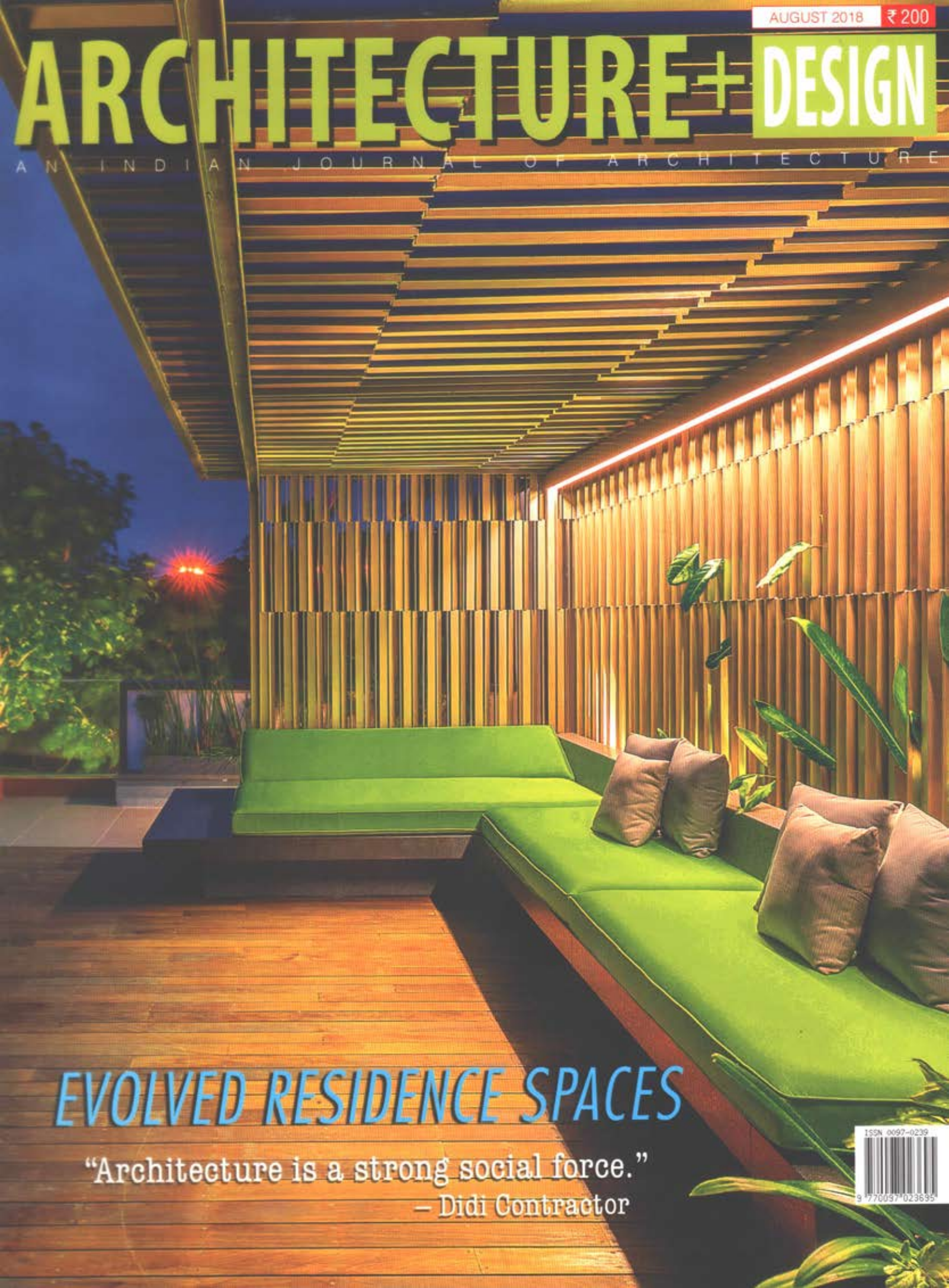


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“Architecture is a strong social force.”
— Didi Contractor

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Weaving a Metaphoric Thread

Project: Jindal Residence, New Delhi
Architects: Group DCA, New Delhi

The design of the residence began as an exercise in trying to provide personally identifiable living spaces to all members of the client family—spanning three generations—under one roof. The primary challenge was to craft individualistic spaces within the home, while retaining a larger singular theme that would bind the whole residence together.



