

FOLLY OF AMUSEMENTS

16th PROF. S.A. DESHPANDE
STUDIO DESIGN COMPETITION



NAGPUR CENTRE
(MAHARASHTRA CHAPTER)

Sunroom Mansion, サンルーム・マンション by Kemi Neko



In architecture, a folly is a building constructed primarily for decoration, but suggesting through its appearance some other purpose, or of such extravagant appearance that it transcends the range of usual garden buildings.

Follies are often named after the individual who commissioned or designed the project. The connotations of silliness or madness in this definition is in accord with the general meaning of the French word folie; however, another older meaning of this word is "delight" or "favourite abode".

Source: Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Folly#cite_note-3)

Imagining a 'Brave New World'

Preamble

Society is transforming rapidly.

Not least because of the unprecedented impact of technology on lifestyles, livelihoods and the way we design & build. As we move more, expand more and build more, there is also much that we leave behind...

Traditions, rituals and memories are vanishing or being replaced by new trends – some real, some virtual; both ephemeral. Where are we heading – Utopia or Dystopia?

Let us imagine a world set in 2540 CE.

The year 2540 CE is of special significance as it is the setting to Aldous Huxley's Brave New World; a story of our planet, cities, society and people as they navigate a starkly different paradigm where the simple life has been forgotten.

As Architects, can we imagine new paradigms of living in this 'Brave New World'? What does the new world look like?

Examples of distant dystopian futures abound in popular culture. From literature to movies and even video games, these tropes have been explored in great depth and ever-increasing complexities!

It is now almost too easy to imagine a dystopian future. We are living today in a world besought by the perils of nuclear war, famine, climate change, economic collapse and civil unrest!

Most architectural solutions today cater to a miniscule elite with outlandish and obscene demands. How much longer can our cities, mother Earth and over-burdened humans withstand such flagrant inequalities? What comes next?

The Architect must rise beyond the din of this frightful condition and imagine a vision of utopia worthy of aspiring to!

What would your ideal society be? Are you a leader, a facilitator or a participant in such a society? Be compassionate, be creative and most importantly think freely!

Understanding Utopia/Anti-Utopia

Brief

In our 'Brave New World', entertainment and recreation find an important place. Where do the nouveau-riches in the city of tomorrow go to entertain themselves? Are the humble masses also permitted recreation in this place?

What does entertainment look like half a millennium into the future? It falls on you to build for them the most exotic and imaginative Folly of Amusements!

What happens when imagination is pushed to the limits to keep a society fully entertained and engrossed in fantasy? What does design say about the architect's responsibility towards sustainability and social equality?

Elysium (2013) | Columbia Pictures

In Elysium, the ultra-wealthy elite have emigrated from the dystopian Earth of 2154, into a utopian spaceship which harks back to a harmonious green Earth-like biome. The rich play golf, entertain themselves at tea parties and enjoy immortality while the poor slave away with little or no healthcare in crime-ridden crumbling cities.

The movie juxtaposes ideas of dystopia and utopia and in doing so it brings out the stark contrast in social needs and desires.



Entertaining Architecture

Task

Your vision for a Utopian future society needs to be synthesized as an architectural solution for a folly of amusement (a recreational pavilion).

The Task: Imagine and tell the story of a utopian future; imagine a way for people to arrive, and experience truly spectacular time, detail these experiences as an architectural project.

