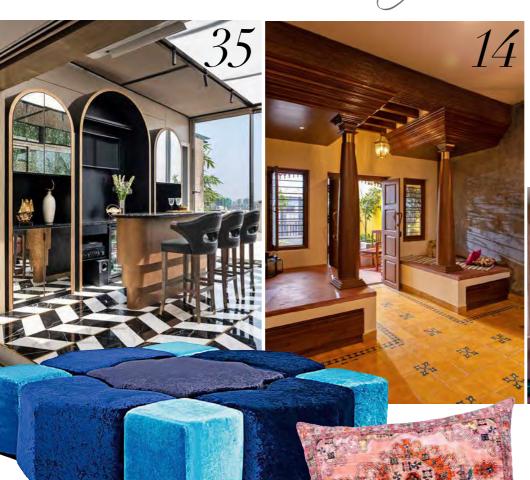


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THE COVER
FEATURE AVRIL NOEL DSOUZA
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NEXT ISSUE

Summer is on our mind or rather, summer is beating down our doors. This issue, we bring you some of the best ways to bring the cool of winter living into your home. Enjoy the heat wave from the comforts of your very own cool haven!



STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

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There's a strange kind of lull in the air. Do you feel it? It's as if the mind wants to go on holiday, but the body isn't really tired, and the heart knows there's much to do. No, taking a break is not an option right now.

So here I am, sitting at my desk at home, with my inbox jammed with over 108 unread emails demanding my attention, and my mind completely blank. How do I get out of this one? I don't. I decide to sit the block out, acknowledge it fully and truly, and give it its due attention, so it doesn't keep happening. And this, I've learnt through experience, is the best way to exorcise or neutralize most demons of the mind.

Like most errant children, the trickster mind will rebel against force or punishment. What you need to give it is respite. I figured an afternoon walk in the park down the street would do me good. After about 20 minutes of strolling, I realized I was ready to go back and get to work. What I also realized is that the greenery helped. And that, dear reader, is the point of all my rambling this month. Greenery.

We don't have enough of it around us. In fact, it can never be enough. A palm in this corner, a succulent on that shelf and a creeper along that window are not enough...we need more! This Spring, I urge you to get the outdoors in. Indulge in green gifting; let "spring" cleaning also include the air at home. I know my next stop is going to be the neighbourhood nursery. I hope yours is too!

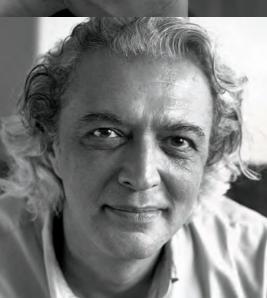
RONITAA ITALIA
Editor in Chief

MEET THE JURY

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Quintessentially Colorful.

Meet Everlux collection from the house of Roca. One-of-its-kind curations fused with a scintillating finish and a bouquet of hues.

Roca

Embark on a journey into the world of mesmerizing colors and long-lasting designs. Crafted keeping in vision the premium and elegant side of living. The first-ever face of Roca PVD process in India, Everlux is the impeccable epitome of innovation, precision, finesse, and technology. Giving you a myriad of reasons to opt for nothing but the supreme.

Unified with the collection of Insignia and Escuadra, Everlux models stand second to none. Escuadra is committed to inspiring those who breathe in urban life. It's a blend of angles, straight lines, and planes in a singular style proposal. On similar grounds of exclusivity and excellence, Insignia reflects soft outlines. Making the difference in a modern single-lever faucet exemplary for bathrooms with a clear urban character. Together with Everlux coating, they make a perfect duo delivering best-in-class performance and beyond comparison designs.





The Escuadra collection is embellished with Gold and Brushed Black, while The Insignia collection comes in a timeless Titanium Black color. And the outcome was made possible only because of Everlux coating, designed using PVD Process.

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Process is a vacuum coating process
that provides faucets with a unique
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Additionally, Everlux is dotted with various advantages that make all the difference. From being equipped with eco-friendly technology, hard & durable coating, high resistance to scratches, impacts, abrasion, corrosion, weather, and more, Everlux coating steals glances leaving you with tons of compliments.

So, if you're seeking to add a splash of luxury and grandeur to your lifestyle coupled with possibilities to stand above the rest, bring home The Everlux range of PVD process.

Because the bathroom is the extension of your living space and deserves to match the vibes you reside with.









CREATIVE LINES

AIMED AT REVEALING NEW DIMENSIONS IN THE WORLD OF INTERIORS. KAIZEN BY SONALI CHITALE APPLAUDS THE TRUE ESSENCE OF DESIGNING SPACES

rom design to detailing to the ability to play with various materials - there is always something fresh and new to look forward to in Sonali Chitale's work - the driving force behind the stunning portfolio of designs and initiatives brought to the fore by Kaizen. Transferring her creations from paper to reality, she believes in creating products and delivering projects that connect with people's minds, hearts, and environments. Apart from interior design, us to offer beautifully finished products. she is also qualified as a botanist and has designed gardens and landscape projects for residential and hospitality industries.

How it all began - tell us about Kaizen?

In 2008, I started creating accessories and doing interior projects for the hospitality industry in Singapore and India. In 2011, I launched Kaizen in Chennai to bring beautifully curated products from India and Southeast Asia. The initial focus was on the hospitality industry as we saw limited options of readily available and wellpriced products for designing a hotel effectively. We have expanded into a full design studio offering a range of services - interior design, product design, landscaping, customisation, turn-key project execution, in-house production of furniture, and accessories. We also

design and source a wide range of niche Indian and international fabrics and aim to run projects from start to finish, comprising project management, supervision, creation, and execution.

What are the products that Kaizen has in store?

We offer exclusive fabrics - international and niche Indian brands, bespoke furniture in a wide range of materials as we work with skilled artisans, enabling We also work with artists, weavers and artisans specialising in ceramics, textiles, and other mediums as we value craftsmanship and creativity from across the globe.

How different is the design space at

Kaizen office is forever evolving, and







there is constant creativity, design, and production buzzing in our space, making it a comfortable and safe working space for me and my team.

Design elements that inspire you?

