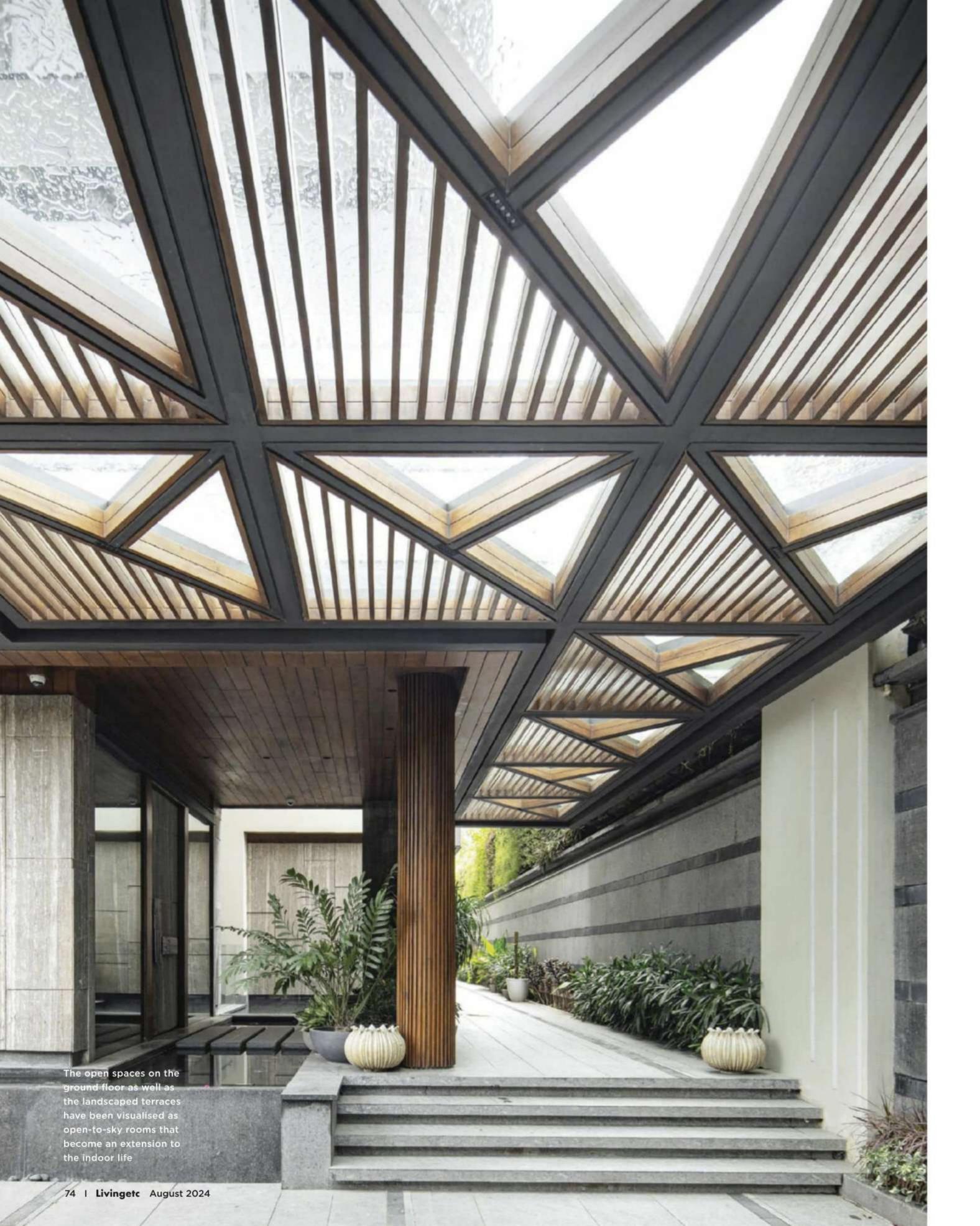


a case for space

This sprawling home in Gurugram is a study in binding eclectic desires with cohesive design

WORDS RIA GUPTA PHOTOS NIVEDITA GUPTA STYLING UNTITLED DESIGN CONSULTANTS







HOME GURUGRAM



yriad stories are woven into the fabric of this Gurugram home. In planning this 22,970 sq ft abode, architect Abhimanyu Dalal has reimagined its spaces in a way that let its residents and their lives shine. Each room of the four-storey bungalow personifies a distinct personality, with common areas meant for mingling. "We laid out the house around the four generations that reside here, providing personalised space for each member of the family," says Dalal. "For the interior design, the Bammi family wanted uniqueness conveyed through crafts and materials," says Amrita Guha, founding partner of Untitled Design Consultants, who was roped in to style the interiors as Dalal moulded its architectural blueprint.

