

Course Name: Lifestyle products with Coconut Shell, Bamboo and Copper, from Kerala

Artisan Name: Mr Rajeev V K

Campus: Bengaluru



शिल्प संगम



About Craft

This workshop is a contemporary approach to craft using the basis of certain traditional handicraft techniques : celebrating creating with the hand with a set of contrasting materials - copper, bamboo and coconut shell, to create artistic expressions and objects. The integration of bamboo, copper sheet metal, and coconut shell opens new avenues for sustainable product design. Bamboo contributes renewability, lightness, and ecological symbolism; copper provides durability, malleability, and transformative surface qualities; while coconut shell adds hardness, unique textures, and cultural familiarity. Together, they form a triad of hybrid materiality where organic warmth and industrial strength converge. This workshop encourages students to prototype innovative products that reflect lifecycle design, cultural aesthetics, and ecological responsibility.

Course Objectives

- Through hands-on engagement, the students will learn the properties, possibilities and limitations of the contrasting material they will be working with - coconut shell, bamboo (strips and tubes) and copper (strips and sheet)
- Through reflective dialogues and conversations, participants will explore the multifaceted possibilities and challenges of such mixed material craft, their cultural significance and contemporary relevance.
- Through collaborative projects with the artisans and fellow students, they will be able to create various innovative decorative and utilitarian objects showcasing and celebrating the uniqueness and possibilities of these three materials..
- The students can explore outcomes that celebrate diversity in thought and contemporary themes in a traditional setting. Students can also be encouraged to develop collections after developing individual products.
- Exploring the possibility of intercraft collaborations with other crafts on the campus to create complex product/s



About Artisan

Rajeev VK is a seasoned designer craftman, artist, mentor, and consultant with over 25 years of experience working with natural materials like bamboo, metal, and clay. He specializes in blending traditional craftsmanship with modern design thinking, creating innovative and sustainable designs. Through workshops, skill development programs, and collaborations with top institutions, he has developed a strong expertise in his field, with notable achievements and recognition for his work.

Course Methodology

- Demonstration by Master Craftsperson
- Learning the basics of the craft,
- explorations of traditional forms
- Developing contemporary themes for contemporary narratives and new possibilities
- Making prototypes
- Finishing and displaying new outcomes to encourage