

# OSKAR VON MILLER FORUM

Press Release

## Building knowledge – building community

**A lecture by Anupama Kundoo, Anupama Kundoo Architects / Berlin and India, on 6 June 2024 at 6:30 pm at Oskar von Miller Forum and via livestream on [www.ovmf.de](http://www.ovmf.de)**

Our built environment is the physical stage on which all human stories are lived out. This physical stage is the historical and ongoing manifestation of human imagination operating within real (or, imaginary!) constraints.

Anupama Kundoo advances the idea that architectural imagination must transcend design and enter the realms of materials science and economics where some of the bigger questions reside. She will discuss the thrust of her inquiries which have been to find practical ways to fulfill the universal human aspiration for refuge, purpose, and social engagement through extensive material research and experimentation. She will discuss 'Human Time as a Resource' in the quest for new materiality and critically examine the way the time value of money has nudged us towards code-based design and the industrialized production of building components and, sometimes, even entire buildings themselves. She will discuss materiality and consumption of finite natural resources alongside their impact on human wellbeing and human resourcefulness.

### About

Anupama Kundoo graduated from University of Mumbai in 1989 and received her PhD degree from TU Berlin in 2008. Her research-oriented practice started in 1990 in Auroville has generated people centric architecture based on spatial and material research for low environmental impact while being socio-economically beneficial. Her body of works was recently exhibited as a solo show 'Taking Time' at Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Denmark till 16 May 2021.

She has taught Architecture and Urban Management at various international universities strengthening her expertise in rapid urbanization and climate change related development issues and was the Davenport Visiting Professor at Yale University in Spring 2020. She is Professor at TU Berlin heading a Fachgebiet called 'Making Matters'

She is the recipient of the 2022 Global Award for Sustainable Architecture, the 2021 RIBA Charles Jencks award for her contribution to architectural theory, the 2021 Auguste Perret Prize for architectural technology and the 2021 Building Sense Now global award of the German Sustainable Building Council.

Kundoo's rigorous research and experimentation in new materiality for architecture is the result of questioning basic assumptions, construction habits that humanity has adopted during the long process of industrialization. Rather than focussing on shortage, she sought abundance through investing in human resources and human resourcefulness, such as ingenuity, time, skills, care and sense of community. The act of building produces knowledge just as the resulting knowledge produces buildings.

Her studios are based in Berlin in Germany, and Pune and Pondicherry in India.