The home unfolds like a book encased in stones from around the world, bookmarked with one-of-a-kind masterpieces from across India. The ground floor inspires familial gatherings with a family lounge and dining room adjacent to two bedrooms-one occupied by Mr. Bammi and the other by his mother-in-law. Up the staircase are three rooms for his son and daughter-in-law and their two children respectively, a pantry, and a large balcony meant for the couple to host their friends. The second floor features a guest bedroom, spa, gym, and conservatory. But the home's crown jewel sits, ironically, underneath this entire sunlit labyrinth. The basement, devoid of natural light, radiates its own glow. Meant for events, it features a formal living room, dining room, and theatre roomall with an Indian granite flooring that breaks away from the grey and cappuccino-tones of the house. A skylit atrium runs vertically through the house like a spine binding the saga. "The open spaces on the ground floor as well as the landscaped terraces have been visualised as open-to-sky rooms that become an extension to the indoor life that surrounds them, says Dalal.

To breathe life into this openness, the house has been layered with meticulous intricacy. "The family loves detailing, and wanted pieces that celebrated Indian tradition while the architecture created contemporary living," Guha shares. With their focus being bespoke furnishing, she and her partner Joya Nandurdikar did the job perfectly. The basement dining room was crafted as a lesson in Indian art with Pinjrakari-inspired lattice work in solid wood, while the adjoining formal living room got soft lights dancing over antiques collected from across southern India. The conservatory makes the most of its green view, granted by the neighbour's gardens. With the same granite pattern flowing in from the terrace, this all-glass haven takes on a unique character by way of eclectic furniture - a Naga table, light installations by Oorjaa, and a horse sculpture from Kochi that blends with the greenery but stands out for its stellar sculpting.

The home, with its many moods and characters, thus unfolds as a microcosm of light, life, and artistry – the perfect personification of its residents' dreams and desires. ◆ Instagram: @design_untitled; @abhimanyudalalarchitects

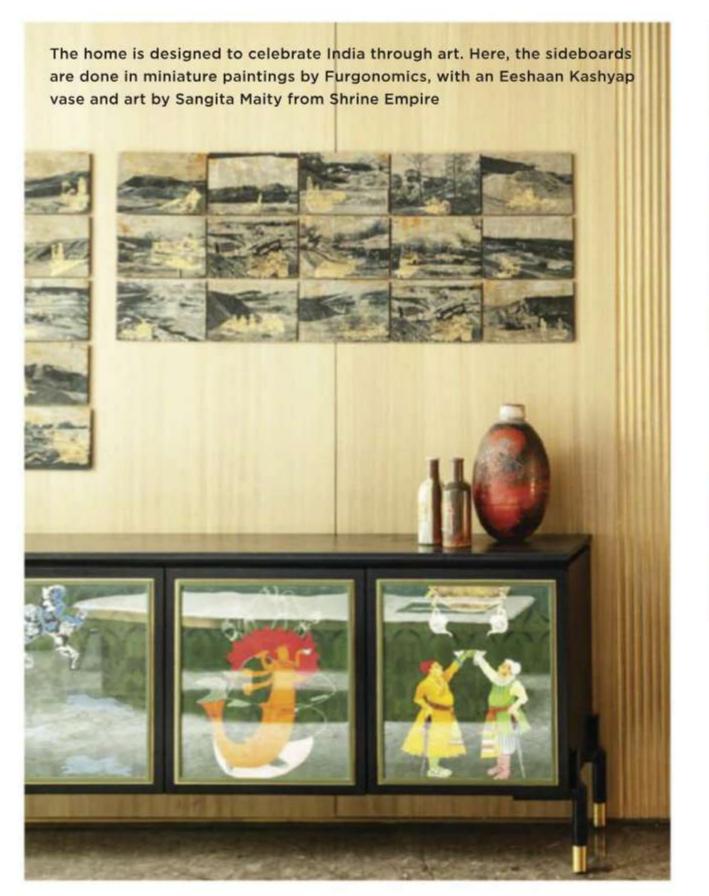
"We designed the house around the four generations that reside here, providing personalised space for each member of the family"

