

"Didi Contractor - Marrying the Earth to the Building" is a poetic documentary approach to an aged artist and architect, the landscape of North India, the buildings and the people for whom she designed her houses that sensitizes us to her vision and global issues affecting our ongoing relationship with mother earth.

SYNOPSIS



Nishta Health Clinic
Rakkar • Built in 1995

ARCHITECTURE

For the past 20 years, Didi Contractor has been building in adobe, addressing herself to such complex challenges, as climate and cultural change, the energy crisis and pollution, while opposing conventional roles, persistent paradigms of colonial history and modernization along Western lines. Her houses are convincing evidence of a possible alternative way of life.

In order to understand how daily decisions can influence our environment, I wanted to explore her experiences, to know how and where she lives and works, with whom she communicates, and what interests and influences motivate her to build these mud houses.

Steffi Giaracuni • Director



*When I was a little girl,
everytime I had a daydream
I would design a
house for me to live it in.*

Didi Contractor



Sambhaavnaa Institute, Dining Hall
Kandbari • Built in 2014

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DIRECTOR

Steffi Giaracuni is born in 1975 in Heiligenstadt (Germany). Since 10 years she is living in Basel (Switzerland). She studied media design at the Bauhaus University in Weimar (Germany) and documentary film with focus on camera at the Zelig - School for Documentary, Television and New Media in Bolzano (Italy). Since 10 years she repeatedly realizes documentary film projects as director, editor, camera operator and producer. "Didi Contractor – Marrying the Earth to the Building" is her first full-length documentary as a director and producer.