



Foto: Gian Franco Noriega

Gian Franco Noriega

Gian Franco is an architect, researcher and trainer, expert in bio and geo-sourced materials. He has been working at amàco, “atelier matières à construire” in France since 2013, focusing his activities on a technical exploration and constructive development of natural materials in contemporary architecture and design practices. His main activities at amàco are to develop constructive experiences characterizing, prototyping and building with natural materials such as earth, fibers and wood. This research and practice experience are then applied in the training modules he develops as a teacher.

“Growing up in Perú I was deeply touched by the vernacular intelligence in the use of natural materials in architecture, specially by earth-based constructions.

I wanted to understand how these ancient techniques can be transformed for the present, including haptics, sensuality and aesthetics.”

Gian Franco was born in Peru, where he studied architecture and graduated in 2003. For many years he practiced architecture design in architecture offices managing projects of different scales, from furniture design and housing to urban projects.

In 2009 he traveled to France, where he lives until now, to increase his knowledge about earth as a building material. After obtaining an equivalent architect degree in France, he worked as an architect and continued his studies with a postmaster training in CRATERRE research laboratory within the AE&CC research unit (Architecture, environment and constructive culture) of the school of architecture in Grenoble (ENSAG) where he obtained a post-graduated specialization diploma in earthen architecture, constructive cultures and sustainable development in 2012.

Gian Franco has an extensive experience in teaching. He develops experimental teaching modules that aim to upgrade and disseminate knowledge revealing the inner qualities of natural materials. Approaching matter through science and more subjective concepts, such as materiality and aesthetics, as amàco, he seeks to take part of an environmental paradigm shift, stimulating creativity through the re-connection of emotion and intellect in construction practices.

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