

BIO

Sushant Jai-Amita Verma is a *Design Entrepreneur, Architect, Computational Designer & Educator*, currently leading **rat[LAB] Studio (Research in Architecture and Technology)** (www.rat-lab.org) that investigates intersections of design, art & technology through architecture, interior design and art installations. He holds a Masters Degree in Emergent Technologies & Design from Architectural Association, London and is a former architect at **Zaha Hadid Architects, London** & a **Sr. Editor at Arch2O**. He is the founder of **rat[LAB] EDUCATION**, which is an initiative to spread the idea of computation in design through independently-organized design workshops for profession and academia. Recipient of **MAK Schindler Award** from Vienna / Los Angeles and a finalist for AIA Emerging Leaders Fellowship from Chicago, his work is widely published and exhibited in London, Los Angeles, New York, Tokyo, San Francisco, Taipei, New Delhi, Mumbai among other places. He has been shortlisted in New Delhi among 5 architects for '20 under 35' Exhibition at Alliance Francaise de Delhi, featured as iGen 2017 Top 50 Gen-Next Designers in India, tagged as 'Rising Star' by Surfaces Reporter India, among other features. Sushant joined the elite list of **TEDx** Speakers by speaking at TEDxGurugram on 'Smart Cities need Smarter Design Education'. His second TEDxTalk was recently given at the prestigious IIT KGP where he inspired the young professionals to pursue their passions in Design & Technology. He was recently selected to be a **MentorOfChange** for Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) by NITI Aayog (National Institute for Transforming India), a policy think tank by **Government of India** where he shares his knowledge of design technologies to school students pursuing high school education to inculcate a culture of innovation and R&D in India. He also started and currently heads **Smart Labs** – India's first 6 month hybrid programme on Computational Design that blends studio learning and e-learning using a technology-oriented approach. His third TEDxTalk was delivered at IIT Bhubaneswar on Diffusion of Technology in Architecture recently.





EXTENDED BIO

Sushant is actively involved in bringing a change in design profession in India and many other countries, in profession as well as academia with his path-breaking work of experimental and pragmatic nature through his research cell rat[LAB]. Through rat[LAB]EDUCATION, he started the culture of 'independently-organized' education workshops in India which has now permeated into the architectural curriculum in an appropriate way. rat[LAB] cultivated a 'laboratory-culture' of design practice in India by demonstrating a successful and multi-scalar use of 'computational technology' in architectural design.

Since the inception of rat[LAB], which was co-founded in 2012 in London with PradeepDevadass, his involvement with technology-driven design has been multi-cultural and global with projects, research, publications and lectures across UK, USA, Europe & Asia in many capacities. Sushant Verma, collectively with his organization rat[LAB], has so far organized **60+ educational workshops, given 40+ public talks / lectures, received 12 accolades / awards, exhibited on 25 occasions, published 6 research papers and has had about 80+ media impressions in print and digital.** The international recognition of rat[LAB] as one of the emerging design & technology firms has put the organization at a forefront in India to be a driver of change for design industry, with a rapid extension of the organization into parallel design & technology domains such as Art, Product Design, Interactive Spaces, Kinetic Installations and Data Visualization. With his computational skills, Sushant aims to influence design industries by developing scalable educational models for the underexposed design students in the country as well as use computation as a tool for bringing in social change.

rat [LAB]

RESEARCH IN ARCHITECTURE & TECHNOLOGY

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rat[LAB] - Research in Architecture & Technology, is an independent research organization and network of designers & researchers specializing in computational design or similar technology-related domains. rat[LAB] is operated as a cloud-based organization with an international network of researchers & computational designers spread across **UK, USA, Europe & Asia, and a studio in New Delhi, India**, the research cell functions as a global collaborative and multidisciplinary laboratory facilitating design research that leads to novel spatial tectonics and smart built environments.

The research agendas broadly focus on use of computational design & parametric design in architecture, with intersections between design & technology spread across scales and disciplines. rat[LAB] offers collaborations to architecture and design firms to develop systemic models using advanced computational techniques and carry out project-specific or agenda-specific work in all fields of design.