

AKASH CHAINANI

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SUMMARY

Architectural Designer with four years of international project experience across the Middle East, US, and India. Excellent track record contributing to 30+ projects, from 3,000 sq ft small-scale Residential to 3.2 million sq ft mega-scale Commercial, Institutional and Transportation projects with budgets exceeding \$5 Billion. Strategically led teams for smaller projects with direct client coordination. Collaborated within large multi-disciplinary teams ensuring completion within budget and time. Expert in 3D Modeling, Drawing, and Rendering across major industry-standard software in BIM, CAD and Visualization. Vivid thinker, problem solver and excellent team player.

LICENSES / CERTIFICATIONS / MEMBERSHIPS

Licensed Architect with the Council of Architecture (COA) India	Aug 2021
AIA & NOMA Member	2024 – Present
Certificate Autodesk Certified Professional in Revit Architecture	2020

HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Archie's Best Architecture Design Award in <i>Exemplary Landscape Design</i> by SAIC AIAS	April 2026
Archie's Best Architecture Design Award in <i>Novel Adaptive Reuse</i> by SAIC AIAS	April 2026
International <i>Graduate Scholarship Awardee</i> at SAIC	July 2025
International <i>Travel Scholarship Awardee</i> at SAIC	March 2025
<i>Certificate of Recognition</i> – AECOM	September 2023

EDUCATION

School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Master of Architecture + Certificate in Historic Preservation	August 2024 - May 2026
Relevant coursework: Architectural Design & Construction, Historic Preservation	

Indus University, Ahmedabad, India

Bachelor of Architecture	August 2014 - Jan 2020
Relevant coursework: Architectural design, Building construction	

SKILLS

Technical: Autodesk Revit | Dynamo | BIM 360 | Navisworks | Bluebeam Revu | Revizto | OpenBuildings Designer | AutoCAD | Rhinoceros 3D | Grasshopper | SketchUp | Blender | 3ds Max | Adobe Creative Suite | Twinmotion | Enscape | Lumion | Unreal Engine | Unity | MS Office Suite | Sketching | Physical Model Making | Material Research | Design Ideation | Parametric Design | Sustainable Design | Project Phasing | BIM Coordination | AI Assisted Design Optimization | Collaborative Communication | Leadership & Mentoring | Proactive Problem Solving | Adaptability |

Languages: English, Hindi, Gujarati, Sindhi

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Chicago, IL	
Teaching Assistant - Introduction to Architecture Class (Architecture)	Aug 2024 – Dec 2024
Lab Monitor - Advanced Output Center (3D Printing, Laser Cutting Lab)	Jan 2026 – May 2026
Teaching Assistant - Global Modernisms (Art History)	Jan 2026 – May 2026

AECOM EC (Enterprise Capabilities)

Oct 2022 - May 2024	
Architect II	Bengaluru, India
Worked on the Schematic Design, Design Development, Construction Documentation, and IFC stages of multi-million dollar architectural and infrastructural projects in the Middle East and the US	
Developed and managed BIM workflow for models in Revit for the complete project lifecycle, including coordination with MEP and Structural consultants for final project delivery.	
Coordinated with large teams from different disciplines for various stages of design development.	
Adapted to various inter-disciplinary tasks and software workflows specific to projects under different verticals like Transportation, Landscape, Interior Design, and Architecture.	

Parikshit Dalal Architecture + Design

Oct 2021 – May 2022	
Junior Architect	Bengaluru, India
Worked on human scale residences, offices, and factory through all stages of design such as SD, DD, CD, Issued for construction documents and sanction drawings as well.	
Managed up to 7 projects at once while intelligently delegating tasks to interns and colleagues	
Extensively worked on Facade Designs, Client Coordination, Spatial Design, Construction Drawings, Consultant Coordination	
Saved the firm's resources by becoming the Lead Visualizer and producing renderings and visualizations for few projects.	

Hunnarshala Foundation (NGO)

Feb 2021 – July 2021

Architect Volunteer

Bhuj, India

- Collaborated in the design processes for institutional, residential, and school projects, from master planning and village documentation to interior design and material specification.
- Acquired Hands-on expertise in sustainable mud construction techniques, including the fabrication of Adobe and Compressed Stabilized Earth Blocks (CSEB), Cob wall construction, and application of Mud-IPS flooring and plaster finishes.
- Developed compelling digital visualizations for project presentations, including 3D renders, animated walkthroughs

Elevate Designs

Feb 2020 – Jan 2021

Co-Founder & Principal Architect

Gandhidham, India

- Designed facades – exterior skins for residential projects to interior remodeling of houses and offices while producing the architectural visualization and walkthroughs for the same.
- First experience of opening own practice and leading the design with client and consultants

Vision Infra Creations Pvt. Ltd.

June 2017 – Nov 2017

Architectural Intern

Ahmedabad, India

- Managed a diverse project portfolio including residential (individual houses, housing societies), commercial (high-rise apartments, shops), and interior design projects.
- Led the design development for key project components, including heading the interior design of an office library with 72 hours onsite execution and creating the exterior elevation designs for two buildings.
- Directed project coordination, including leading client meetings, liaising with material contractors, conducting site visits, and producing a full range of construction drawings.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

AECOM EC, Bengaluru, India

Mall of Saudi, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)

- Worked on the Interior design of a \$5 billion project along with 100+ team of people.
- Prepared design development documents for Flooring & other parts of BOH and FOH areas

Dammam Entertainment Complex

- Worked on the BIM model and produced drawings for the design development stage.

AU McDowell: Student dormitory renovation Project, Washington D.C, USA

Stages of design: Pre-Design, Schematic Design, Design Development

- Prepared the BIM model from the 30-year-old CAD drawings.
- Produced drawings for demolition, and new construction phases with master key schedule.
- Closely coordinating with the Lead team in Arlington, Virginia

Diriyah Square, (Riyadh, KSA)- (Commercial Development) (Design package 03 Architecture and ID)

- Complied and created landscape architecture project presentation documents for the client in UAE.

NEOM, The Line – Saudi Arabia

- Worked on the \$500 billion futuristic underground metro train stations with Transport Architecture team

Parikshit Dalal Architecture + Design, Bengaluru, India

Badami Resort, Hampi, Karnataka, India

- Visualized and modeled the 3D model and renderings with Sketchup + V-Ray

Residential Projects

- Schematic to Design Development of the House of Slopes – Kerala, India
- Design development to producing Construction drawings and coordination for the Vijay Residence

Hunnarshala Foundation

Sahyadri School - Pune, India

- Worked on the concept design to finish material study with mud plaster.
- Applied vernacular mud construction techniques on projects in real time.
- Imagined and Drew from Schematic to Design development stages of a Wellness Center

NGO Campus - Bhuj, India

- Worked on the schematic design stage of a NGO office building made out of rammed earth, and adobe walls. Sustainable Design, LEED Certified.

Wellness Center – Kashi, India

- Worked on the concept to schematic design of a nature resort center in Varanasi (Unbuilt)

Elevate Designs

Hat house

- Crafted three-dimensional facade designs & fenestrations for the skin treatment of a private residence.

TRAINING

Working with Earth (Mud) - Hands-on

[Hunnarshala Foundation](#), Bhuj, India

May 2021

Poetics of Bamboo – Bali, Indonesia

Learned & explored bamboo as a material with a workshop conducted in collaboration with [Ibuku](#).

Dec 2015