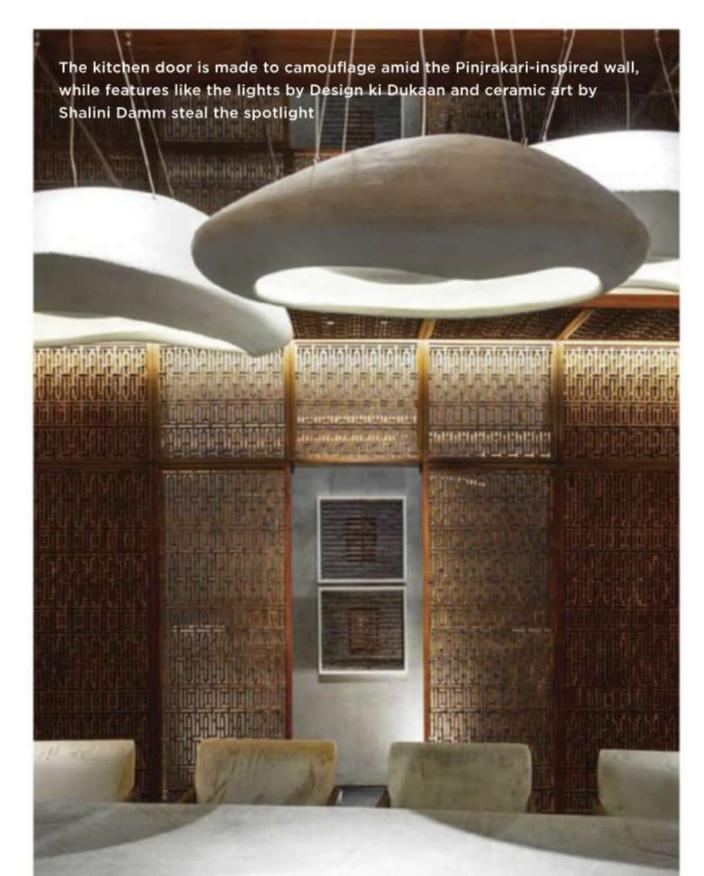
76 | Livingetc August 2024 August 2024 Livingetc | 77



HOME GURUGRAM









NANDURDIKAR, Untitled Design Consultants delivers contextual design through architecture, interior design, product design, and art curation. With a philosophy rooted in ethical utilisation of resources, they focus on local materials and craftsmanship alongside crafting bespoke pieces through their in-house furniture design brand, Furgonomics.

IF THERE'S ONE PIECE YOU COULD STEAL FROM THIS HOUSE, WHICH WOULD IT BE?

The two stone columns we placed in the formal living room are at least 100 years old, sourced from a collector in South India. They're inspired by the architecture of the Chola dynasty with the description of the Mandanikas (celestial beauties) beautifully crafted on it. For me, the storytelling of a space needs new objects as well objects from our diverse past that are reminiscent of our roots.

WHAT'S THE BEST SPOT TO ENJOY A BEAUTIFUL RAINY DAY?

The conversatory!

YOU WANT TO SHARE A SECRET WITH A FRIEND. WHICH IS THE SPOT IN THE HOUSE WHERE THE WALLS AREN'T LISTENING?

The spa, which is done in kota stone with brass and is perfect for some privacy or me-time.

IF YOU COULD DISPLAY ONE ROOM OF THE HOUSE IN A MUSEUM, WHICH WOULD IT BE AND WHY?

The formal living room in the basement has some very unique pieces of furniture that we got from places like Udaipur and Kerala, and each piece here tells a story.