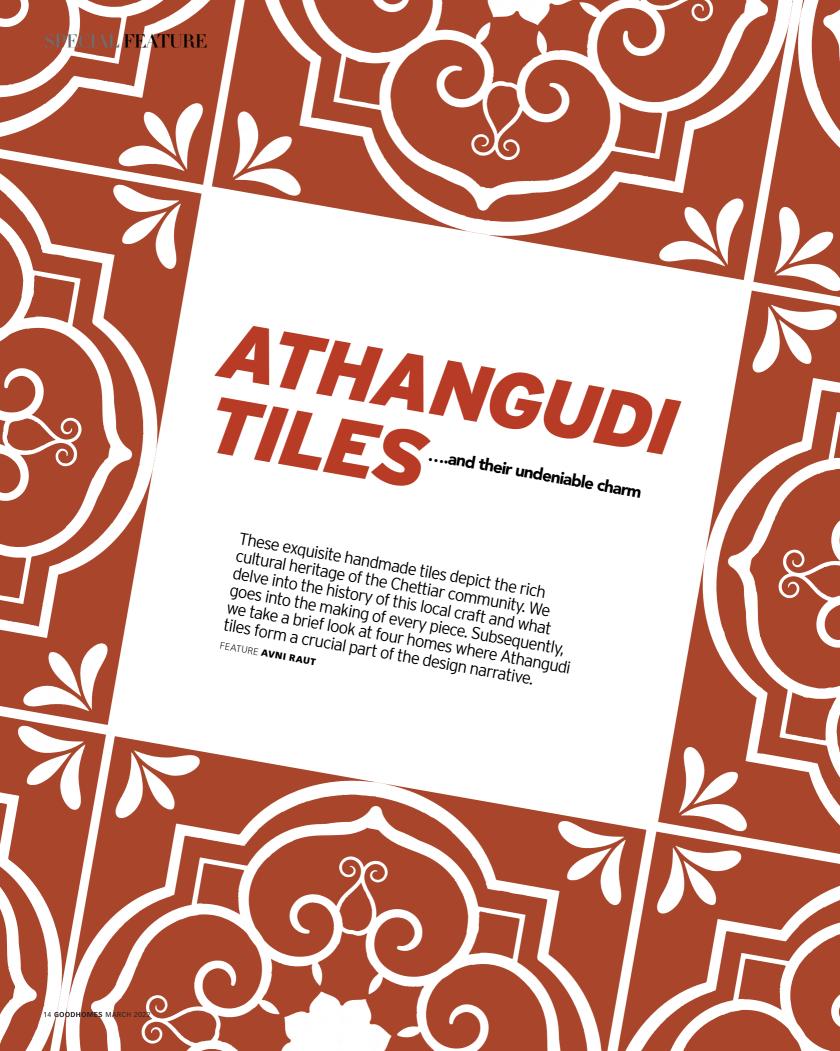
Using natural materials excites and inspires me, and creating an aesthetically pleasing product whilst still being environmentally friendly has always been a motivation for me.

Design to you is?

Possibilities, as with design, we can create a home, a feeling, a trend, cater to people, bring change, and innovate.

What have you aimed for Kaizen in the years to come?

We want to nurture and cultivate all we offer at Kaizen and aim to grow exponentially within other markets and demographics and establish ourselves as a luxury bespoke design studio. We are also looking forward to forming more collaborations with artisans to promote local art and crafts.



The process of creating each tile is quite elaborate.

Even the laying of these tiles calls for immense precision and should ideally be done by a mason trained in the art of laying them.

An intriguing aspect about these tiles is that the more they are walked upon, the more sheen they acquire.

The inherent appeal of all things handmade is rather unmatched, with each piece possessing an inimitable quality. Such is the case of a certain kind of decorative floor tiles that have been named after their place of origin, Athangudi village, in the Chettinad region of Tamil Nadu.

Among other things, the Chettiar community used to import tiles to incorporate into the interiors of their homes, but it proved to be expensive to repair them in the event of wear and tear. As a result, cement tiles began to be produced locally and this is how Athangudi tiles were developed and came into existence, more than a century ago. Today, this local craft of tile-making has come to reflect the rich cultural heritage of the community and brings to the fore the skills and expertise of the craftsmen

who sedulously make each tile from scratch.

Created primarily using raw materials like local sand, cement, and coloured oxides, the tiles are rendered in geometric patterns or floral motifs, in different colour combinations and impart a distinct charm to the spaces that they adorn. Freehand designs are created by the craftsmen too, which do not require the use of any templates.

The process of creating each tile is quite elaborate. A border frame is placed over a glass plate, within which the stencil of the chosen design is placed. The border frame indicates the size of the tile. Coloured cement mixtures are prepared, and these coloured liquids are then poured into the respective compartments of the stencil to form the pattern. After the stencil is removed, a dry mixture of sand and cement is sprinkled evenly over it, allowing the colours to set, over which cement mortar is poured and levelled. The dry mixture is spread over it again and evened out. Subsequently, the frame is removed, and the tile is left to dry, before being immersed in a water tank for a few weeks for curing. They are then finally dried among husks which soak up the remaining moisture, with their oils lending a certain sheen to the tiles. The glass is carefully separated, and the edges are smoothened before readying them for delivery. It thus takes longer to create each piece, as opposed to the machine-made alternatives which are manufactured at a much quicker pace. But it is this very process that gives them an unmatched appeal. Even the laying of the tiles calls for immense precision and should ideally be done by a mason trained in the art of laying Athangudi tiles, to ensure perfection and properly levelled surfaces.

An intriguing aspect about these durable tiles is that the more they are walked upon, the more sheen they acquire, thus aging gracefully. Besides traditional settings, they work wonderfully well for contemporary decors too when integrated thoughtfully and tastefully. We take a brief look at four projects where these tiles fit seamlessly into the décor, enhancing the aesthetics of the space.

Vendor Details: **Athangudi Palace Tiles** 08903458331

Ganapathy Tiles 09791374846









Sonali Jain and Sidharth Lodha Founders, Architecture SLA

Sonali Jain and Sidharth Lodha of Architecture SLA were tasked with the restoration of a century-old courtyard house in Choolai, Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The architects were keen on retaining the original charm of the home while giving the spaces an update, and also had to ensure that they adhered to the budget. Athangudi tiles fit perfectly into their design scheme as they are an economical option and render a warm, traditional vibe, just what the architects sought to imbue the spaces with. They have been used in the transitional spaces, and the ones used in the foyer space were customised. Masons were called in from Karaikudi to lay the tiles, which were then hand polished with coconut oil.



46

The human error, the variations in the colour, and the heritage value they bring to a space is what makes Athangudi tiles special. They feel more personal and bind the whole space together.

SPECIAL FEATURE

66

Classy, ethnic, durable, sustainable...
that is what Athangudi tiles are all
about. With their bright and shiny look,
Athangudi tiles bring the right touch of
tradition and nostalgic ambience to a
modern home.







