

INTERIORS & ARCHITECTURE — Material | Products | People | Projects

SURFACES[®]

WWW.SURFACES.IN

REPORTER

June 2017 • INR 250 • INDIA
Published on 1st June 2017

App for a Super Smart Home
Material of Substance: Jesmonite
Trees growing into Furniture
Ultralight 2.4 Kg chair
A Robot that serves you food
Sideboard inspired by Bridge

RIISING STAR
Sparsh Design
Studio, Rajkot

MATERIAL POETRIES

A Penthouse in Milan

An office by Vibe Design Lab Mumbai

Xactly: By the Riverside, Bangalore

RedPan: DP Design Pte Ltd, Singapore

FEATURED STORIES

Future of Workspace Design

Eco-friendly Flooring

Is Luxury market bouncing back?

WPC: Know your Material

App Ache: Red & Black oxide



VERDA ALEXANDER & PRIMO OPPILLA

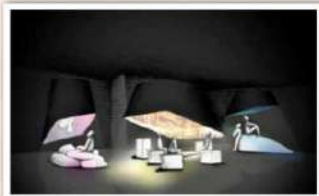


THE WATER COOLER

US-based Studio O+A is honoured to represent the West at this year's Salone del Mobile. For over 25 years O+A has been at the forefront of a revolution in workplace design. Drawing on a West Coast culture that makes core values of experimentation and innovation. The studio delves into the aesthetics of space design with a playfulness and irreverence that has changed the way we think about work.

The future of workplace is now.

This exhibit shows a radical re-thinking of the work environment, an entryway to space, both physical and mental, that releases us to think creatively and provides a respite from the stresses of the day. Like water changing properties according to its form, the new office will change to meet a user's need. Studio O+A envisions that need in four postures, four ways to interact with space, and four ways to interact with work.



SURFACES REPORTER'S

RISING STAR: SPARSH DESIGN STUDIO RAJKOT, GUJARAT



Rupesh Patel
Architect

Shabana Sadikot
Interior Designer

Viral Patel
Interior Designer

Located in Rajkot, Sparsh Design Studio is a young design firm started by interior designer Viral Patel in 2005, later joined by another enterprising interior designer Shabana Sadikot the following year - both acquired "Diploma in Interior Design" from National School of Interior Design, Rajkot. To explore new working paths, in the year 2010, the studio joined hands with another upcoming architect Rupesh Patel, an architecture graduate from Indrabhai Parekh School of Architecture, Rajkot, turning it into a one-stop-solution for architecture and interior design. While practicing, Rupesh also obtained masters in conservation from CEPT University in 2013. Today, the firm has successfully completed more than 150 projects from Rajkot, Morbi and beyond.

www.sparshdesignstudio.com

Though the team is not rigid about following any particular design or philosophy - it is operating on a firm belief that every project should stand out on its own, speak its own language while reflecting the user's identity & likings. The term success for the this young team, does not just mean volume of work, but the quality and imprint it leaves behind, as their work is based upon maintaining the harmony between man, material and nature.

The studio which alleges to be constantly upgrading itself with knowledge and exploration, has indeed grown in popularity with several recognitions/commendations. As a proof of it, Sparsh has been bagging "IITD Anchor Awards" since the year 2008 in various categories and then continuing the legacy since then. (2013, 2015) and the most recent being "IITD Anchor Awards 2016". This time the team was commended for their project: Gujarat Regional Level's RAINBOW GARDENS WEEKEND VILLA under single dwelling residence category.

How do you balance the client needs with your design philosophy?

While we do not follow any particular philosophy as we believe each and every one of us here has a very different and unique approach towards design that's why perhaps, we manage to reflect unconventional ideas every time.

Most of the clients today are fascinated by the use of imported materials, technology and products without much thought to its relevance in our context. So, the most challenging for us is to make people understand about environmental concerns, energy saving aspects, importance of local material and local crafts.

Tell us about a challenging moment in your career.

In our architectural work, it was initially very challenging for us to manage the sequential task for lack of skilled agencies to work with. We were unable to get few ideas executed properly on site due to limited technical understanding and no support from good skilled agencies. This led us to develop sound technical awareness. Today, we are constantly evolving in various fields to serve our clients better.

each day. We engage ourselves for travelling, reading, attending workshops and hands on work, seminars, and other's presentations to sharpen our ability and observation skills.

Do you follow a particular design philosophy?

A journey of nearly a decade has given us an insight into social and professional dynamics. Working on projects with man, material and nature, we have learnt that there is an inbuilt harmony within these three elements. It has been our constant effort to make optimum use of these components and achieve growth, excellence and perfection while contributing to the society, conserving nature and respecting tradition.

We believe in promoting art and artists through our designs. We encourage the use of local materials and crafts in its purest form. Success to us does not only mean volume of work, but also the quality and imprint it leaves behind. For us the achievement is in self satisfaction, appreciation and recognition we gain for our projects as a team.

For our architectural projects, especially for residences, we try to generate interactive spaces, which is most important in our culture without compromising functional needs. We also try to relate the immediate surrounding context to design perceptual qualities from outside as well as experiential quality from inside, visual connections to the site surrounding and general climatic relation to the space organization.

Who or what is your inspiration?

We take inspiration and learn from everything around us, in any form. Nature remains a biggest source of inspiration for us. Sometimes we also get ideas from the internal discussions within the team members and clients, historical structures, cinema, our cities, indigenous architectural practices, their responses to the context and so much more...

We also learn from our colleague & professional consultants such as structure engineers, photographers, modeling agencies and more to strengthen our thought processes. We also learn from our past mistakes and issues that we face in the day to day practices. Challenges due to the changing scenario keep us aware and ever innovative.

