

# Anupama Kundoo

## About

Born Pune, India  
Lives Brisbane, Australia

Anupama Kundoo's architecture is for everyone. All of good. Her 'whole world' approach to sustainable housing is a reaction against the innate bias of many 'green' architectural methods that cater only to those who can afford them.

Rather than focus on grand architectural forms, Kundoo has immersed herself in the brick by brick detail of how structures are built. She researches building techniques that provide socio-economic benefits to communities through a holistic and contextual approach to sustainability. Her material and process innovations pivot around locally and cheaply produced materials that eliminate the need for more expensive and environmentally harmful materials like steel and concrete.

Due to their affordability and low environmental impact, Kundoo's buildings can address disaster relief needs just as easily as they can meet the wishes of urban dwellers. In the face of an escalating world housing crisis, where conventional permanent housing options remain unaffordable to most of the globe's populace, Kundoo shows us another way.

## Project

**Light Matters, 2013**

Corrugated cardboard, paper, ferro-cement  
Video 13:40 min

Kundoo's structure is 'light' in many ways. Light in weight, cost and environmental impact. It also champions an enlightened approach to housing methods.

This installation presents the first step in a multi-staged process for constructing a shelter using 'ferro-cement'. Ferro-cement is a low-tech material comprised of cement plaster reinforced with chicken wire, most commonly used in boat building. To add strength to the ferro-cement shell, Kundoo has introduced organic crease patterns that prescribe the shape of the structure.

Stages two and three of the *Light Matters* construction use chicken wire to reinforce the cardboard folds and then applies cement plaster to the mesh. To understand the full assembly process, there is video documentation of two ferro-cement prototypes that were built in India in January 2013 as well as ongoing research being undertaken in Brisbane.

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Architecture

How can we create a common standard for sustainable architecture that works for both rich and poor?

