

## **Discover what landscape architecture would look like in a Post-Pandemic world that has continued to design, grow, build and evolve using technology**

### **For Immediate Release**

As we spend more time indoors due to social distancing and lockdowns, one may contemplate and crave the outdoors.

**University of Edinburgh** and **Avid Learning** present **Landscape Architecture, Technology and The Future of Outdoor Design** a fascinating live session on the future trajectory of designing for our outdoor environment.

*Please read on for more details:*

*Landscape Architect and Lecturer at The University Of Edinburgh* **Elinor Scarth**, *Co-founder and Principal Landscape Architect at FICUS* **Aparna Rao** and *Landscape Architect and Designer* **Hemali Samant**, will be in conversation with *Landscape Architect and Teacher* **Nikhil Dhar**.

When we think of landscape architecture, we can conjure a spectrum of spaces – from sprawling green lungs in cities like New York and planned open-air urban spaces to local/rural parks and small private gardens. Landscape architecture encompasses any designed and constructed outdoor space that seeks to achieve a balance between the built and the natural environment.

Technology is taking over our daily lives. Being an integration of outdoor urban life and nature, Landscape Architecture has been a field almost untouched by technology. Today, tech is starting to get its foothold in outdoor design, and will continue to evolve views on sustainability and resource use in the field.

Our panel of experts and specialists will explore the practice of landscape architecture in India and beyond within the purview of the aesthetic, the practical and the environmental. They will also speak about historic restorations of heritage outdoor or garden spaces in India and the West. They will also focus on innovation in the field and the technologies used to produce designs and construction drawings for a variety of outdoor environments and purposes. They will also explore the possibilities of Virtual Reality, 3-D Rendering and more to chart advancements in the field with regard to experiential design. They will also explore recent innovations in landscape design during the pandemic and innovations made in the field to combat and repair environmental damage and degradation.

Be they verdant visions or urban utopias, join us to discover the futurescape of innovative landscape architecture and garden design in India and around the world.

**When:** Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021 | 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

**RSVP:** [www.avidlearning.in](http://www.avidlearning.in)

**Press Email:** Ayeshah Dadachanji on [ayeshah.avid@gmail.com](mailto:ayeshah.avid@gmail.com)



## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, TECHNOLOGY AND THE FUTURE OF OUTDOOR DESIGN

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#AVIDONLINE **LIVE**



Landscape Architect  
and Lecturer at  
The University Of Edinburgh  
**Elinor Scarth**



Co-founder and  
Principal Landscape  
Architect at FICUS  
**Aparna Rao**



Landscape Architect  
and Designer  
**Hemali Samant**



Landscape Architect  
and Teacher  
**Nikhil Dhar**

**MODERATOR**

DATE: **THURSDAY, 11 FEBRUARY '21**  
TIME: **6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**  
REGISTER: [www.avidlearning.in](http://www.avidlearning.in)



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### About the Speakers

**Elinor Scarth** is a landscape architect and lecturer at The University of Edinburgh. With fifteen years' experience working in an international context and at a range of design scales, Elinor has led multidisciplinary design projects from design concept to construction. Elinor's landscape architecture design practice, research and teaching are enriched by a 'making with' approach underpinned by knowledge of the processes that form and perpetually transform landscapes.

**Aparna Rao** is a Landscape Architect with a deep interest in reading landscapes and places through cultural and ecological histories. Her work aspires to blur interdisciplinary boundaries related to Landscape Architecture, Landscape Archaeology, Human geography and Botanical history. Aparna is a Founder and Principal at FICUS, a landscape architecture practice located in Bengaluru, India. The firm works on landscape and ecological planning, peri-urban areas, historic sites, cultural and institutional projects, urban open space structure plans, master planning briefs for campuses and projects in leisure and hospitality sectors. A few have translated into critical recognition and awards for sensitive approaches, ecological performance, resource consciousness and an ability to delight and

educate. Aparna also leads the firm's research and documentation on historic gardens and conducts landscape appreciation walks.

**Hemali Samant** is a practicing Landscape Architect based in Mumbai. She did her Masters in Landscape Architecture from CEPT, Ahmedabad. She gained her professional experience from various firms & has been involved in several mainstream projects ranging from public to private sector. She has won a few accolades for landscape design by Architecture digest india and ISOLA (Indian Society of Landscape architects). She was part of AD100 list influential designers in India in 2017 . She believes in hands-on approach where site and landscape integrate together. Every project of hers tries to explore native plants, local materials and techniques, responding to each biome, urban reality and cultural context into design.

**Nikhil Dhar** completed his Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi in 1988 and his Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 1991. He has been a practicing landscape architect since 1996 as principal of the firm Artemisia. Projects completed by Artemisia have included projects in fields including hospitality, institutional campuses, housing complexes, residential projects, parks and corporate offices. Nikhil has been a member of the visiting faculty at the Departments of Landscape Architecture at the School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi; the Sushant School of Art and Architecture, Gurgaon and CEPT University, Ahmedabad. He is an active member of the Indian Society of Landscape Architects, has been involved in the Education Board of ISOLA for many years and has also served as Chairperson of this body. At this time, he is a member of the Steering Committee of the Board. Nikhil has a keen interest in ecological approaches to design. He is also involved in the study of Landscape Architecture academics and is currently working on articles related to the teaching of landscape architecture in India.

## Partner Information

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