Subhashree and Sriranjani Founders, Uncut Design Lab

Subhashree and Sriranjani of Uncut Design Lab were approached by a couple to design their family house in their hometown of Kanchipuram. The home shares its walls with the neighbouring buildings and is located on the second floor. The duo conceptualised a traditional design for the space with modern elements integrated into the scheme. The doors, pillars and beams from the demolished old house were restored and reused in the interiors, and Athangudi tiles were brought in along with other materials to further reinforce the vernacular aesthetic. The living room, dining area, corridor and the bedrooms see the use of these tiles, which sit in complete harmony with the other décor elements.







Rahul Menon and Ojas Chaudhari Founders, Studio TAB

Rahul Menon and Ojas Chaudhari of Studio TAB were brought on board by a young family based in Japan to design a holiday home for them in their native place Kochi, in Kerala. The brief called for a space that reminded them of their native roots and the architects made a conscious effort to integrate vernacular materials, the work of local craftsmen and native practices. As a result, along with other materials, Athangudi tiles were employed in certain parts of the house. In the living room, these tiles, depicting floral patterns, stand out distinctly against the neutral base palette. And a similar application is seen in another one of

the firm's projects located in the same city.



There is a pool of conscious architectural practices that are exploring each region's vernacular architecture and adopting them as an interpreted contemporary insert. This is a very refreshing trend. At the same time, there are clients who encourage this shift in design ethos. This makes the future very exciting for adopting these tiles.

SPECIAL FEATURE

46

There sure has been a resurgence in the usage of these tiles, but this has to work like a cycle. Architects need to understand the sustainability equation and balance they might create by including the artisanal handmade works into a home, which will reduce a considerable amount of carbon footprint involved. And clients need to be conscious about their choices, thus giving ample time to get these things done.







Vignesh Sekar Founder, STO.M.P (Studio for Modernism and Practical Aesthetics)

Vignesh Sekar of STO.M.P has designed this modern home in Chettinad, that also reflects the cultural heritage of the region. Materials like terracotta, natural wood, Kota stone and marble have been used alongside Athangudi tiles. The decision of including the handmade tiles stemmed from his aim to use locally sourced materials and to integrate artisanal works as an integral part of the project. With the village of Athangudi just 12km away from the site, the choice to include them was clear. The original composition was altered a bit with the addition of certain other materials to enhance the cooling capacity of these tiles. Along with being used for the flooring in the bedrooms, they also form the dado in the kitchen as well as the pooja room.

SPRING MAGIC

SWEET DREAMSTWO BEDROOM LOOKS

With summer closing in, the bedroom will soon become the heart of our homes. And to celebrate this space and really elevate its style, Apoorva Chandru the winner of the Spaces' Chief Style Officer shows us how easy it is to create two equally charming yet distinct looks with soft, stylish bed linen from Spaces. While one is blue and white and takes us into the skies, the other borrows inspiration from an earthy, muted wonderland

ART DIRECTION SHALAKA SHINDE STYLE APOORVA CHANDRU PHOTOGRAPHS SHAMANTH PATIL J FEATURE AVRIL NOEL D'SOUZA







MORE ABOUT SPACES PRESENTS INDIA'S NEXT CHIEF STYLE OFFICER

Spaces in association with GoodHomes launched a one-of-a-kind talent hunt for aspiring decor influencers. Aptly named Spaces presents India's Next Chief Style Officer, the contest was open to every house proud talent. Apoorva Chandru (@ad_homestory) was announced as the winner of this cycle, who went on to style the March cover of GoodHomes with the bedlinen range available at Spaces. Neetu Bawa (@knoticaltreasures) was the runner up, followed by Divya Chadha (@mybohoaesthetics).

