



Never has there been a time so critical where lives change drastically in seconds and yet a life so full of opportunities to explore and to innovate. In the present circumstances, with rapid urbanization, multiplying population and an enormous pressure on resources, we are faced with a definitive challenge to analyze where we are now and more importantly to understand where we are headed tomorrow.

Architecture and the built environment find itself at crossroads, with multifold avenues of sustainable development, promises of fighting climate change and providing a healthy environment for an *'improved quality of life'*.

The value of being *'human beings'* with an individual response to stimuli and the voice and creativity of the individual, is swiftly being lost. Mankind is increasingly being forged into a cookie-cutter mindset that celebrates the herd rather than the individual. Most cities of the world follow suit with its celebration of the automobile and utter disregard for the basic *human dimensions*.

*“Man evolved to feel strongly about few people,
short distances, relatively brief intervals of time;
& these are still the dimensions of life that are important to him.”*

– Dr. S. L. Washburn (*Evolutionary Biologist*)

Creating the right built environment is not just something that we want; it is now something that we need. On this chosen path the joy in human life is rekindled, one that is filled with face to face interactions and close hand encounters with life.

Here is to a life that celebrates the individual.

Welcome to U²...