



STUDIO BANGLA- DESH

Photo: Kurt Hoerbst

In the winter semester 2026, the Housing & Society Unit is collaborating with a non-profit initiative in Narail, Bangladesh, dedicated to providing artistic and cultural education to children. Inspired by the legacy of the renowned Bangladeshi artist SM Sultan, the school seeks to establish a permanent campus that combines art, education, craftsmanship, and community development within the rural landscape of Goailbari village.

The studio's goal is to explore how architecture can support creative learning, social inclusion, and environmental resilience in a riverine context shaped by seasonal flooding, climate change, and communal traditions. Students will develop proposals for an art school that integrate indoor and outdoor learning environments, workshops, exhibition spaces, and residential facilities. Through the study of local building cultures using earth and bamboo, and the social life of the village, we approach the design task as both an architectural and cultural exchange.

By engaging with the everyday realities of rural Bangladesh and working closely with our project partners, we will reflect on the opportunities and challenges of international collaboration. The studio aims to foster an empathetic and context-sensitive design approach that recognizes architecture as a catalyst for education, cultural identity, and sustainable community development.

COLLABORATOR SM Sultan Art School, Narail, Bangladesh

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