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Before and After: Editing an Architect's Statement of Purpose for a German University

<p>Before editing: Notice that the content is great but not quite engaging enough.</p>	<p>After editing: More emotion, a descriptive title, a reworked essay structure, and subheadings (so you can skim through the text).</p>
<p>Statement of purpose</p> <p>Over the years I have come to understand on a very personal level the effect that good design has on our lives. Architecture being a big part of it as most of our lives are spent within different types of spaces .It wouldn't be an understatement to say that good architecture means good living.</p> <p>As a student of Architecture I was curious and intrigued by the masterpieces of architecture like the "falling water", Bilbao Guggenheim museum etc, that was taught to us and the projects seen in magazines like the "The architectural Record" which was my bible as a student. I still remember seeing the project "Kunsthau Graz" in Austria designed by Peter cook and Colin Fournier and wondering if I would ever be able to design something like it. More importantly I</p>	<p>My Audacious-But-Simple Dream of Touching Lives through Passion-Inspired Architecture</p> <p><i>A statement of purpose, by _____</i></p> <p>"Could I ever design something like that?"</p> <p>I still remember the intense awe I felt as I looked on at <i>Kunsthau Graz</i> – Peter Cook's and Colin Fournier's masterpiece in Austria. It was the kind of unfiltered emotion only a 17-year-old can feel. I wondered if I would ever be able to design something that great. But more than anything, I just wanted to understand the kind of genius that could use architecture to bring out such a visceral reaction.</p> <p>So, you see, I learnt very young about the power of design.</p> <p>I realized that good design has a profound effect on us, at a very personal level. And since we most often experience</p>

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was curious to know why and how they managed to design something like it.

My healthy curiosity and problem solving ability helped me top my class in my undergraduation and also achieve fifth rank in my University(Anna University,Chennai). I have always been a sincere student and continue to be still.

After graduation in 2007, I worked with Architect Oscar Concesso (Oscar Concesso International,Chennai) and was involved in a number of competition projects including a campus for Indian Space research Organisation(ISRO), Central Library at Chennai, Legislative complex at Chennai etc. This experience gave me much needed confidence in being able to conceptualize and executive large scale projects.

I have since worked with a reknown interior designer Vikram Phadke, and have also been involved in an online furniture startup-"That one Piece". Through the years I have been involved in architectural design, Interior Design, Project coordination, furniture design as part of a firm and also freelancing.

The last two years I have been an Assistant professor at MARG Institute of Design and Architecture, Swarnabhoomi, Chennai. I have had the opportunity

good design via architecture – we spend our lives within different types of spaces – I'd argue that inspired-architecture leads to a better-lived life.

And so I threw myself into the field, holding nothing back.

I topped my undergraduate batch and was ranked fifth in my university (Anna University, Chennai). But that wasn't enough. I was always on the lookout for more than just book-learning. So, I began to apply what I learnt. I took part in competitions, conceptualizing large-scale designs for the Indian Space research Organization (ISRO), the Chennai Central Library and the Chennai Legislative Complex. I got field-experience working with (and executing the designs of) the best local talent, like architect Oscar Concesso (Oscar Concesso International, Chennai) and interior designer Vikram Phadke. I mixed architecture and entrepreneurship by collaborating with an online furniture startup called *That One Piece*.

But my itch still needs to be scratched. And I believe that studying abroad is the answer.

For the last two years I learnt by teaching – as assistant-professor at MARG Institute of Design and Architecture, Swarnabhoomi, Chennai. And I've gained a deep respect and understanding of how the various elements of design, architecture, furniture, and construction are an inseparable part of a whole. But I know that for good design, I need good design-thinking. Design-thinking that can change the world, like the Bauhaus Movement.

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of going back to learning and it has been the most rewarding experiences of my life.

Through the years I have acquired a sense of respect and understanding for how all the different elements of design, architecture, furniture, construction are an inseparable part of a whole.

From years of experience I have come to believe that a sound design thinking is an integral part of good design. I believe that design thinking varies between different schools of thought.

As a teacher I had the opportunity to conduct basic design studio for first years. In the process I learnt how the Bauhaus movement single handedly changed the way architectural design is taught all over the world. It would be a great opportunity for me to be able to study design at the place from where it all began. I believe that the masters degree in architectural design would further improve my understanding of the design process and upgrade my skillset. I am very excited to be able to go back to learning and see how I can apply the experience gained in the field to the design process. The course will help me get the exposure to international design thinking and philosophies which I have craved to experience ever since I began my architecture journey.

And so I want to study at the place where it all began.

I want to someday create a *Kunsthhaus Graz*, a *Guggenheim Museum*, or a *Fallingwater*. But for this, I need a level of insight that India can't yet offer. And I believe that a Master's Degree at _____ is the catalyst I need at this pivotal stage in my journey.

I ask that you invest in me by giving me the chance to follow my dream.

I know it will be a once-in-a-lifetime gift. I guarantee I'll treat it with the utmost sincerity and responsibility. And someday soon, I'll pay it forward – by designing for the world something that embodies the raw passion I feel for a field that has quite literally changed my life.

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<p>It would be an chance of lifetime which I believe I have worked for and will take with utmost sincerity and responsibility.</p>	
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