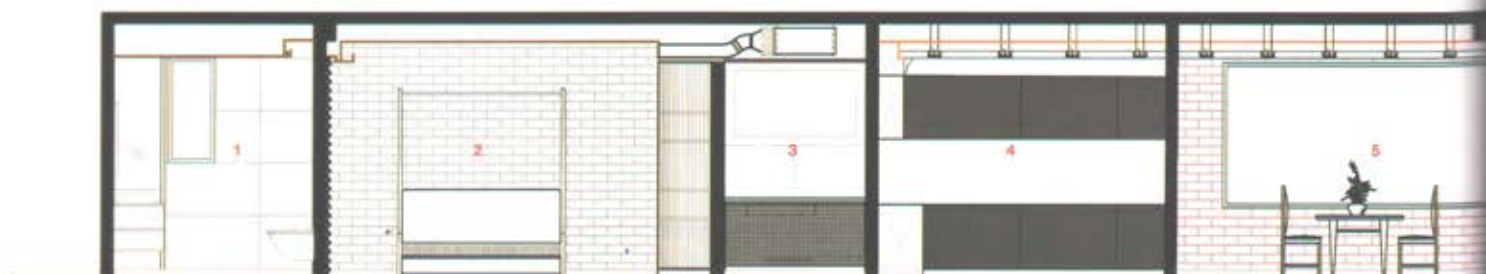
Amit Aurora and Rahul Bansal

The residence is housed on a single longitudinal floor-plate and is accessible through a staircase and an elevator on its longer side. Inheriting a site with only the floor slabs, there was enough opportunity to make an intervention to carve out a unified space. The main entrance opens into a foyer that provides access to the drawing room, and to a corridor that acts as the



1. DRAWING ROOM
2. BEDROOM
3. WASHROOM
4. FAMILY LOUNGE
5. POWDER ROOM
6. PARENT'S BEDROOM
7. PARENT'S ROOM WASHROOM
8. MASTER BEDROOM
9. MASTER BEDROOM WASHROOM
10. WALK-IN CLOSET
11. KITCHEN
12. UTILITY
13. POOJA ROOM
14. DINING AREA

N + FLOOR PLAN

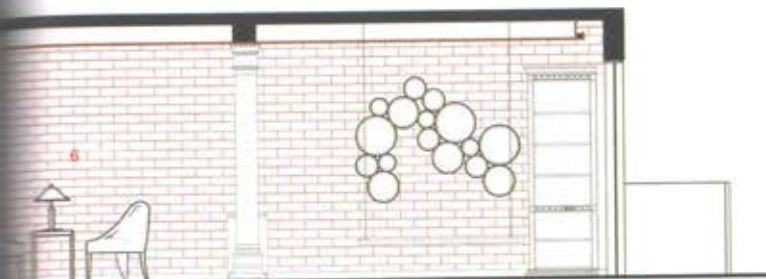


SECTION

circulation spine of the residence. This corridor forms a central axis and runs for almost the entire length of the residence; it opens up into a family lounge and open kitchen-dining in the heart of the house, while its ends are marked by entryways into the bedrooms.

Another challenge was designing around an existing floor-plate structure—when the client bought the floor-plate, the external walls had already been placed and the

internal walls were in the process of being put up. The architects found that this structure was lacking adequate provision of natural light and air for the interiors. Hence, the floor-plan has been modified in an effort to optimize daylight penetration and cross-ventilation. A central cut-out is devised to bring natural light into the semi-public kitchen and dining space. Additionally, a verandah is provided as an extension to the drawing room, and



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|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. WASHROOM | 4. KITCHEN |
| 2. BEDROOM | 5. DINING |
| 3. UTILITY | 6. DRAWING ROOM |

indoor plants were placed within the house to encourage engagement with nature.

Following the brief from the client, distinctive personalised elements are added in bedrooms to reflect the individual interests and sensibilities of its users; this includes a large world-map backdrop in the teenaged boy's room, and a ceiling-hanging *jhoola* (swing) in the teenaged girl's room. The larger décor, however,





carries the same materiality throughout the residence to weave a metaphorical thread around the home. Natural materials and finishes—exposed brick walls, stone flooring, sandblasted wood—are employed and used in tandem with contemporary art and furniture pieces to impart a sense of eclecticism. The drawing room features custom-designed products such as a low-hanging hemispherical chandelier, a cast aluminium column with a European aesthetic, and a wall installation with multiple circular mirrors. One wall in each room is finished in exposed brick to carry forward the material palette, and to tie the spaces with a common thread, albeit in different colours. ✚

Photo credit: Kapil Kamra, The Portrait

Factfile

Client: Mr Jindal

Principal Architects: Amit Aurora, Rahul Bansal

Design Team: Vini Sam, Pritha Mitra

Design Styling: Nalini Aurora

Consultants: Electrical, Furniture, Lighting: Dca Architects

Built-up area: 2950sq ft

Year of completion: 2017

Company names of products/materials used: Lighting-LSI; Flooring - Andra stone; Air Conditioning-weather comfort engineers: Arts/Artifacts - Gopal Namjoshi