I would like to argue that Architects are Artists, ‘artists with a background of science’ (Pandikar, 1959). I take some theories from Ismail Faruqi's 'Cultural Atlas of Islam', Gottfried Semper (19th century philosopher), Christopher Alexander's 'Notes on the Synthesis of Form' and Colin Davies' book on 'Introduction to architectural theory's chapter on 'Truth'', as the basis for this argument. I would take precedents from phenomenology and the non-architects' architecture of the vernacular tradition, houses and shops, from the 19th and turn of the century right up to the 1930s in Malaysian towns and cities (for the Malaysian audience). The unself-conscious approach in design that uses 'sense and sensibilities' using patterns that have been there for centuries will make a better fit when we design, be it as an architectural student or an architectural designer in practice.

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