

Total number of pages 104

ARCHITECT and INTERIORS INDIA

Inspiration and insight for architects and interior designers

Volume 8 | Issue 02 | May 2016 | ₹50

Published by ITP Publishing India



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IDEALISTIC, INSPIRED, INTELLIGENT,
INFORMED, INDIVIDUALISTIC AND
INNOVATIVE, OUR 50 GEN-NEXT
ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS WILL
BRIGHTEN OUR URBAN LANDSCAPE

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THE SHINING

Our Top 50 gen-next architects and designers who make it to our iGen 2016 list promise to add brilliance to the Indian urbanscape through innovative design

BY MARIA LOUIS

It is now five years since we at *Architect and Interiors India* began our quest for the next generation of young architects and designers who could take on the mantle of responsibility from their seniors. This is in keeping with our mission of encouraging the idealism and innovation of those who will influence our lifestyles and build our future world.

Like we do every year, we sought out the best of the new crop who are blessed with intelligence and individualism. You will agree that all these words that begin with the small 'Y', make a big

difference. This little alphabet has acquired its high status thanks to Steve Jobs and the now ubiquitous iPhone, iPod, iPad, iMac and iTunes – to which we add our own iGen.

This year, the inspired and innovative architects and designers we invited to share their dynamism, energy and enthusiasm through this forum, give us even greater hope that the future of our country will be bright thanks to responsible design.

Here, then, is our eagerly-awaited selection of promising gen-next architects and designers.

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS: ARUNA RATHOD, CAROL FERRAO & SHREETA NAIR



- 1 Akhil Hazareb PK
- 2 Abhinav Rai Choudhuri
- 3 Abhishek Datta
- 4 Aditya Gowami
- 5 Ajay Arja
- 6 Amit Awasthi
- 7 Amit Goregaonkar
- 8 Anirho Kulkari
- 9 Anvijo Das Gupta
- 10 Anirban Bhaduri
- 11 Ansh Choudhuri
- 12 Arjun Koth
- 13 Ashish Jaiswal
- 14 Biju Bolan
- 15 Bhaav Mehta
- 16 Chitra Bley
- 17 Deepak Juvahar
- 18 Deepak Kaur
- 19 George Seemon
- 20 Hafeez
- 21 Harsh
- 22 Himan Sethi
- 23 Iqbal Patel
- 24 Narendra Joshi
- 25 Husnaul C Hashim
- 26 Prashant Kapoor
- 27 Prathima Manohar
- 28 Rohit Sonpal
- 29 Ranjan Bhandari
- 30 Esha Choudhary
- 31 Ritika Dhanraj
- 32 Riyaz Tayyibi
- 33 Rohan Patankar
- 34 Rohit Morkar
- 35 Rana Tayyibi
- 36 Rupa Dasgupta
- 37 Saiju Mohamed
- 38 Saket Sethi
- 39 Shayan De
- 40 Shivaji Korekar
- 41 Shivangi Shah
- 42 Shresh Vazirji
- 43 Shweta Chavan
- 44 Saurya Raja
- 45 Sudhya Shih
- 46 Suprio Bhattacharjee
- 47 Suweta Datta
- 48 Suparna Joshi
- 49 Vinod Cyril
- 50 Zainab Saravate

iGen 2016

RAHUL BANSAL & AMIT AURORA

PARTNERS, DCA ARCHITECTS, NEW DELHI



We keep human beings, their relationships, craft and the environment at the heart of our working methodology"

Architecture is the perfect amalgamation between art and technology, with rational and social implications, according to the founding partners of New Delhi's DCA Architects.

In this profession, both Amit Aurora and Rahul Bansal found the perfect opportunity to showcase creativity and ingenuity – which encouraged them to pursue this field at the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. Since 1996, they have been putting these aspirations to practice at DCA by successfully designing award-winning spaces and retail identities of various corporate and luxury brands, along with luxury stores, boutiques, restaurants, salons, residences, and other commercial work that has been implemented pan-India.

"We remain true to each project's site, context, design, materials and conceptuality. Rather than following current trends or pursuing gimmicky approaches, we believe in designing for the long-term – wherein the designs are well balanced, contextual and appropriate. We make a conscious effort to minimise the impact on the environment and use as many sustainable materials and technologies as possible," mention the partners about the design philosophy that informs their work. And it has worked well for them so far, winning accolades such as GoodHomes Awards 2015 for Best Space Styling, (regional winners) IIID Awards 2015 in

Leisure & Entertainment category, and VM-RD Retail Design Awards in Health and Beauty – Speciality Store category for three consecutive years (2013, 2014 and 2015).

When asked about their favourite project, Aurora mentions the one place they find themselves within most often – their studio office. "The DCA office inhabits a setting shaped by a plethora of influences, the strongest of which is the dichotomy of adaptive reuse within an old structure and the local context of an indigenous settlement," he explains. It was an old storage unit that was aesthetically transformed into a fully-functional workspace. Warm tones of wood and wood finish complement the cement flooring and rustic walls, with gentle illumination creating a fitting environment for a bunch of design-conscious designers to create their next award-winning space.

As for inspirations, Bansal appreciates Swiss architect Mario Botta's bold work for how it tries to improve the quality of life. The two partners are also passionate about working with local cultures, craft and people. This will help address issues of ecological and environmental impact of a project, they hope. "In essence, this can be interpreted in design by way of working with the hand and by using craft and locally available materials as much as possible. Instead of adopting the Western techniques of mass production, we should be going local," believes the duo.

PROJECT
DCA office, Sultanpur.