

# Finding Wakanda: Connecting Cultural Identities & Contemporary Ideas



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**ABOUT** 

Nishant Upadhyay is a conservation architect from Lucknow, trained at KU Leuven, Belgium as a recipient of the Erasmus Mundus EXPERT scholarship. He is a TEDx Speaker & a member of ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes and Cultural Tourism and has been a consultant to UNESCO New Delhi. Dhaka and Jakarta offices on cultural heritage matters. He is also the Member of Board of Study of Architecture, Planning and Design, Abdul Kalam Technical University, Lucknow. He is the founder of DHARATAL, an Indo European design & research atelier with focus on local communities, their heritage, cultural landscapes and climate action.

Viorel Acsinte is the principal designer and founder of Dharatal Belgium, a Romanian-Belgian architectural designer, sculptor and painter, trained as an architect in Hasselt University, Belgium, at the University of Architecture and Art. He comes with strong ray tracing & 3D modeling knowledge combined with a good understanding of parametric design which gives a global edge to the designed products. His proficiency and formal accreditation in 3D modeling software such as AutoCAD and Rhino further enhances his ability to transform concepts into precise and creative contemporary designs that resonate with its context.

**KEYWORDS** 

Revival, Culture, Algorithm, Parametric, Heritage.

## **OVERVIEW**

The workshop will explore understanding the core values of cultural heritage assets in our environment and how contemporary understanding of design and ideas contribute to the evolution, safeguarding and revitalization of cultural heritage entities. The understanding will lay the stage to the decoding of established values leading to evolution of ideas, shapes and forms which incubate the essence of the values. Via understanding of algorithmic design tools and softwares a form will be evolved as a contemporary response to the values established. The workshop will explore the Wakandan idea of futuristic existence deeply rooted in nostalgia and cultural heritage identity.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The workshop will start with understanding the meanings of culture and its role in identity creation at various levels. It will be followed by the value assessment and decoding the values into forms. shapes and ideas for the cultural heritage entity, i.e. the NID sarai building. The second technical part of the workshop will delve into the historical evolution of parametric design and ideas. It will be followed by digital modeling using Rhino software and parametric modeling using Grasshopper, rhino script and basic coding with python. The developed ideated form will then be fabricated using laser cutting tools with the material and its predetermined quantity being a design challenge to overcome.

**Ahmedabad** 

LOCATION

**MAXIMUM PARTICIPANTS** 

12

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