



# Sonal Mithal

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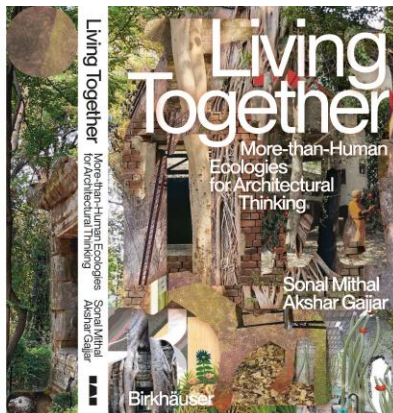
Chair, Master's in Conservation and Regeneration Program, FA, CEPT University

## Research Area Keywords:

architecture, landscape architecture,  
queer studies, history, architectural  
conservation, climate change,  
feminist-materialism

What does it mean for architecture to be a truly collaborative venture where plants and other species also exercise their agency? This would mean to make architecture receptive—physically, premised on creating spaces for accommodating multispecies, and intellectually, premised on becoming aware of the needs of more-than-humans. Design-based approaches whether technocratic or demonstrating a theoretical standpoint are fragmented today and demand a holistic approach. *Living Together* positions itself in that fragmentation. The book is an inquiry into an architecture which allows multispecies alliances to take place. It brings materialist and ecological inquiries to architectural design, practice, and thinking, acknowledging a necessity to go beyond established architectural ideals of progress, monumentality, longevity, and permanence.

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*Sonal Mithal* (she/her) is an architect, artist, and educator. She holds a doctorate from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, MArch from SPA Delhi; and BArch from Lucknow University. She is co-founder of research and conservation studio, *People for Heritage Concern* which offers consultancy for conservation and urban revitalization projects, and art projects for the public sector. She is serving as chair of the Masters in Conservation and Regeneration program at CEPT University. Her research, teaching, and writing transects architecture, landscape architecture, queer studies, history, and architectural conservation. Her areas of interest are architecture approaches for climate change, feminist-materialism, and intersectionality which is central to shaping the built environment. She has recently published *A Queer Reading of Nawabi and the Colonial Archive: Lucknow Queerscapes* (Taylor and Francis UK, 2024), *IncLOOsive: Feminist Toilet Architecture* (CEPT University Press, 2025), and *Living together: More-Than-Human Ecologies for Architectural Thinking* (Birkhäuser, 2025). She has been commissioned to provide research-based artworks permanently installed at four underground metro stations in the World Heritage City of Ahmedabad (2022) and at Surat (2024-). She is co-consultant for restoration of Surat Castle, and several revitalization of urban precincts in Gujarat commissioned by city municipal corporations (2015-). Her artwork has been exhibited at Sweden, Taiwan, USA, Venice Biennale 2019, and London Design Biennale 2021.

<https://cept.ac.in/faculty/sonal-mithal#>



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