



“The arts are not just a nice thing to have or to do if there is free time or if one can afford it. Rather, paintings and poetry, music and fashion, design and dialogue, they all define who we are as a people and provide an account of our history for the next generation.”

MICHELLE OBAMA



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# KLAP, NEW DELHI

GroupDCA, New Delhi

**Typology :** Restaurant

**Why is this project special?** It features maximalist design.

Founded by the chefs Gurmehar Sethi, Alekh Vardhan and Navdeep Singh Sethi, the maximalist restaurant promises contemporary global cuisine in the historic Khan Market. Spread over 3,600 sq. ft., the project offers a space for corporate escape and a meeting point serving Southeast Asian snacks and bespoke beverages.

The façade is lined with black panels that contrast with the surrounding profiles, providing a contemporary yet nostalgic sensibility. Customised terrazzo flooring, bespoke furniture and mirrors create an illusory depth of space. Mirrors placed across the restaurant are a key element; some are frameless, some mounted inside ring lights or on the walls and ceilings or framed in antique gold. The mirrors also reflect light to the darker corners, such as the stairwell at the entrance. Stern-faced Claymen statues by the artist Aman Khanna grace the space between the mirrors.



Diverse seating provides variety; from bar stools with sleek metal legs, wooden armchairs with rattan backs around granite tables with faux alabaster tabletops and plush, leather-upholstered booth-style seating. All the furniture in the project was designed, prototyped and manufactured in-house.

The jewelled bar takes centrestage, with mirror-backed shelves mounted in sleek golden frames. These reflect the glassware and bottles, which create a kaleidoscope of colours. The

bar counter is lined with mirrors, reflecting the restaurant's ambiance back to the diners.

Due to the narrow floorplate, the glazing connects the inner world to the outdoors. The afternoon light interacts with the colourful terrazzo floor along with ambient illumination. The upper floors offer a dining experience between the trees on the terrace. Slim railings disappear into the plants, which imbue a biophilic charm to the design.

photography :: niveditaa gupta