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## TRENDS & TIDINGS

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# An Eclectic Bungalow

Embracing varied design sensibilities, Delhi based **DCA Architects** shape a residence in Sainik Farms, New Delhi inspired by the unconventional artistic taste of the client. Richly detailed, the residence provides a visual treat with interest in every corner.

It's not often that a client approaches a designer with a free rein to experiment and fashion an unusual space, far removed from any of the current trends in interior design. When such a rare client does materialize, it can sometimes unsettle the designer if the design intent seems to be veering towards 'maximalist' excess. However, the architects had no cause for alarm. Sanjay Arora, the owner of the bungalow, while explaining the idiosyncrasies of his unconventional artistic taste, conferred his complete trust on them to harmonize the finished whole into a comfortable inviting home.

When the team was commissioned to design the







interiors, the house was completely built and the owner wanted to make only minimal structural changes. Spread across two floors and a basement, floor plan is organized such that the living, dining and kitchen spaces are on the ground floor along with the mother's room and a home office/library for the owner with a separate entrance from the front porch. The private spaces including the master and children's bedrooms are housed on the first floor. The basement is furnished as an entertainment zone including a bar, television lounge, a gym/activity area and a guest bedroom.

The major challenge faced in the project was to mend the existing false ceiling with new design. It was also decided to retain existing doors and windows. The bathroom featuring a classic vanity with a huge antique mirror: black granite was used for the countertop and wash basins. A prominent



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The aesthetics of the completed home is "a fusion of multiple design elements merged into one space, while simultaneously celebrating each object's individuality. It can be described as a marriage of ideas enhancing and complementing one another which births a unique balance.

change involved replacing the plain staircase railing with a trendy MS (Mild Steel) sheet railing.

### Embracing Varied Sensibilities

The double-height foyer of the of 6870 sft built-up area bungalow, features a wall decal with the silhouette of a tree on a grey background that looms large against the staircase outfitted





with an undulating MS sheet railing. The treads of the stairs are treated with a burnt wood finish, adding to the visual feast that greets the eye. Creative use of MS sheets is made in several locations from the nameplate to the staircase railing to the steps fascia and the bar unit.

A large light fixture suspended from the first floor ceiling and descending to multiple heights along the double volume completes the composition. The home abounds with an array of textures, colours and materials.

The basement and office on the ground floor has plain cement concrete flooring. Unfinished, raw wood can be seen in most of the furniture pieces in the house. Digital wallpapers with bold patterns feature in the living room, study and daughter's room. Rough textured white paint in the study adds to the vintage ambience of the room.

Another eye-catching element is the ceiling-hung carved white wooden frames; faces painted in striking in the TV lounge. Used beer and whisky bottles were recycled to make a screen in the bar area.

### The Assorted Look

- The bedrooms on the first floor continue the eclectic theme, with the master bedroom



## DESIGN

featuring twisted wooden poster and an upholstered fabric headboard in teal against a brown wall. The flooring is made of engineered wood.

- The daughter's bedroom is furnished with a wrought - iron bed and includes a book unit with a study table in sawn wood.
- In the dining room, a blown glass chandelier hangs over a custom - designed dining table with a base made of wooden logs.
- The bathroom is a combination of classical and modern design. The wooden flooring and the granite counter gives the bathroom a lavish look.

### Colours & Lighting

Colours were selected according to mood of the space. The living room employs a colour palette that aids in maintaining the formal look while vibrant colours were given to the kid's rooms. The master bedroom is adorned with printed curtains. Cove lights in each room solve the purpose of general lighting whereas LED spot lights are used to highlight artifacts. Retrofitted reading wall lights are provided by the bedside in each bedroom. Chandeliers embellish the decor of the living room and entrance lobby.

### Quirky Materials and Textures

- The book unit in corian and wood and the wall decal with the silhouette of a tree against the staircase in the entrance lobby.
- In the bar, rusted MS sheets find creative use in the back unit and bar counter. Used beer bottles are recycled to tailor an eye-catching screen.
- Cleverly designed pendant lights made from lassi glasses with antique gold finish are suspended over the bar counter fitted with backlit onyx ledge.
- Another attractive element is the ceiling - hung carved white wooden frames in the TV lounge
- Graffiti by an artist was commissioned for the basement foyer which also features a compass made in vinyl on the floor.

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