

EXPLORING one of NATURES innovative structural ORDERS

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The principle of the catenary as applied to double curvature Timbrel vaulted structures, clearly demonstrates nature's innovative structural order at work, by effectively transmitting horizontal compression forces efficiently and elegantly to the ground.

The soil of the earth, be it compressed or baked in tile or brick form, is made through adhering to these double curvature catenary principles, to fly through air devoid of reinforcing steel.

This lecture focussed on contemporary applications of this ancient technique of building in exploring low embodied energy ways of building low maintenance structures. Appropriate timeless structures that house both World Heritage new build, while also making this skill accessible once more to a larger lay constituency.

Built and envisaged experimental projects in both developed and developing contexts will be shown.