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Founder Partner, Morphogenesis Managing Partner, Morphogenesis Education

Manit is a Fellow of the IIA (Indian Institute of Architects) and the RSA (Royal Society of Arts, UK). Manit has taught at various universities, and been a director of the Sushant School of Art and Architecture as well as the Sushant School of Design. He has been a juror on several design and award juries. Manit is a founder member, Association for Development and Research of Sustainable Habitats (ADaRSH). As a member of the Technical Advisory Committee of GRIHA, India's own Green rating system, and as member, Resource Persons Group on Environment and Ecology- Lt. Governor's Secretariat, New Delhi, Manit works with urban policymakers to spearhead initiatives with an emphasis on environmental sensibility and social welfare.

Architectural Association, School of Architecture, London

AA Graduate Diploma (Environment and Energy Studies) (1993) (Awarded Distinction)

(Validated as MA in Environment & Energy Studies in 1994 and the MSs and MArch in Sustainable Environmental Design (1995).

(Validated as MA in Environment & Energy Studies in 1994 and the MSc and MArch in Sustainable Environmental Design since 2006)

Architectural Association, School of Architecture, London

AA Diploma (1995) (Awarded Honors)

School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi Bachelor of Architecture (1991) (Awarded First Class)

EXPERIENCE:

Morphogenesis Founder Partner	1996-Present
Morphogenesis Education Founder and Managing Partner	2008-Present
Sushant School of Art and Architecture, Gurgaon Director	2009-2011
School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi Department of Urban Design (Visiting Faculty)	1998
Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong School of Design (Visiting Research Fellow)	1997
CHORA, Institute of Architecture and Urbanism, London	1995
Architectural Association, London Intermediate School (Visiting Faculty)	1995

"We believe that every project should establish itself as a benchmark for innovative building design by thinking systemically about Sustainability.
Architecturally we celebrate identity and diversity versus visual homogeneity. We think of our buildings and cities as Bazaars, places of human interaction along with being places of human habitation. It is this all-inclusive nature of design with a unique focus on passive and low energy architecture that we believe in as being the new emergent Indian architecture." - Manit Rastogi





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Cutting-edge Design Expression

With a local, socio-cultural response to design, our results are more often than not, passive solutions, which further help to reduce energy and water dependence by increasing the number of comfortable habitable hours with minimum reliance on mechanical means. We have successfully created exemplars that consume 70% lesser energy than established green rating benchmarks, without incurring additional cost. Optimization of all resources is a pre-requisite to our architecture today.

An extract from the Jury of the SIA Getz Award - "...Their works are very much rooted into the culture, climatic, social and economic conditions of India. They are true to themselves and stand steadfast against the force of trend by not following the glitzy skin and forms pervasive in the architectural scene.... Sonali and Manit Rastogi's works put India's architecture on the world stage. The jury felt that their works will be an inspiration to not only young Indian Architects but also other Asian Architects...."

Design Excellence

Ranked amongst the 'Top 100' architectural design firms worldwide by Building Design Magazine (UK) in WA100 2012, WA100 2013 and WA100 2014

One of the largest design-centric firms in the country providing specialised services for Architecture, Interiors, Masterplanning,

Urban design and Environmental design

Recipient of over 50 International and National awards

The first Indian Practice to win at the WAF (World Architecture Festival) Awards (2009)

and the Singapore Institute of Architects

SIA-Getz Award (2014)

Published in over 350 International and National publication

The work of the practice has been exhibited at various locations globally including

SONALI RASTOGI

Founder Partner, Morphogenesis

Issues related to the environment and sustainability are at the core of Sonali's design attitude, and her experience and expertise in Architecture/Interior design has been recognized by way of numerous awards and accolades including the YFLO Woman Achiever of the Year Award, and recognition as one of the 10 leading women architects in India by A+D (India's leading architectural journal). Other magazines such as India Today, Femina and Elle Decor have featured her as a pre-eminent Indian woman architect.

Sonali lectures extensively throughout the country and has been a part of various academic and design juries including The GRIHA Conference 2014, India Design ID 2013 Symposium and Trends for Architectural Excellence Awards, 2010. She has been invited as a speaker at various events such as Women Leaders in India Conference & Awards (New Delhi), Pecha Kucha (New Delhi) etc. Sonali is also a founder member of manthan; a cross-cultural creative platform for creative exchange, aiming to be a voice to the Indian creative community.

Architectural Association, School of Architecture, London Graduate School Master of Architecture (Design)	1995
Architectural Association, School of Architecture, London Graduate School Master of Architecture (Housing and Urbanism)	1993

School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi
Bachelor of Architecture

1991

OFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Morphogenesis, New Delhi Founder Partner

"We understand that we are often working in an environment with limited resources. Our approach to creativity is inspired by the evolutionary processes in nature and our belief in sustainability shapes all our projects and forms the consistent theme in our designs. We deploy passive strategies by responding to the local climate and ecology and address comfort, safety, livability parameters and are mindful that projects remain economically viable and globally pertinent.

