



Name: Ar. Liya Rachel Thomas

Designation: Associate Professor, MCAP, Thiruvananthapuram

Educational Details

B. Arch – 2018

Bishop Jerome School of Architecture and Planning, Kollam

M. Arch – 2021

College: Mangalam School of Architecture and Planning, Kottayam

ABOUT:

Landscape Architect with experience in **context-responsive landscape planning and design** across residential, institutional, and public realm projects. Passionate about **place-based design**, integrating **local cultural narratives, regional material palettes, and native planting strategies** while addressing **ecological performance, user experience, and site-specific constraints**. Skilled in **conceptualization, detailed design development, construction documentation, statutory compliance, and on-site execution**, with proven ability to collaborate within **multidisciplinary consultant teams** to deliver projects aligned with design intent, budgets, and timelines.

INTEREST:

Key areas of interest include architecture, landscape design and planning, master planning, urban landscapes, and environmental and ecological restoration, with a sustained commitment to integrating these principles into both teaching and professional practice.

WORK EXPERIENCE/ ACHIEVEMENTS/TRAINING:

- **URBAN PORTICO, KOCHI — Sr. Landscape Architect / Associate landscape architect (May 2024 – Present)**
Managed and coordinated landscape projects across residential, institutional, and public sectors, delivering master plans, design documentation, grading and drainage solutions, and site-responsive design strategies.
- **URP DESIGNS, KOCHI — Associate Landscape Architect (April 2026 – Present)**
- **COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, TRIVANDRUM — Research Associate (Aug 2025 - April 2026)**
Contributing to the **Ministry of Tourism – Swadesh Darshan 2.0** initiative through the CET Architecture & Planning Consultancy Cell, focusing on **sustainable tourism landscape frameworks and destination-level planning**.
- **BAUMA ENVIROSCAPES, THRISSUR — Landscape Architect (May 2023 - May 2024)**
Contributed to landscape projects across multiple scales, developing conceptual designs, working drawings, and construction documentation.
- **GRAHA STUDIO — Junior Landscape Architect / Architect (Feb 2023 - May 2023)**
Contributed to senior living, residential landscape, and architectural projects, with a focus on universal accessibility, therapeutic environments, and user-centric design.
- **ISOLA KERALA CHAPTER - Research Assistant (Dec 2022 - Feb 2023)**
Assisted in data collection for formulating "Desing codes/Guidelines" for landscape projects in the state of Kerala, in preparation for the 'Design by Future' workshop.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **ISOLA KERALA CHAPTER WLAM DESIGN COMPETITION (2021)** - Rethinking of The Breathing Spaces in Urban Neighbourhoods (Winner)
- **PROJECT PRESENTATION** - Temporality of Landscapes (ISOLA KERALA CHAPTER CONFERENCE)
- **HANDBOOK OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE STANDARDS AND CODES** (ISOLA KERALA CHAPTER)
- **M.ARCH LANDSCAPE THESIS OPEN HOUSE** (ISOLA KERALA CHAPTER)