

HOME & DESIGN

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TRENDS

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SUBSCRIPTION
NOT FOR SALE

+
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SEEMA PURI
SHIRISH BERI
SHRESHT KASHYAP
SONALI RASTOGI
SUBODH GUPTA
YATIN PANDYA
ZARIR MULLAN
AND MORE...

MUSTAFA EISA

**FORGING AHEAD WITH DESIGN
THAT UNRAVELS ITS OWN
JAGGED DISTINCTION**

R.N.I. MAHENG/2013/50949



MW88171101

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCIAL

Spaces that portray diverse approaches to commercial design

PROJECT: RESTAURANT • ARCHITECTS: AMIT AURORA AND RAHUL BANSAL, GROUP DCA

TEXT: AZIZ AMIN

IMAGES: ANDRE J. FANTHOME



Additional Info

- AREA: 3,620SQFT
- LOCATION: GURUGRAM, HARYANA



Retaining the authenticity of the brand Town Hall, this restaurant by Group DCA finds middle ground between ethnic and contemporary elements.

FYI

The walls are finished in distressed plaster painted in white, and dark, antique brown to add to the vintage look.

Designing for an established chain of restaurants would mean maintaining the authenticity of the brand while creating a unique space with contemporary elements. Amit Aurora and Rahul Bansal of Group DCA faced a similar challenge while designing the Town Hall restaurant in Gurugram, as an extension of the original Town Hall restaurant in New Delhi. Aurora says, "Town Hall has established itself as a leading restaurant in Delhi over the last three years. The same tenet and ethos had to be recreated in Gurugram. From a traditional concept in New Delhi to a concrete and glass building in modern-day Gurugram, the challenges were manifold."

The plot was oddly shaped, with columns in an ad-hoc manner that were to be incorporated in the layout. Bansal says, "To optimise an efficient layout in a challenging site, we opted for an octagonal plan. This facilitates the spatial allocation, visually divides the space, and enables functionality in a limited space. The nooks and corners crafted as a result are connected to the whole, ensuring that every space gets its own privacy, while being a



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The antique mirrors act as paintings in the backdrop, offering a different perspective from every point in the restaurant.

— Amit Aurora, Partner, Group DCA





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Acoustics become crucial in an environment that is both private and public at the same time. A strawboard ceiling facilitates better sound management and adds to the character of the space.

— Rahul Bansal, Partner, Group DCA

part of the main zone.” The attempt was to re-create an emblematic, central public space with smaller ancillary spaces around.

The detailing focuses on visual and aesthetic appeal, together with practical solutions. “The serving stations are strategically incorporated in the angular walls to facilitate ease of operation and to avoid hampering of the circulation,” says Aurora. The façade design and glazing are exploited to optimise natural light and also create a small outdoor seating space.

The octagonal layout is tied together by means of cast-aluminium columns that bring in the European aesthetic, while adding volume and demarcation to the space. “At the top, the octagon is tied together with metal girders, that break the height, and make the space more intimate. Plastered columns and pseudo-balconies complete the vintage aesthetic. The large, customised chandeliers augment the element of symmetry and decoration and enable better conversation,” says Bansal. Antique plug points have been placed in multiple places and hooks have been affixed under the tables to hang bags, to ensure basic practicality and comfort of the customer.

THE SPECS

- Owner: RVN Hospitality
- Builder, Contractor, Windows, Doors, Furniture, Plumbing: DCA Workshop
- Electricals, Lighting Consultants: Design Matrix
- Lighting Products: Vizion Lighting
- Toilets: Jaquar
- HVAC Consultants: Vertex Consultants
- HVAC Contractors: ASR Aircon
- Aluminium Column: Casting Solutions