We believe that Architecture and design is not only a profession- it is a way of life. The commitment required is paramount as there is a tremendous responsibility to one-self, the environment and society at large. We believe the opportunity is immense, the opportunity to define a new emergent Indian architecture" - Sonali Rastogi



Campus for Infosys, Nagpur



Iconicism of Sustainability: The client brief was simply- to create the world's most sustainable office building. The challenge is enormous - to consider Sustainability in its broadest sense; not just about conservation of water, energy and resources, but of tectonic perfection, of the detail, the process, and the wisdom of a thousand years of architecture of the region.

A prototype for innovation in the design of sustainable workplaces: The plan evolved from the notion of understanding the capacity of the site; a capacity determined by four functions- energy, water, geology of the land, along with essential rules of urban design pertaining to light, ventilation, shading, etc. Based on that a masterplan for a working population of 20,000 emerged, to be net zero on Energy, Water and Waste discharge. A remarkable envelope design along with orienting the blocks at ± 22.5 degrees to the North (in response to the solar orientation) allows for 100% shading of all windows and walls. 90% of all floor plate areas are designed to be uniformly day-lit and glare-free. Energy requirement is reduced to a fifth of that of a typical office building, which is offset by a 15 acre solar plant, giving complete independence from the grid. Zero Water dependence is achieved by calculating the rainfall on site, how much could be realistically harvested, creating a reservoir to that capacity, simultaneously ensuring that all systems are designed to the greatest efficiency, such that the water consumption per person is 50% of baseline. Biological waste is to be dealt with on site through a bio-gas plant.

Morphology: The geological structure is fractured basalt, and Nagpur being in a seismic zone 2, a large lateral load with a height of 10 to 12 storeys is optimal because it will support that kind of load without having to go for piling and other complex forms of support. The introduction of an earth sheltered, shaded and passively cooled pedestrian landscape at a subterranean level integrates the different building blocks into a seamless Masterplan. The food court is placed at this level and is entirely non air-conditioned. It gets shading from the building on top and thermal buffering from the surrounding land. The building volumes were sized based on the lowest common denominator, ie the workstation, so that there is no waste of space. At the same time, the design offers full flexibility through largely column free spaces, should needs alter with time. To bring back a sense of human scale, the modules are stacked into a four floor format connected through an atrium and staircase, allowing for slow mode interconnectivity; the enhanced human interaction leading to newer and better ways of thinking and working.

Performance: To ensure the campus remains net zero on Water, Energy and Waste, the EPI arrived at was 25. With the benchmark EPI of buildings being 200 and the GRIHA baseline being 140, the challenge was enormous. It would push us towards delivering one of the world's most energy efficient buildings in any case, and enabling the aim to build the world's most sustainable office building.

Project: Campus for Infosys Ltd., Nagpur | Client: Infosys | Size: 142 acres | Status: In Progress



Net Zero Energy | Zero Waste Discharge | Zero Water Balance |
Productive Landscape | 15 acre Lake for Rainwater Harvesting |
100% day-lit, Glare-free Workplace | Preservation of Eco
System and Bio Diversity | WWR = 22.9% for each façade |
Total Solar Heat Gain < 1 W/sq ft. | Target EPI 25 kWh/sqm/yr |
LEED v4 Platinum rating - Pledge | GRIHA 5* rating - Pledge |
Living Building Challenge - Pledge



Township in Raipur



Raising the bar: The project aims to set an example for the development of an integrated eco-township setting the standard for such developments in Tier II cities. The location poses a challenge, given that the Raipur Airport runway is only 1.5 kms away and there is no intermediate noise buffer in between. Also, the site slopes towards the North-West with a difference of 13 metres from the highest to the lowest point.

Passive strategy: There are a number of interesting natural features on the site- a lake, canal and nullahs. The aim is to preserve and enhance these features, minimizing cut and fill of the land. Eco-Fingers provide a safe public transport corridor used for community activities, pedestrian and cyclist movement. Cycling tracks improve slow mode transport and provide an alternate transport system along the major movement axis.

Micro Neighbourhoods: Dedicated entry and exit with no thoroughfare vehicular traffic creates a feeling of community, safety and exclusivity. All community facilities are centrally located so that they lie within 5 to 15 minutes walking distance from all areas of the township. The commercial zone lies facing the highway and not only creates high-visibility and imageability for the project, but also acts as a noise buffer, shielding the township from the airport across the road.

Target EPI for commercial and residential: 80 kWh/m²

Project: Township in Raipur | Client: Dainik Bhaskar Group + HIRA Group + Bafna Group | Size: 316 acres | Status: In Progress