Project Type : Transformation / New Construction

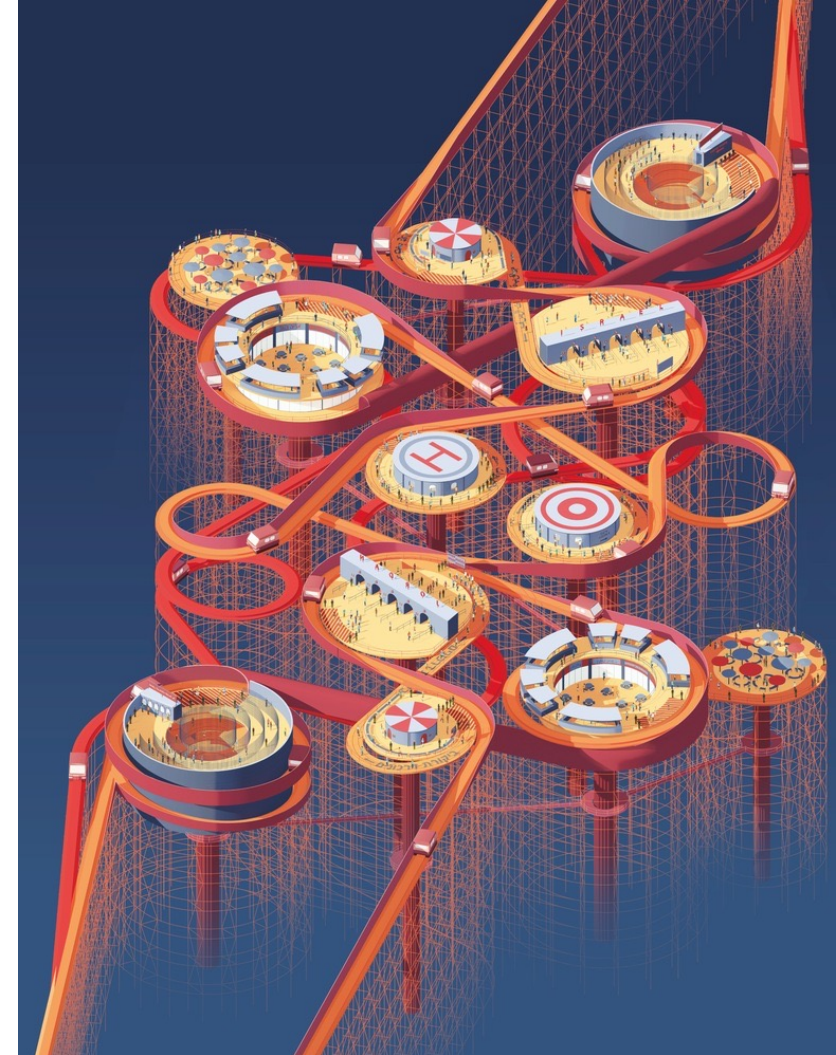
Potential : Architecture meets Experience Design!

Unique Insight: How can Architecture transform perception through experiences?

All at Sea

All at Sea is an interesting student project that explores the idea of a vibrant city built in Sea. A stark reminder of the rising sea levels due to Climate Change but communicated in comic relief using vibrant colours of an amusement park. It is a society that is trying to make the most of a dire situation. A conversion of dystopia to utopia albeit as a satire.

Matt Breton-Honeyman and Amélie Savoie-Saumure (Canada) from McGill School of Architecture. Second Prize: The Best Student Drawings of 2018 awarded by Aarhus School of Architecture



References

Architecture / Primary Case Study

Macro-Cosanti by Paolo Soleri

In 1961, Soleri began work on second major city design. Macro-Cosanti compresses square footage by closely spacing buildings that reach skyward. It introduces large-scale apses filled with residences and offices; their southerly orientation captures maximum light during the winter and provides passive cooling through the shadows cast by direct summer sunlight.

The pedestrian-centric city features parks and gardens linking the elements of a vibrant city centre: residences, stores, schools, markets, churches, hospitals, libraries, theatres and museums.

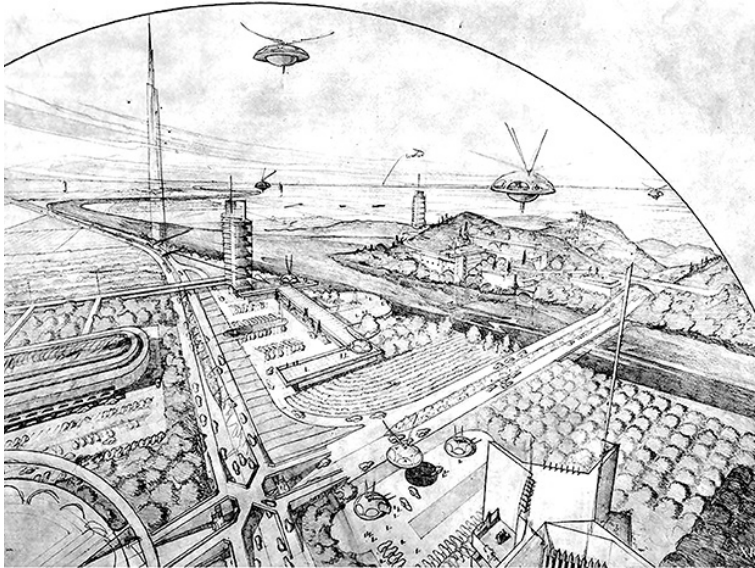
In this city devoid of roads, automobiles are rendered useless, replaced by elevators and escalators that connect living and workspaces. Scale is communicated through small red human figures sitting in amphitheatres, riding in elevators and strolling through gardens.