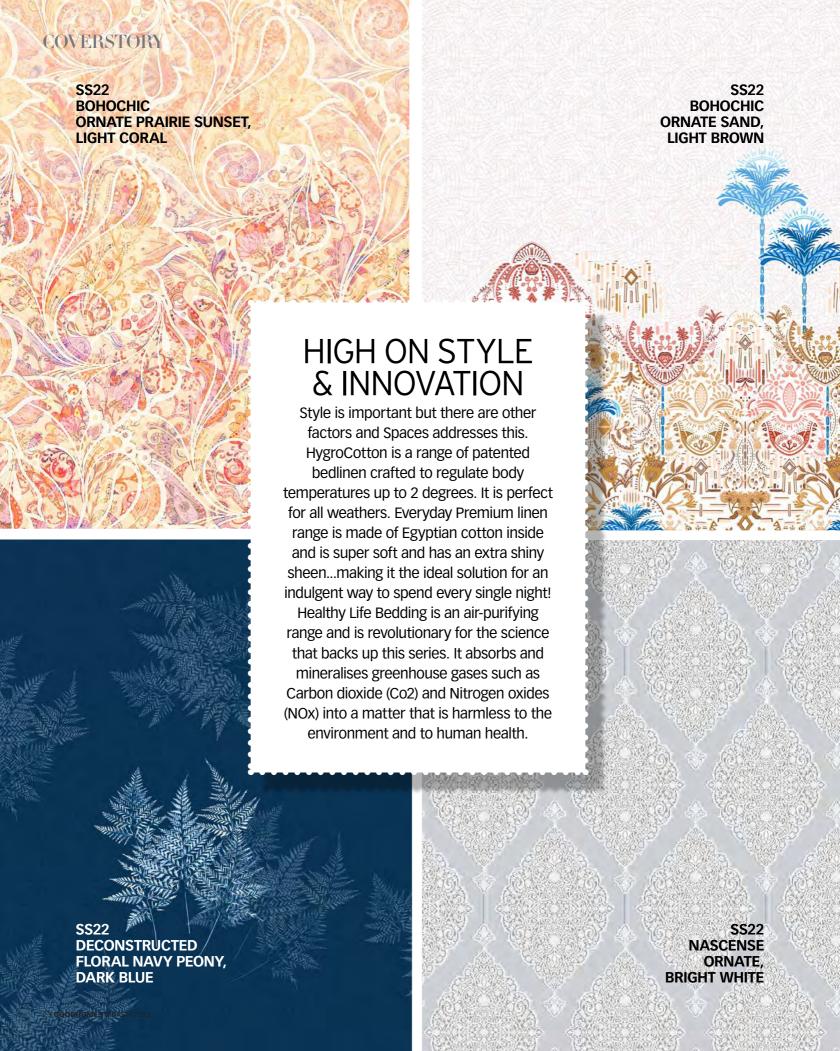


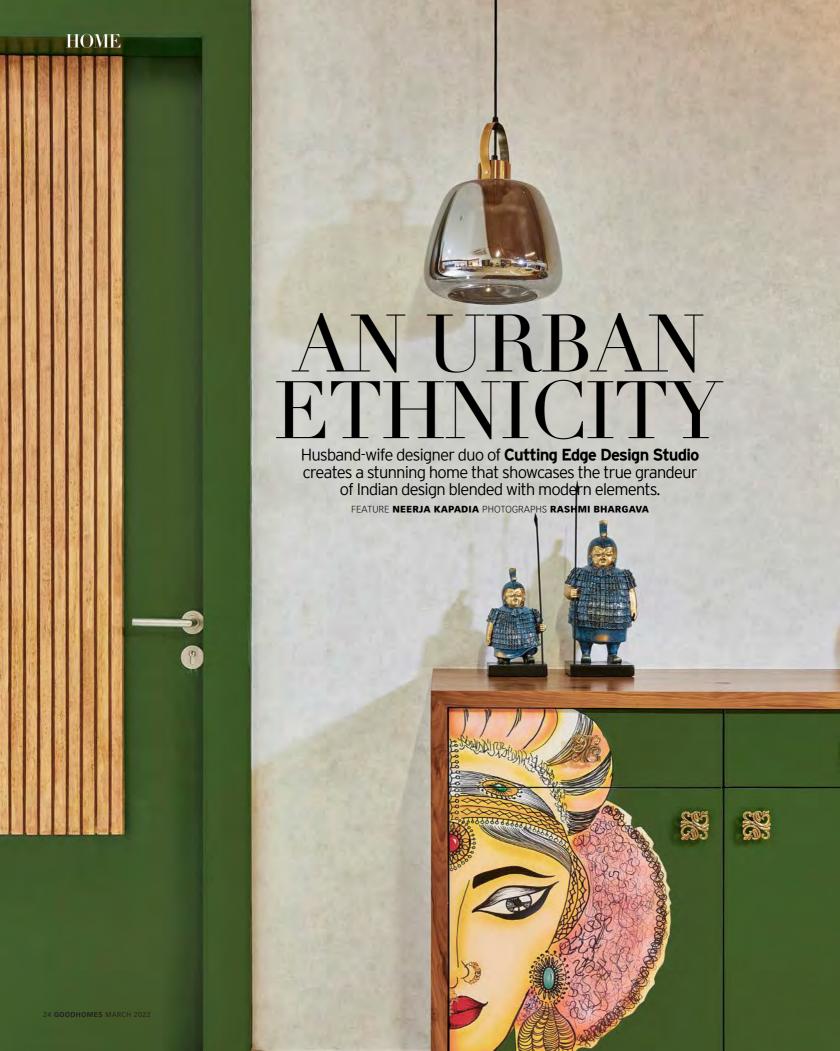
SERENITY OF NATURE

Taking inspiration from the clouds and delicate spring colours, we present a refreshing vintage style that works perfectly for spring. A coming-of-age look, Apoorva has paired the heavy and large-scale floral pattern on the comforter from Spaces with a similar base colour for the bedsheet. Because the style has such an easy-breezy and refreshing spirit she has enhanced that vibe with more pristine whites and hints of fresh green to break through the monotony and bring in some Joi de Vivre.





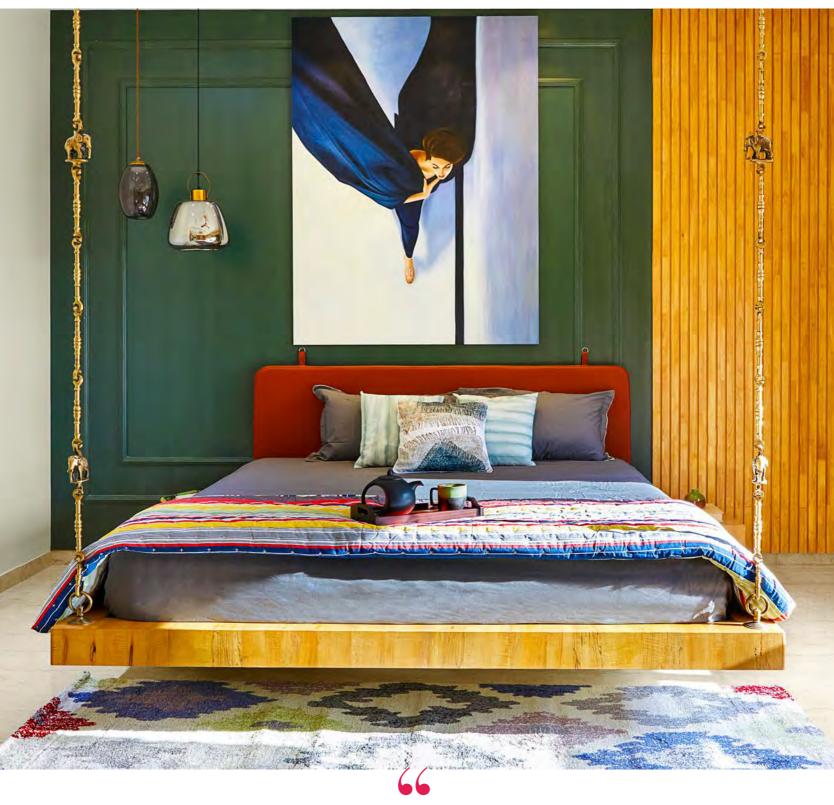












THE EARTHY HUES OF BROWN, GREEN AND THE COMBINED MATERIAL PALETTE OF WOOD, BRICK AND BRASS GIVES A SENSE OF CALM AND TIMELESSNESS TO THIS HOME.

— Phanidhar Paturi, Founder & Senior Designer, Cutting Edge Design Studio



The master bedroom has an eclectic mix of contemporary framed art behind the bed, brass chains as posters supporting the floating bed and wardrobe shutters with an ornate elephant artwork. The strikingly large painting behind the bed forms the focal point with views - one from the living area, and the other reflecting the beautiful dressing unit mirror that displays a border laced with Moroccan tiles.



MERGING THE ETHNICITY OF INDIAN ORIGINS WITH THE CONTEMPORARY NEEDS OF TODAY'S WORLD, OUR DESIGN ETHOS IS AIMED AT BLURRING LINES BETWEEN THE TWO.

--- Jhansi Paturi, Co - Founder & Principal Designer, Cutting Edge Design Studio

esigned and executed during the first wave of the much-hated pandemic, this beautiful Indian home unveils a mélange of a modern and contemporary narrative. Located in one of the

most premium residential communities of Hyderabad, this house is one of 1,500 prestigious luxury apartments within the area.

"The client, who is the CEO of Isprout Coworking Spaces happens to be our close friend as we have already designed her previous residence. She wanted an ethnic touch to this home, without losing the essence of a contemporary feel, so we spearheaded the project along these lines", said Phanidhar Paturi, founder of Cutting Edge Design Studio.

