Manfredo Taufuri, rightly suggests that our built environment is reduced to the least common denominator when operating within the context of global, industrial capitalism. Globalized building practices reduce architectural possibilities by their reliance on economic efficiency, leaving localized forms of *making* to wither under the weight of cold, economic reasoning. As these localized forms of *making* are marginalized, so too are the full range of human experiences within the built environment. This assessment directs architects to acknowledge that meaningful architecture must be designed around local building practices, local materials and local economies, the collection of which what we might call local *making-knowledge*, in order that architecture might rise above standard typologies.

Perhaps less fully appreciated in Taufuri’s critique, but of vital significance to our modern condition, is a corollary appraisal: The erosion of local economies – a process significantly tied to globalized architecture -that so offends the potential of human
perceptual experience also offends the potential of local ecologies. This is because, as a general rule, healthy diversified, local ecologies exist only within healthy, diversified local economies. They are each adapted to the same local conditions in analogous ways. Local economies, properly defined, are the place-based forms of work that are derived from local sources; local nature being the primary source. This suggests that it is not the mechanical efficiency of architecture, i.e. it's performance, which most clearly relates it to healthy ecology; it is the extent to which the architecture is authentically aligned to local economy and local making-knowledge.

Reemphasizing localized making knowledge within the discipline of architecture reclaims it's central influence on the poetic quality of the work as well as its propriety. From this perspective, qualities of beauty and ethics are largely decided, not through disembodied design, but through embodied methods of craft and processes of making.

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