Source of Text & Image: <https://www.dezeen.com/2017/12/15/paolo-soleri-architecture-exhibition-scottsdale-museum-contemporary-art-claire-carter-curator-highlights/>



References

Architecture / Other Case Studies



Broadacre City by Frank Lloyd Wright

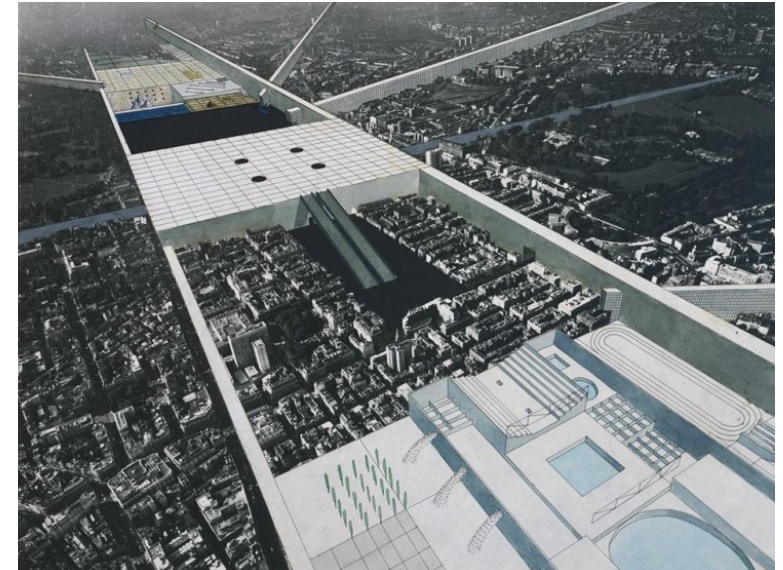
This new democratic city, as envisioned by Wright, would take advantage of modern technology and communications to decentralize the old city and create an environment in which the individual would flourish.

Source: <https://franklloydwright.org/revisiting-frank-lloyd-wrights-vision-broadacre-city/>

Exodus by Rem Koolhaas (and others)

Exodus, or the voluntary prisoners of architecture; Like in West Berlin at the time, the Wall becomes here a condition of freedom by self-imprisonment. Voluntarily segregated, people find shelter within the walls of a prison of metropolitan scale.

Source: <https://socks-studio.com/2011/03/19/exodus-or-the-voluntary-prisoners-of-architecture/>



References

Architecture / Thought Provoking Reads

- Imagining New Worlds. Or How Architecture Has Dreamed Of Utopia by Benedetta Ricci, Artland Magazine ([LINK](#))
- Architectural Utopias: Visionary Designs for a Changing World, Rethinking the Future ([LINK](#))
- Revisiting Utopia; Utopian Fiction as a Reflective, Critical and Speculative Method in Architecture by Jana Culek / Studio Fabula, Future Architecture ([LINK](#))
- Degrowth is Utopian, and that's a Good Thing by Giorgos Kallis, Uneven Earth ([LINK](#))
- Paolo Soleri Exhibition at SMOCA Celebrates the Architect's Visionary Ideas and Legacy by Dan Howarth, Dezeen ([LINK](#))
- Seven Utopian Cities That Can Be Visited Even Today, Faena ([LINK](#))

