

# Eko Prawato

## About

Eko is an Indonesian architect, artist and educator. He graduated from the Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia and achieved his master's degree from the Berlage Institute in The Netherlands. He runs his own studio alongside teaching at the Duta Wacana Christian University in Jogjakarta. Apart from extensive work done in the rural areas of Jogja, his installations have been displayed globally, including at the Venice Architecture Biennale, the Esplanade in Singapore, as well as in Europe, Japan and Australia. He fuses contemporary designs with local knowledge, treating his built structures not only as physical objects but also as social beings. He places great care in sustainable and environmentally sensitive design by almost exclusively using locally available and often recycled material. When building in rural areas, he works alongside local builders and craftsmen to understand and design for the region. He also specialises in earthquake resistant building methods using low-cost, locally available materials such as bamboo, coconut wood and straw.

## Jury Statement

In Indonesia and it seems that in other countries too, we still consider Rural area as “not yet a city”. It implies that rural areas should become cities in the future to facilitate a better living for the village community. Is it true? Maybe not. The rural area with so many good existing life qualities should follow their own destiny to reach their dreams, without necessarily copying the urban ideas. In this competition I do hope we could clarify more of those possible pathways...