The living, dining, multi-purpose room and balcony are on one long open stretch of about 60 feet of the home. This was a deliberately planned strategy by the designers so as to leave the area free of any obstructions, barring the UPVC and aluminum glass divisions in the multi-purpose areas.

"She loves dance forms of all types and to imbibe that passion of hers, we have incorporated blinds in the multi-purpose room which have leg postures of Bharatanatyam, hand-painted on cotton Khadi fabric", said Jhanasi Paturi, speaking of her client's preferences.

The meticulous hand-painted artwork on the sideboard in the dining, Nandi on the pooja door and the elephants on the master bedroom wardrobe shutters stand out as key features.

Moving over to the master bedroom, you will see an eclectic mix of contemporary framed art behind the bed, brass chains as posters supporting the floating bed and the wardrobe shutters which have a unique elephant artwork in ascending form.

The doors are slapped on with a thick olive green shade and the same colour flows into the master bedroom, living area, dining furniture and pooja room, seamlessly creating a harmonious flow.

This house has been created with spectacular design elements despite challenges faced during the pandemic.



HOME











THE PIECE DE RESISTANCE IS
THE 14 FEET, LIFE-SIZE TANJORE
PAINTING IN THE DINING AREA.
IT HAD TO BE CRANED, 11 FLOORS
UP. THE BLUE CONCRETE DINING
TABLE WITH BRASS INLAYS
OF THE LOTUS MOTIF REFLECT
EVERYWHERE.

— Ameet Mirpuri, Founder, Design Studio

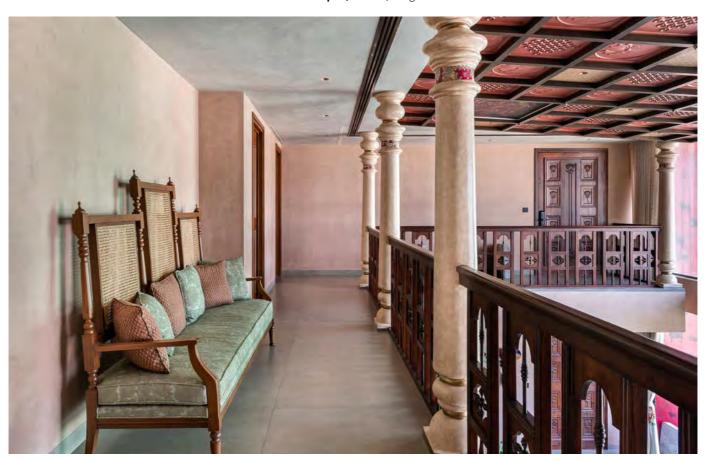






THERE WERE MANY STRUCTURAL CHANGES TO GET TO THIS POINT. ORIGINALLY, HERE STOOD TWO APARTMENTS WHICH WE CONVERTED INTO A DUPLEX. ESSENTIALLY, TWO, FOUR-BHK APARTMENTS WERE MERGED AND MADE INTO ONE LARGE FOUR BEDROOM DUPLEX.

— Ameet Mirpuri, Founder, Design Studio







THIS PROJECT IS A RESULT OF A TRUE COLLABORATION! SMITA IS CREATIVELY INCLINED AND CLEARLY ALIGNS WITH THE ETHNIC, TRADITIONAL INDIAN LOOK. AS A RESULT OF THESE OVERT PREFERENCES, WE CREATED A SPACE THAT BALANCED OUR SENSIBILITIES WITH HERS TO BRING HER VISION TO LIFE!

— Ameet Mirpuri, Founder, Design Studio





AMEET MIRPURI

Founder, Design Studio

When it comes to interior designing, Ameet Mirpuri's brilliance can be ascribed to his years of studying which went on to formalise all the ingrained knowledge he has because of the legacy of design he was born into (his father is a designer as well). With offices in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, Ameet refers to Vishakapatnam as home, and that's where the designer is based as well. His rich acumen of knowledge has resulted in the making of residences, commercial spaces, and hospitality projects that are unique for the immersive design journey they take the occupants on and, for the rooted and contextual approach to design. Ameet is the high prince of Indian eclectic design and dare we say, the maximalist prince as well!







THIS PROJECT STANDS OUT FROM ANYTHING WE'VE DONE BEFORE.
AFTER DIGGING DEEP INTO THE HIGHLY CHARGED CONVERSATIONS WITH
SMITA, WE WERE ABLE TO EXECUTE THIS AMOUNT OF DETAILING. BASED
ON THESE DIALOGUES, THE CONTEXTUAL APPROACH TO LAYERING ART
AND TRADITIONAL ELEMENTS ENSURED A SENSE OF ENRICHMENT.

— Ameet Mirpuri, Founder, Design Studio

hen it comes to this duplex in Hyderabad, there is so much to appreciate and ponder over. From the vibrance of design and the full-throttle eclectic vibes to the presence of traditional and

highly revered Indian arts and crafts and down to personalised touches that transform this highly charged narrative into a warm and cosy home. Ameet Mirpuri of Design Studio has certainly pulled out all the stops to craft a home that convergences in a bold scale of drama and dynamism.

To realise the design aspirations the family had for their home, Ameet has skilfully transformed two, four-BHK apartments into one sprawling, 7,500sqft, four-BHK duplex. In doing so, he has rezoned portions of the home to make way for a staircase steeped in tradition while carving out transitionary areas that allow spaces to flow into each other in an effortless manner. The courtyard that this spatial merge has created enjoys heights not normally associated with urban living, but that's what Ameet has crafted, created, and perfected!

About the brief, Ameet says, "Smita Vallurupalli is a pop and playback singer in the Telugu film industry and an entrepreneur in the beauty and fashion business. Her husband, Shashank Kancharla is also an entrepreneur and helms many businesses along with Smita and on his own too. They live here with their eight-year-old daughter. Art plays a major role as we collected a lot of the pieces during the making of the project. Also, we stayed away from anything that was too straight-lined."

The railing ties it all together. It draws the eye from the atrium to the mezzanine where it is supported by intricately crafted pillars. In collaboration with the client, Ameet worked on the ceiling details with artist Srinivas and craft designer, Krupanand Karthik. Ameet says, "The design of the ceiling is inspired by the traditional tiled roofs one finds in and around Mangalore. This representation ties the whole house together and, in a way, even grounds it in its roots."