UTOPIAN COMMUNITIES TODAY

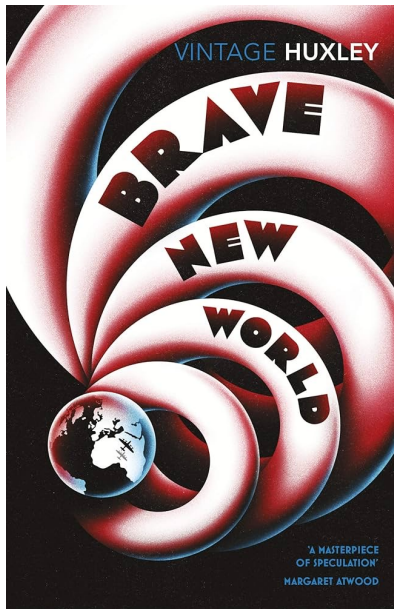
- Arcosanti, AZ, USA ([LINK](#))
- Auroville, PY, India ([LINK](#))
- Archigram (Virtual/ART Collective) ([LINK](#))

DESIGN COMPETITIONS

- Skycar City by MVRDV ([LINK](#)) – In search of an urban utopia.
- Palace of the Soviets ([LINK](#)) – In search for a political utopia.

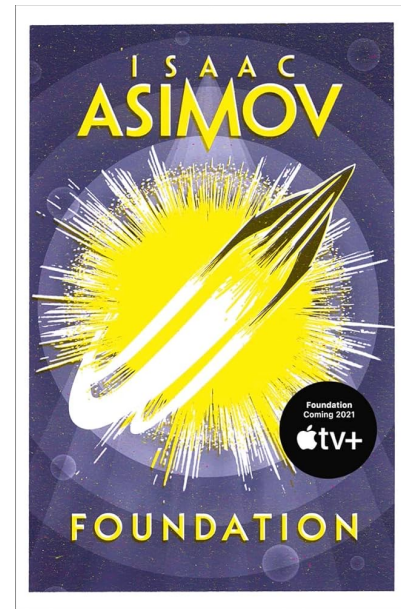
References

Literature



Brave New World by Aldous Huxley

Perception of society: how much is original and how much is imposed? Who are we when we strip back our various indoctrinations. What does it mean to be human?



Foundation Series by Isaac Asimov

Hari Seldon the brilliant mathematician, predicts the destruction of the Empire and the creation of a new Utopia called Foundation.



Lord of the Flies by William Golding

Children abandoned on an island set out to create utopia but end up unwittingly creating a dystopian society.

OTHER REFERENCES

About Utopia & Utopian Literature

<https://www.cliffsnotes.com/literature/u/utopia-utopian-literature/about-utopia-and-utopian-literature>

Just on the Horizon: Nine Utopian Books to Deprogram Our Brains by Kirsten Ghodsee

<https://lithub.com/just-on-the-horizon-nine-utopian-books-to-deprogram-our-brains/>

An Analysis of Thomas More's Utopia

<https://pressbooks.pub/earlybritishlit/chapter/sir-thomas-more-utopia/>

The Good Place? Tracing utopia and dystopia through literature by Isabel Crespo

<https://www.europeana.eu/en/stories/the-good-place-tracing-utopia-and-dystopia-through-literature>

References

Film & TV Series



Jurassic Park by Steven Spielberg

When science makes it possible to resurrect dinosaurs, a wealthy capitalist thinks up of a way to amuse the ultra-wealthy in his theme park!



Hunger Games by Francis Lawrence

The elite keep the masses entertained in this vicious commentary on social mores that questions the value of human life.



The Good Place by Michael Shure

One person's Utopia is another person's Dystopia.

Entertainment and punishment are two sides of the same coin in this sitcom.



Fallout / Amazon Prime

What will it take to create a new Utopia?

Guidelines for the 16th SADSDC 2024

Brief Outline

General Guidelines

1. Please read the Competition Brief carefully and in its entirety.
2. Please attempt to cover all references & case studies (and more) in preparation for the competition.
3. As far as possible, the cited references have been provided from open-source material to enable easy access for students.
4. You are invited to seek clarifications about the brief. The faculty in-charge shall compile each college's queries, and these shall be addressed in the faculty training program by the mentor.

Faculty's Responsibility

1. Faculty members shall plan to attend the mentoring workshop in person to ensure best guidance for their students.
2. Faculty members shall ensure faithful translation of the workshop proceedings to their respective students.

