

USC Price

Urban Growth Seminar

Top Practitioners—Engaging Research—Innovative Responses

Date:

Tuesday,

Jan. 19

12:15-1:30pm

Location

Lewis Hall (RGL),

Room 101

urbangrowth.usc.edu

THIS SEMINAR IS
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USC Price

Sol Price School of Public Policy

"Urban Design: The Pluralism of Practice"

Speaker: Vinayak Bharne

Adjunct Associate Professor, USC Price School of Public Policy

Director of Design at Moule & Polyzoides Architects and Urbanists



Vinayak Bharne is Adjunct Associate Professor of Urban Design and City Planning at the USC Price School of Public Policy, Lecturer in Landscape Architecture and Heritage Conservation at the USC School of Architecture, and Director of Design at Moule & Polyzoides Architects and Urbanists in Pasadena. He also serves as the urban design advisor to the Government of Karnataka Directorate of Urban Land Transport in India.

His books include "The Emerging Asian City: Concomitant Urbanities and Urbanisms", "Zen Spaces & Neon Places: Reflections on Japanese Architecture and Urbanism", "Rediscovering the Hindu Temple: The Sacred Architecture and Urbanism of India," and the forthcoming "Global Perspectives in Heritage Conservation."

Featured in World Architecture News in 2013, he was one of nine international urban thinkers honored at the 2015 Urban Edge Award Seminar for "excellence in the broad field of urban design." He serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Architecture and Urbanism in London, Board of Directors of Pasadena Heritage in Los Angeles, Advisory Board of The Indian Cities Foundation in New Delhi, and as Contributing Editor of Kyoto Journal in Japan.

Description of the lecture: Urban Design practice is a complex, collaborative endeavor with many guises around the world. It is intrinsically enmeshed with many other dimensions of city-making – from governance and policy, to planning and architecture, all of which have different meanings and manifestations across different geographies. Being a global urban design practitioner is about constantly negotiating one's preconceptions of an ideal city, with the actual socio-political realities, processes and aspirations of a place.

Drawing from his recent projects, books, research and activist initiatives in Banaras (India), Dubai (UAE), Los Angeles (USA), Colon (Panama), Yazd (Iran), Mie (Japan), Zhengzhou (China), and Nairobi (Kenya) – Bharne will share insights on the multiple facets of being a global practitioner – as government consultant reforming planning processes and policies, as researcher highlighting areas for investigation, as activist dedicated to socio-political change, and as designer shaping physical places for a better future.