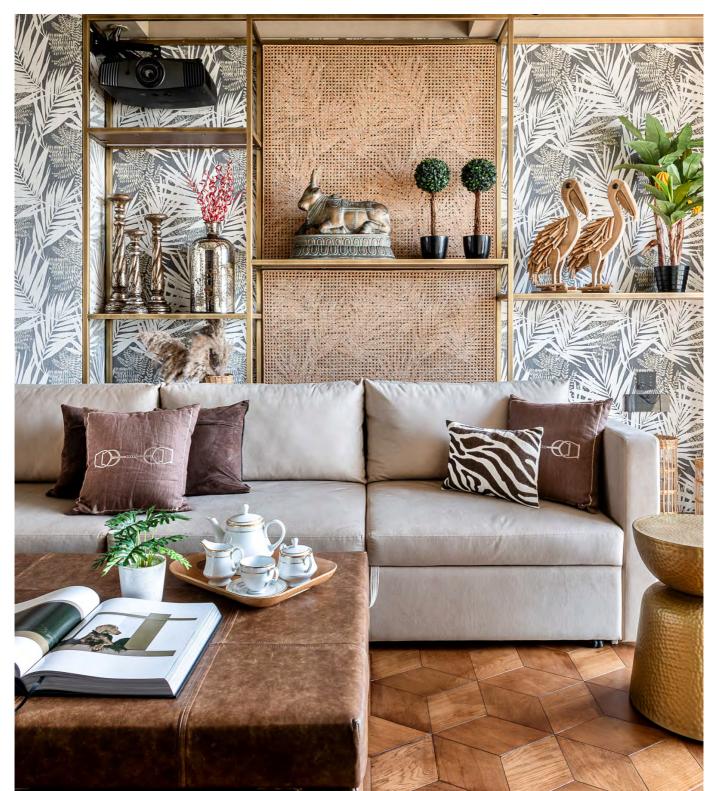
Greenery brings in much warmth. The indoor landscape by Kiasma Studio softens the interiors and gives this vibrant home a conservatory vibe.



A MONOCHROMATIC WONDER

a&k Design Studio creates a captivating duplex penthouse in Mumbai that affords stunning views of the city

FEATURE NEERJA KAPADIA PHOTOGRAPHS PHX INDIA













A gorgeous chandelier from oma hangs above the square dining area, adding a classic touch to the space, while the monochromatic floor pattern in the bar creates an element of opulence and royalty. It merges well with the dining chairs' fabric print as well as the floor rug in the living room.





UNDOUBTEDLY THE GLASS-ROOFED BAR AREA IS THE SHOWSTOPPER AND CREATES A FOCAL POINT IN THE HOUSE, GIVEN THE LOVELY ARCHED CABINETS AND THE BLACK AND WHITE FLOOR THAT LEADS YOU TO AN ENCHANTING TERRACE.

— Aarti Somani and Kruti Sheth, Principal Designers and Co-Founders, a&k Design Studio



THE CLIENTS WANTED A MIX OF SOMETHING CONTEMPORARY AS WELL AS HOMELY, SO CERTAIN PARTS OF THE HOUSE HAVE A UNIQUE LOOK, BLENDING A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT MATERIALS AND GIVING EVERY SPACE ITS OWN CHARACTER - BOTH, COSY AS WELL AS FORMAL.

— Aarti Somani and Kruti Sheth, Principal Designers and Co-Founders, a&k Design Studio







AARTI SOMANI AND KRUTI SHETH

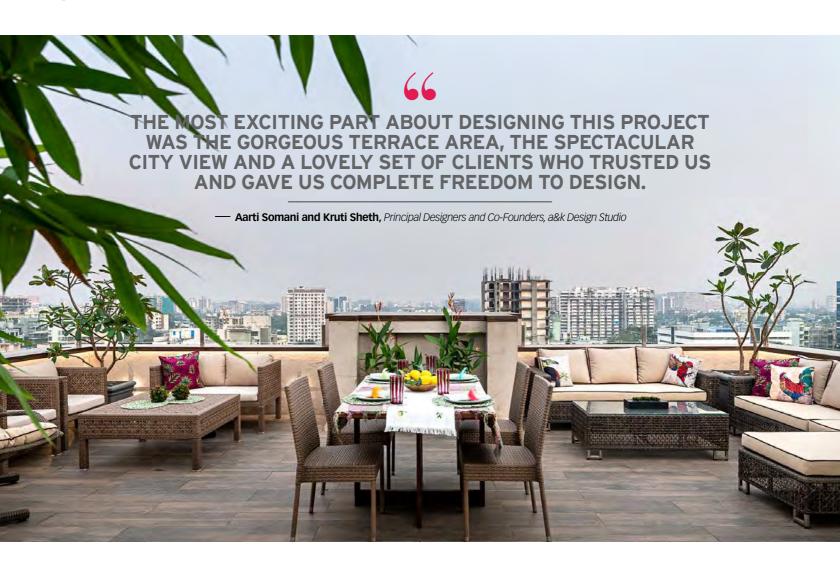
Principal Designers and Co-Founders, a&k Design Studio

Prior to establishing their interior design studio, Aarti Somani and Kruti Sheth studied at Nirmala Niketan and Rachana Sansad College respectively. After their education, they went on to work on several prestigious projects within the city. The duo, who are also fast friends, incepted a&k Design Studio in 2016 and have never looked back since. They bring a level of luxury and uniqueness in every project that they undertake. Along with residential, the studio also has expertise in commercial, retail and hospitality projects.

The terrace powder room has a wall clad in grey stone with a combination of metal and mirror patterns, while the master bathroom creates a luxe statement with an aged mirror backing the front mirror. Storage cabinets in grey fluted glass further add to the charm.







ocated in a new building in a quiet by-lane, in a populous suburb of Mumbai, this duplex penthouse was designed by Aarti Somani and Kruti Sheth of a&k Design Studio with as much gusto as the occupants of this home had when approaching them.

Being given a free hand to design, the designer-duo took on this 3,000sqft home with an additional 1,500sqft terrace with the expertise that was expected of them.

The clients wanted a contemporary, yet cosy and welcoming home, so a warm and neutral colour palette was chosen and mixed with a diverse use of materials, giving the house a homely feel. The entire space was broken down to a bare shell so that larger spaces could be created along with taking the utmost advantage of natural light all around.

The penthouse consists of two floors. The top floor encompasses the living room, dining room, glass-roofed bar, and a spectacular terrace. Each space connects to each other seamlessly with an openness that leaves the home feeling spacious and airy. The living room has a white Statuario marble laid over the floor which makes it appear visually larger. The clever use of muted, but different colours on the sofas, complement the floor and the grey walls.

The sleek dining table with a glass top is partnered

with rustic dining chairs and black and white upholstery. A beautiful traditional chandelier hangs right above the table and a large mirror gives the entire space a sense of grandeur like no other.

