community support in these endeavors will also be addressed. Sidharth Bhatia will moderate.
- Padmini Mirchandani, Publisher, Pictor, will give the vote of thanks
- Book signing

## PANELISTS

CHRISTOPHER LONDON  
Author



Christopher W. London is an architectural historian who earned a doctorate from Oxford University in 1987 with his dissertation on 'British Architecture in Victorian Bombay'. He guest-edited *Architecture in Victorian and Edwardian India* in 1994, *The Arts of Kutch* in 2000 and contributed to *Bombay to Mumbai Changing Perspectives* in 1997, *Lucknow: Then and Now* in 2003, and *Banaras The City Revealed* in 2005, all for Marg Publications. He authored *Bombay Gothic* in 2002 for India Book House. **Specialties:** History, Art & Architectural. Co-Chair of the Public Review Committee of the Historic Districts Council (which examines and writes testimony, bi-monthly, for submission to NYC's Landmarks Preservation Commission)

ABHA NARAIN LAMBAH  
Conservation Architect



Abha Narain Lambah is a conservation architect based in Mumbai. Her architectural practice covers a range of projects across India, from the ancient Ajanta Caves to 15<sup>th</sup> Century temples in Ladakh and Hampi and palace museums in Hyderabad and Gwalior. She has won 8 UNESCO Awards for Conservation and is the recipient of the Sanskriti Award, Eisenhower Fellowship and Charles Wallace Fellowship. Abha's practice is based in Mumbai and covers a range of Victorian buildings across India. She serves on the Mumbai Heritage Conservation Committee and the Executive Committee of the Urban Design Research Institute. She has edited a range of books including "*Architecture of the Indian Sultanates*" and "*Custodians of India's Heritage: 150 years of the Archaeological Survey of India*".

SIDHARTH BHATIA  
Journalist & Author



Sidharth Bhatia has been a journalist for over three decades in India and abroad. He was part of the founding editorial team of DNA in 2005 and managed its opinion pages till 2009. He is now a regular commentator on current affairs for Indian newspapers and on television. He has given several talks on politics, urban affairs, popular culture, the media and all things Mumbai. His book, *Cinema Modern* was published by Harper Collins in 2010 and he is now writing another book on India in the 1960s and '70s.

## ABOUT AVID

Avid Learning, an Essar Group initiative, fosters creative learning through workshops, discussion forums and other programs across the fields of Culture & Heritage, Literature, and Art including Visual, Performing & Applied Arts. Started in 2009, AVID has touched the lives of over 10,000 participants with 150 programs. AVID workshops are open to all and are delivered by experts from India and abroad. These workshops are highly interactive with a fun mix of lecture-demonstrations, audio-visual presentations and practical sessions, concluding in an event that summarizes the essence of the AVID Experience. With its presence in Dubai this year and future plans for New York and London, AVID aspires to make its learning platform global. AVID believes today's knowledge seekers should have limitless opportunities...because learning never stops.

For more details on AVID, please visit our website [www.avidlearning.in](http://www.avidlearning.in)

## DECCAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION

The Deccan Heritage Foundation (DHF), has been newly founded in the UK and India to promote awareness of the cultural heritage within the living social context and surviving natural environment of the Deccan region of India.

Too many of the sites showcased in these volumes remain little known outside peninsular India. They are now threatened with neglect, and, even worse, misguided urban development and insensitive archaeological restoration. The guidebooks intend to introduce the beauty of the monuments at these locations and draw attention to the importance of preserving this unique heritage, and to promote the efforts of the DHF in areas of research, education and, hopefully, in time, restoration.

For more information, please visit [www.deccanheritagefoundation.org](http://www.deccanheritagefoundation.org)

## PICTOR PUBLISHING

PICTOR publishes distinctive books on Indian architecture, art, photography and history. In bridging the classic and the modern, the program stays true to its founding principles: delivering authoritative content with the highest quality of text, photography, design and production.

For full catalogue, please visit [www.pictorpublishing.com](http://www.pictorpublishing.com)

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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