

Batul Raaj Mehta

Director, South Asia



Batul has assisted on project managing development strategies for museums and art collections in Asia. Her background in research and analysis in the field of museums and heritage combined with documentation and conservation of art, architecture and cultural heritage allows her to take a 360° view of cultural assets. An architect by education, she has worked in different states in India and abroad. As a student architect, she worked in Auroville, in South India, designing and building sustainable houses with alternative technology. As a student of architecture, from School of Architecture, CEPT, Ahmedabad, she was awarded a scholarship exchange program to the University of Calgary for a semester in the architecture course. She was awarded another scholarship to undertake her post graduation specialization in World Heritage Studies, from Germany. These studies allow her to combine understanding of the tangible and intangible heritage in local contexts and awareness of processes and systems of those cultures, where she has studied and worked in.

From 2000 to 2003, she worked with the House of Mewar, Udaipur, on documenting the architecture of the City Palace Museum, Udaipur, and later the architecture, iconography and inscriptions of the Eklingji Temple Complex. Her responsibilities also extended to developing positioning and funding strategies for Eternal Mewar (erstwhile 'City within a City' project).

While on various projects with Lord Cultural Resources since 2005, she has researched and assisted on facility planning for projects on Industrial heritage, Heritage sites, and market analysis for projects in the UK and Canada. She has collaborated on cultural projects across the length and breadth of India understanding the needs of people from diverse intellectual and economic backgrounds. Her advice on an independent art collection focused around a single Italian artist has helped position an upcoming Art fund.

Besides assistance with contextual local research, cultural sensibilities, public participation, market and financial research, she also focuses on facility strategies.

Currently one of her major contributions is project managing Lord Cultural Resources' efforts as Master Planning consultants for the proposed Bihar Museum in Patna, Bihar. This ambitious project will be one of the largest museum building exercises undertaken in independent India by a state government and has local public participation as a strong focus.

Some of the projects that she has worked on with Lord Cultural Resources:

- Liberation War Museum, Dhaka, Bangladesh – 2012 - Ongoing
- Buddha Smriti Park Museum, Patna, Bihar, India – 2012- Ongoing
- Bihar Museum, Patna, Bihar, India – 2011- Ongoing
- Exhibition systems, A private art collector, New Delhi, India – 2011- Ongoing
- Proposed Museum at the Sawai Man Singh Town Hall, Jaipur, India, Master
- Planning & Exhibition Planning, 2008 - Ongoing
- Canadian Music Hall of Fame, Toronto, Canada

- Ottawa Arts Court Foundation, Ottawa, Canada
- S.C. Johnson-Project Honor, Racine, Wisconsin, USA
- World Trade Centre Cultural Centre, New York, USA
- World Trade Centre, Memorial Museum, New York, USA
- Pump House Museum, London, UK
- Hastings Castle Development, UK

Since 2006, she has worked on the following culturally relevant projects in India:

- Signature Montanart Destiny Fund – Art Fund, 2008 - 10
- Ghat Ki Guni Development, Heritage Tourism Strategy, Jaipur, India, 2006-07
- City Palace Museum, Facility Planning Strategy for the Getty Foundation
- Project Planning Grant, Udaipur, India, 2006-07

Conferences

- Documentation of Historic Architecture, City Palace Complex, Udaipur, Organized by Birla Institute of Technology, 2006
- Experts Panel, Significance of Setting: Historic Fort York, Toronto, Heritage &
- Design Charette, ICOMOS Canada, Canada, 2005
- Both sides of the Wall, Faculty of Conservation of Architecture, BTU, Berlin,
- Germany, 2004