

# ON REFUGE AND RUIN: *Finding ‘Good Lives’ in Place and Practice*



**Anne Rademacher** (Environmental Studies, NYU)

What does it mean to forge an environmental future in a city marked by climate risk, ecological stress, and divisive struggles over ideologies of belonging? This talk traces the emergence of an entangled set of moral ecologies in Mumbai: first at the scale of an urban forest facing an uncertain future, and then at the scale of the city's buildingscape, through the lens of architects learning to practice green design. Using figures of refuge and ruin, it explores sites and social worlds that find virtuosity and meaning in environmental stewardship in Mumbai, and agents for whom the good life is bound up with notions of history, solidarity, and care.

*Anne Rademacher is an urban ecologist and ethnographer. Her research and teaching trace the social life of urban environmental change: its scientific contours, sociocultural dynamics, and role in political transformation.*

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