



Hemis monastery, Ladakh India.  
Studio Clavuot & Mair 2015

## Sustainable Design

# Vernacular Architecture

Lecturer: DI Robert Mair, Masters Programm, 2 ECTS, taught in 24 lectures a 45min, 42 hours self-studies, once a year, in english. Grading: final written exam. minimum 4.0 to pass.

Many of us were born in some of the richest countries of the world. Therefore, we face architecture and life in general from a very specific perspective. Some might call it privileged, but that certainty might change. This lecture series will open our eyes and hearts and help to rethink our sometimes narrow-minded comfort zone.

How to dwell in closed circles with nature?

Humanity has developed highly adapted systems in all climate zones around the world. Improved from generation to generation, these lifestyles and buildings match the essential needs of people. Along with industrialization the process of urbanization eroded the traditions that handed over the knowledge and skills within local communities. By globalization vernacular architecture is melting like glaciers and has already disappeared in many highly developed places. If we want to study them, we must travel in space and even in time. For example, to "Architecture without architects" Exhibition in MoMA New York in 1964 by Austrian architect Bernhard Rudolfsky.

The adventure trip around the world, that we are doing in the lecture hall, will be nourished by specialist literature and field trip experience of the lecturer – mostly done with architecture studios of the University of Liechtenstein: Marocco, Norway, Switzerland, Romania, India or individually to Georgia, Japan, Chile – just to name some. Keep your backpack light and be open minded for fantastic insights into highly intelligent and efficient construction methods using exclusively natural materials in all climatic conditions of our one and only planet earth.

### Literature

crucial books will be available in the semester shelf of the atelier