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Manit Rastogi

A graduate from SPA, New Delhi, and the Architectural Association (London) with Honours (Diploma school) and Distinction (Graduate school) in energy and environmental studies, Manit and Sonali Rastogi founded Morphogenesis in New Delhi. Manit feels that architecture works on faculties and sensibilities — creative, technical, scientific and socio cultural sensibility. "The profession allows one to engage passionately and have an impact on society," he adds. "Architecture allows you to translate imagination into physicality," feels Manit.

There are many architects whose work he admires, "Some known, some not so known, some who have created cities and towns which are of huge significance but are nameless entities. I think it's more the environment that moulds and inspires you," Manit says. Citing examples, he talks about his admiration for the architects who designed the city of old Jaisalmer, the round mud houses of Gujarat, or the monasteries in the Himalayas. "I have really enjoyed the work of Tadao Ando, Geoffrey Bawa, Legorreta, Alvar Aalto," he adds. Manit feels that every architect is a product designer and engineer at heart when it comes to material. To learn the nuances and intricacies of every new material is exciting he says, "I think any material whether it is metals, terracotta, natural stone, sandstone, possibilities of glass being pushed to the limit is exciting."

Morphogenesis has been ranked, for the fourth time consecutively, among the Top 100 Architectural Design Firms worldwide by Building Design Magazine, UK in WA100, 2015. Manit and Sonali Rastogi have recently been awarded Laureate of the SIA Getz Award for Emergent Architecture in Asia, Singapore 2014, which seeks to bring recognition to Asian architects, who through their vision and commitment have made a significant contribution in shaping the changing landscape of Asia.