Clearly the showstopper of the home - the glass-roofed bar - stands out with its monochromatic chevron flooring, a brass bar table, and a stellar display of bar accessories in the arched unit. The sofas give it a modern and fresh look due to the pink coloured fabric. Once you enter the bar, you wouldn't want to leave unless, of course, it includes sauntering over to the terrace which displays glamorous views of Mumbai.

The lower floor comprises the bedrooms with the walkin closets, each honing distinctive characteristics and preferences of their occupants.

They say the devil lies in the details and the star designers have left no stone unturned with every room taken into consideration. Even the bathrooms have distinguishing design elements such as stone-clad walls, custom-made basins, fluted glass cabinets, and more. Having incorporated the client's tastes skilfully into the design, they say, "A mix of the old and new is what we wanted to achieve. The client's lovely collection of silver heirlooms mixed with modern elements gave the space a personalised touch."











I love mixing and matching materials, décor, and art subtly. Each area stands out without drawing too much attention to any one aspect. I layered things and designed all the areas, and went with a delicate palette for the flooring and the fixed furniture.

[—] Mansi Tarneja, Design Principal, Mansi Tarneja Design Studio



MANSI TARNEJA

Design Principal, Mansi Tarneja Design Studio

As effervescent as an artist painting a blank canvas, Mansi perfects the art of designing all her projects with great precision. Graduated from Raffles Design International, with a focus in interior design, Mansi pursued Masters in Sustainable Interior Environments from The New York School of Interior Design. A summer offshore in DIS, Denmark, further enhanced her furniture design skills. Being a LEED GA, she aims to integrate the use of sustainable techniques in all her projects.

The owner of the house is a commercial artist, and had randomly sketched mandalas, which Mansi decided to use as artwork behind her bed. By adding a background colour to the mandalas, they appeared like a sunset. For the guest bedroom, a tropical theme was followed.







I started creating sketches based on my initial vision inspired by mullions and nature. The rectangular form from the mullions was used to create geometric patterns that flowed all around the house. The same rectangular shape became the louvres, fluted patterns, grill design, cantilevered shell and even became the console below the living room paintings.

— Mansi Tarneja, Design Principal, Mansi Tarneja Design Studio

n a constant design high, when designer Mansi Tarneja of Mansi Tarneja Design Studio began sketching designs for this home, she wasn't short of ideas. Located in a calm and quaint Parsi Colony in Dadar, Mumbai, is this 1,800sqft apartment where an unmistakable

whiff of warmth and charm envelops each corner - a relaxed antidote to the stresses of daily living.

An ode to creative subtlety with modern minimalism, the home feels like a breath of fresh air. Designed to create a comfortable living environment, Mansi closely worked around the brief given by the homeowners. "The owners wanted a cosy traditional Indian home with clean lines, that displays their treasured heirlooms as well. To start with, as it was a bare shell with only windows in place - it was mullions that grabbed my attention and finally dictated my vision for designing the house. I used the rectangular form from the mullions to create geometric patterns everywhere in the house, which helped in bringing in the desired fusion of traditional and modern patterns," she explains.

Mansi's love for mixing and matching materials, décor and art is evident in the overall design of the house. She conceptualised the expansive living room as a convivial space and converted it into a dining area, living room, temple, library, a fover, and a television room using visual dividers. Immaculately planned, the living room has elements like the weave baskets to enhance the client's macramé. On the opposite wall, there are beautiful paintings with a console serving as a multipurpose furniture piece. Making space for the owner's heirlooms, Mansi shares, "A rocking chair would traditionally not fit in the space, but I divided the reading area and gave the chair its own corner, added a vibrant painting and a beautiful monochrome rug that balanced the colours. I also added an enormous plant that made it feel like you are reading under the shade of the tree."

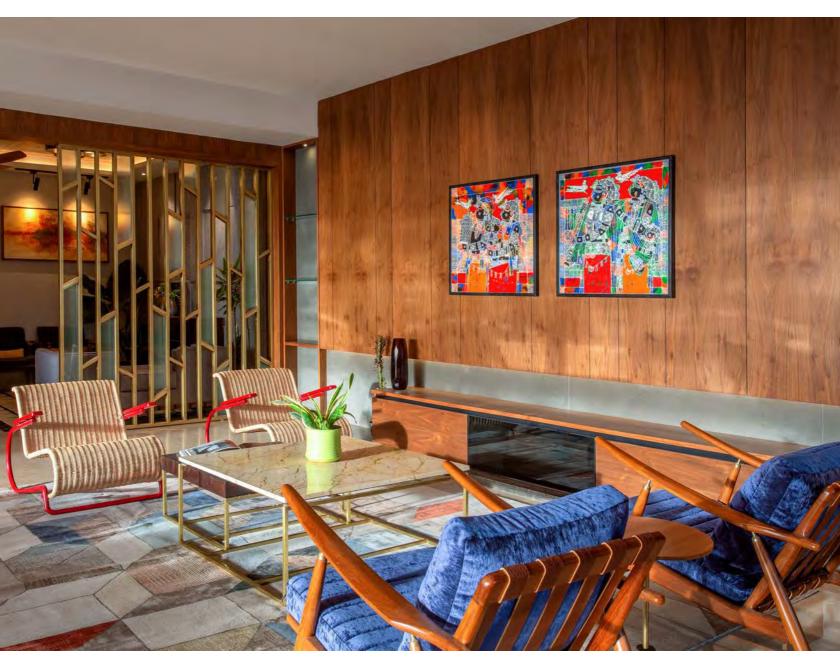
Taking a cue from nature, Mansi recreated a delicate colour scheme - similar to the buildings in the area. She says, "Just like nature, I incorporated a heavy textural pattern and added a small vertical garden in the dry area to mimic the beauty outside. To invite more natural light indoors, especially in the passage, I added these niches and had them lit from all the sides to create a warm vibe."



INSPIRED BY THETROPICS

In this apartment in Adyar, Chennai, Prathyusha Kanna of Studio Shibumi marries a modern spatial sensibility with tropical style flourishes to craft a design that focuses on bringing an unscripted rawness into the heart of this urban home

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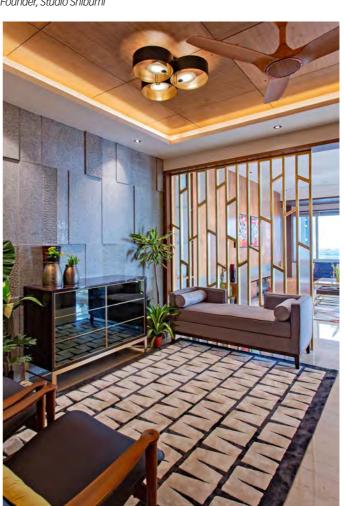




What drew us to the site was the expansive views of the Adyar river mouth joining the ocean. To further enhance this view, we made extensive civil changes to open up the living and dining spaces onto a deck that overlooked this panorama.