NOTE:

1. SADSDC shall adopt a zero-tolerance policy towards plagiarism.
2. Faculty members shall ensure a high level of vigilance with regards to plagiarism.

Competition Team

The People Behind the Scene!

Presented by:



NAGPUR CENTRE
MAHARASHTRA CHAPTER

Competition Team

Mentor : Ar. Jayesh Ganesh
IIA Team : Ar. Nitin Kurvey
Ar. Parikshit Choudhari



THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Nagpur Centre (Maharashtra Chapter)

<https://iianagpur.org/>

Presents

16th Prof. S A Deshpande Studio Design Competition – 2024

Rules and Instructions

Introduction

The Indian Institute of Architects, Nagpur Centre, proudly organizes the prestigious Prof. S. A. Deshpande Studio Design Competition annually for 8th-semester (4th-year) B.Arch. students. This exciting competition invites participation from colleges affiliated with RTMNU, VNIT, and SGBAU in Maharashtra, as well as from Schools of Architecture in Telangana and Chhattisgarh.

Now in its vibrant 16th edition, this year's theme comes alive as "Folly of Amusements." Under the inspiring mentorship of Ar. Jayesh Ganesh, who has eagerly embraced the opportunity, the competition is driven by a fantastic, meticulously researched design brief. It offers students the perfect platform to showcase their ground-breaking and innovative design ideas, turning vision into reality.

Design Topic

A Folly (Architecture) is often a pavilion or structure that is built to commemorate an event or person. It may or may not be inhabitable but it is certainly designed to provoke a powerful thought or idea in the viewer. Follies may be experienced in a multitude of ways and students are invited to make full use of their imagination to create their own follies!

SCHEDULE OF THE COMPETITION

07.10.2024 (Sunday) -

Introduction of the Competition Brief without the site, context or requirements on

<https://iianagpur.org/>

Also it will be emailed to all the invited institutes.

07.10.2024 to 11.12.2024 -

- a) Students are invited to study the competition brief in detail to gather a holistic understanding of the topic.
- b) The brief outlines relevant case studies and references to get students acquainted with the central concept of the competition. These may be considered as mandatory references to expose students to diverse perspectives on the competition topic.
- c) Additionally, students are welcome to delve deeper into the topic through relevant references of their own choosing. Inspiration can be found in the most unlikely of places!
- d) Students are also encouraged to acquaint themselves with the winning entries to global competitions of high repute to understand the quality of thought and submissions. The international open competition for the Guggenheim Museum in Helsinki is an excellent example.
- e) Students are encouraged to exchange references, thoughts and ideas with friends and fellow participants the way most professionals in the industry usually do! Learning is a shared experience.
- f) In addition to the above, students are free to begin work on the design in their respective studios, at home, etc.

07.12.2024 (Saturday) -

Declaration of other project details including site at the **intervening hour** between 06.12.2024 and 07.12.2024.

07.12.2024 (Saturday) - 15.12.2024 (Sunday).

The 16th Prof. S A Deshpande Studio Design Competition requires students to work on their competition projects either in the studio or at home, as the case may be, around the clock.

16.12.2024 (Monday) and 17.12.2024(Tuesday) -

Sorting of the entries by the in-charge faculty as per the number of entries allowed. Submission of short-listed entries from 3.00PM (Monday) till 6:00 PM (Tuesday) on the IIA's Website Submission Portal. This also concludes stage 1 : Shortlisting, of the competition.

4th week of December'24

Stage-2 : INTERNAL ASSESMENT, will be held in the week immediately after the submission received. This is tentative schedule and exact dates will be conveyed in December.

1st week of January'25

Stage-3 : FINAL ASSESSMENT , will be held in the first of January 2025. This is tentative schedule and exact dates will be conveyed in December.

FACULTY IN CHARGE ORIENTATION WORKSHOP

In response to the feedback we have received from last year's edition of this competition, IIA Nagpur centre has requested the Mentor Ar Jayesh Ganesh to conduct a workshop orienting the faculties from respective schools.

The workshop will be held on **17th October 2024** (Thursday) in Nagpur, it would be conducting in hybrid mode so that faculties who are outstation can attend it.

It's a request to various schools participating in this competition to attend this workshop, wherein their queries will be answered and they will have a better understanding of the brief.

Also, Faculties students are encourages to write to iia.nagpurcentre@gmail.com for any clarification, query regarding the design brief, till 15th October 2024, your questions will be addressed in this faculty orientation workshop.

THE SUBMISSION

The Format for the covering letter for the shortlisted entries will be emailed to the faculty in-charge/HOD of the institute. This covering letter will authenticate the online submission. It may be noted that in the previous Competitions, seven days were provided, whereas, this time around eight + two days have been provided. The extra day(Tuesday) has been provided for facilitating scanning (if done manually) and submitting the entries after shortlisted by the faculty in-charge.

The Mode of Presentation and Tips for online submission will be announced on 07.12.2024 along with details of the competition.

STAGES OF THE COMPETITION

The competition has 3 stages as follows,

Stage-1 : SHORTLISTING

Each participating institution is eligible to submit 3 shortlisted entries per 40 sanctioned intake for that batch (8th semester) of students. Two more entries for every 40 addition sanctioned intake up to 120 intake. Over 120 students 1 more entry will be allowed for 40 students sanctioned intake.

To explain the same

1-40 intake	-	Institute can submit 3 entries
41-60 intake	-	Institute can submit 4 entries
61-80 intake	-	Institute can submit 5 entries
81-100 intake	-	Institute can submit 6 entries
101-120 intake	-	Institute can submit 7 entries
121-140 intake	-	Institute can submit 8 entries
141-160 intake	-	Institute can submit 9 entries

The short listed entries by the faculty in charge or as the system the institutes deems fit shall be certified by the Head/in-charge faculty of the participating institution by providing a covering letter and logging into the submission portal. The entries shall be accompanied by the list of participants, duly stamped & certified by the Head of the Institution. Authenticated entries in next stage will receive a certificate of participation.

SADSDC shall adopt a zero-tolerance policy towards plagiarism. Faculty members shall ensure a high level of vigilance with regards to plagiarism.

Stage-2 : INTERNAL ASSESMENT

The mode of assessment is as follows: The entries uploaded by the faculty in-charge or the Head of the Institution will be checked for authenticity. Access to these entries will be provided to the Internal Assessment Panel of Architects selected by IIA Nagpur entre. The internal jurors will review all the entries and determine which ones should advance to the Final Jury. If necessary, an internal round may be conducted in person. In such a case, students will be notified via email, and the in-charge faculties will be informed. This stage will be conclude within a week of the submission by the institutes. The results will be informed via email/ on IIA Nagpur website immediately. The entries selected for final round will receive commendation certificates.

Stage-3 : FINAL ASSESSMENT

Final round of the selected entries will be held in Nagpur on suitable a suitable date in person. Shortlisted students will be required to come to Nagpur and attend the final round.

Panel of Imminent Jurors will be preceding over the Final Jury.

After the jury, there will be *open house* to interact with the finalists. Awards will be announced later in the programme, also certificates will be distributed along with the prizes.

There won't be any wild card entries from this year.

Both for the Internal Assessment as well as for the Final Assessment, the decision of the jurors shall be binding on all stakeholders.

PRIZES

1ST – CERTIFICATE AND CASH AWARD OF INR 10000.00

2ND – CERTIFICATE AND CASH AWARD OF INR 7500.00

3RD - CERTIFICATE AND CASH AWARD OF INR 5000.00

CONSOLATION PRIZES - TWO, with certificate.

SPECIAL MENTION – ONE, by the panel of jurors (it's jurors discretion to award or not)

COMMENDATION CERTIFICATES shall be given to the shortlisted entries.

AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPETITION BRIEF

The Indian Institute of Architects, Nagpur Centre reserves the right to make amendments to the Competition Brief without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

The uploaded entries will be in the possession of IIA, Nagpur Centre, which will have the right to publish or reproduce them. Appropriate credit will be given to the participating students and institutes, in case IIA, Nagpur Centre decides to publish or reproduce the entries.

For any Clarification feel free to call/email to...

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Ar. Parikshit Choudhari (+91 98 9060 4989/ ar.p.choudhari@gmail.com)