Prathyusha Kanna, Founder, Studio Shibumi







PRATHYUSHA KANNA

Founder, Studio Shibumi

Founded by Prathyusha Kanna in 2018, Studio Shibumi is a design firm that specialises in highly customised residential interiors. After a foundation in Art History, Prathyusha then went on to graduate from CEPT Ahmedabad in 2001. She started her career with 'Rajiv Saini and Associates' in Mumbai and over the next few years worked in Bangalore and Chennai with leading design firms. During these early years she has worked on award-winning projects. She has been involved in the process of design right from concept to completion and this has honed her skills in detailing and innovative problem solving.











The home is scattered with mid-century style furniture, light fittings by Masiero, and artworks by contemporary South Indian artists such as Pon Raghunathan, P. Augustine, A. Viswam, Ravi Laks and G. Raman.

— **Prathyusha Kanna**, Founder, Studio Shibumi



erched on the
16th floor, this
apartment enjoys
an uninterrupted
and expansive
view of the mouth
of the Adyar river
joining the ocean. To truly
celebrate this convergence of still

waters with the vibrant ebbing of the seawaters, architect Prathyusha Kanna of Studio Shibumi broke the original apartment to realign zones and ensure each space gets its fill of this panoramic view. She says, "What drew us to the site was the expansive views of the Adyar river mouth joining the ocean. To further enhance this view, we made extensive civil changes to open the living and dining spaces onto a deck that overlooked this panorama." The result is a visual delight...Prathyusha focused on elaborating on the transitional, outdoor areas to blur the boundaries between the interiors, the sky and the sea! Poetic sounding, and she has crafted an expanse that does this justice.

The home is inherently East facing, so Prathyusha concocted this spatial plan to encourage an abundant

inflow of natural light. As a result, the interiors are swathed in warmth while the materials and textures used within are always aglow. She says, "While the design language follows simple, modern lines, the elegant ambience is played out through a textural palette of raw wood, textured brass and rough stone."

Prathyusha was careful not to rest on the laurels of the view alone. While the home does look outwards, she creates dynamic vignettes within that can stand on their own footing. The foyer, for instance, is enveloped by a warm, textured wooden ceiling with one wall defined by rough granite blocks arranged in geometric relief. In contrast to these textures, a brass and fluted glass screen forms a separation between spaces.

The designer says, "Through this glass screen, one can view the living space beyond. It shows the continuity of the stone wall that transforms into a walnut veneer panelled surface. The seamless marble flooring continues throughout the house and adds to the expanse. The dining space has an almost invisible, sheer glass sliding folding partition system that opens out onto the deck, blurring the divide between the exterior and the interior."

With so much to admire, it's a wonder that the views of the Adyar river even get noticed!







SHALINI PEREIRA

Principal Designer, Studio SPDA

SPDA is a boutique interior design consultancy studio in Gurugram, NCR, founded by Shalini Pereira in 2010. Its focus lies in creating contemporary interiors with a sense of understated luxury. When it comes to designing, it is the "less is more" approach that the firm implements in all the projects. Shalini's eye for detail, keenness towards exploring new directions in design, and dedication to ensuring customer satisfaction have been a driving force in steering the firm towards making a name for itself in the luxe interiors space.

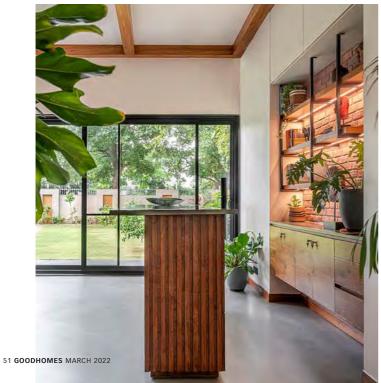
The highlight of the interior space is the concrete flooring that seamlessly extends to the grey-tiled, six feet wide porch. The exposed brick wall adds an element of drama and warmth to the space and holds some artwork that the family has collected.



The location dictated how we oriented the footprint of the structure and the placement of the windows so that we could maximise light while minimising direct sunlight and heating.

— **Shalini Pereira,** Principal Designer, Studio SPDA











Envisaged as a modern structure, it appears as a cube wrapped within a folded plane, sitting atop a slightly raised plot.

— **Shalini Pereira,** Principal Designer, Studio SPDA





ealing with multiple generations, their requirements, and arriving at a balance – Shalini Pereira's latest project appears to have evolved organically

over time. The house, for sure, is very much a place where everyone can feel at home and rejoice as all the needs of the owners were considered with every aspect of the layout. The exterior is modern and unpretentious, while the interiors essay mid-century modern touches. "The young couple wanted us to design a 7,600sqft plot adjoining their existing bungalow in Gurugram. They wanted a detached space to unwind and a garden area to accommodate large gatherings on special occasions. They also insisted on a kitchen garden space where the matriarch of the family could enjoy her passion of gardening," says Shalini.

Creating a sense of connectivity, continuity, and inclusiveness, Shalini and her team made sure to complete the central garden space in a way that it appears as an extension of the existing garden without any barricade. Though it is a large plot, each area has been effectively demarcated to serve multiple objectives. "Envisaged as a modern structure, the space is designed as a cube wrapped

within a folded plane, sitting atop a slightly raised part of the plot. The large glass windows are a major part of the façade as they ensure sprawling views of the garden and let in enough light while blocking out the harsh afternoon sun. From the onset we were clear about designing a space that is raw, without being too rustic. To achieve this, we chose materials such as concrete flooring, concrete slabs and jaalis for a modern look and exposed brick walls and wood to bring in a sense of warmth," she explains.

Shalini planned a simple layout for the interiors wherein the entry is through large sliding glass doors, which are part of the glass façade. The main hall has seating and a bar area and at the back of the hall is a kitchenette and a powder toilet accessible via a service entry. The focal point of the interiors is the concrete flooring that seamlessly extends to the grey-tiled, six feet wide porch. The interiors have been furnished eclectically with a mix of pieces from various stores and bespoke pieces created on site.

The outdoors feature a combination of Kota stone and grass. Shalini planned a fixed L-shaped seating with a concrete back, and the planked wooden seating has been paired with a minimal swing in a metal frame and a wooden seat. Refreshing and intriguing, the house clearly stands out for all the right reasons.

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