Tell us about the choice of materials in your projects.

For our interior projects, there are many aspects which governs the selection of materials like context, client's budget, function, climatic response, client's liking-disliking and theme of the project. In the past few years, we prioritize the maximum use of local, eco friendly, and hand crafted materials and products.

In Architecture there are few construction practices like RC frame structure, infill brick masonry etc. that mainstream. We generally do not get much scope to introduce alternative construction, but we constantly try to find solution within available scope in the practices and find a better meaning out of it. For surface finishes today we have many ranges available. We select materials with suitable properties that support the economy and skills.

“Man, material and nature: we have learnt that there is an inbuilt harmony within these three elements. It has been our constant effort to make optimum use of these components and achieve growth, excellence and perfection while contributing to the society, conserving nature and respecting tradition. We believe in promoting art and artists through our designs. We encourage the use of local materials and crafts in its purest forms.”

What kind of projects are you mostly doing?

We are more into the single owner residential bungalows but also doing factories, showrooms, mid-rise residential project and landscape design.

How is the interior design scenario in Rajkot and Morbi different from other regions?

Due to the industrial development and sprawling businesses, both the cities are getting rapid exposure to the global world so client's need and aspirations are rapidly changing. Also here, especially in case of Morbi, society has its roots from the nearby rural areas so the ways of living of the people have two different spectrums. Our role is to find a solution for them to fit both the spectrums and get a balance between them.

What kind of learning is your firm involved right now?

For architectural projects, currently Rupesh is trying to find the relevance of the existing built typology of our traditional architecture in the changing scenario which we couldn't yet manifest fully into our projects.

Secondly, nobody today has got time for repair and maintenance, so we are trying to find the maintenance free details without compromising the delight of the design.

Meanwhile our interior team is trying to explore local construction techniques, arts & craft and also doing research on the materials which are recyclable, biodegradable & eco-friendly. We wish to incorporate these materials in our upcoming projects for sure.

FEW PROJECTS BY SPARSH DESIGN STUDIO, RAJKOT, GUJARAT



Visit www.surfaces.in for the detailed project

DOBARIYA'S HOUSE

Client's Brief:

Residences for two food industrialist brothers having strong social family structure, led us to design a residence in such a manner that they can get interactive connection between two residences while maintaining the privacy for both the families. Both the blocks are designed to have collective vocabulary from outside as well as different experiential and spatial quality from inside.

To manifest this, we provided different levels for private and public spaces from inside, center has kept throughout open for internal connectivity between both residences. The levels are kept in such a manner that they can get more open volume at the North-West street corner to provide more open spatial experience while entering the building. The ground floor is architecturally treated as a transition but also for parking, play area, gathering and rest room for the common guests. The exterior reflects the internal space organization which is following the 9-square vastu principles, also helped us to relate square plot geometry.

Concept

The Design idea was to provide more interactive connection and common identity with different spatial experiences for both residences.

Context

The site is located in Janta society, which is prime residential area on 'Tangor road' at Rajkot city. Plot boundary is having two side streets one from north and another from west. This area has connectivity to the 'Tangor road, Tangor road, Kalavad road and Racecourse ring road.

Client: Hrushikesh Dobariya, Rajesh Dobariya, Rajkot
Project Type: Twin Residences - Urban house
Plot Area: 2468.90 SF | Build up Area: 6780.90 SF
Construction type: RC Frame Structures
Cost: ₹ 80,00,000 (excluding material cost)
Cost per SF: ₹ 1100 | Photography: Sayam Dave



RAINBOW GARDENS (WEEKEND VILLA)

Client's brief

Client was a builder. Villas are part of his club house and resort project. He has built these villas for selling. From all these villas client has appointed our firm to design interior of one villa with very limited budget. Since he wanted something unique and different, we had to design the villa with consideration of his budget without compromising functional as well as aesthetic values.

Context

The site is located 17-18 km away from the Rajkot city. The entire villa including furniture & furnishings is to be sold by the builder to the club members. These villas are going to be used by the users for leisure & entertainment purpose.

Concept

We are fortunate to get this project where we got the open ground to explore our creativity according to our own taste. Limited budget was not an issue for us as it was a weekend villa, we have thought to provide feel and warmth of nature inside the villa. We have decided to use local and hand-crafted materials for that.

Materials

Flooring and bathroom: Kolah stone, Porcelain tiles, China Mosaic and Slate Stone

Furniture and partitions: Wood veneer, Buffalo Glass, Tempered Glass (traditional tinted glass), Bamboo

Ceiling: Bamboo, Cane mat and Gypsum board

Staircase covering: Wooden plank and Kolah stone

Wall covering: Terracotta tile, Handmade Ceramic Tiles,

Texture, Black Printed Fabric



Client: Rainbow Gardens (weekend villa) by Emerald Club, Rajkot
Project Type: Single dwelling residence
Carpet Area: 2249 SF
Project Cost: ₹ 37, 00,000 (including kitchen appliances and AC)
Cost per SF: ₹ 1650
Photography: Sanyam Datta



Visit www.surfaces.in for the detailed project.



JUNE 2017 SURFACES REPORTER 114



Decor: Painted ceramic tiles, Cotton Bedclothes, World Art Hand-made Paintings, Ceramic Pottery, Glass Vases, Hanging Light Fittings etc.,

Art installation and decor

Tree trunks:

The only thing we customized in the whole house is the art form of tree trunk. Initially we wanted to introduce real plantation but to avoid maintenance issues, we could not plant the real plants.

Ceramic Plates & Pottery:

We had to replace choice of customized hand-painted ceramic plates with online available ceramic plates because of cost issue.

World Art Paintings:

We wanted to use world art paintings as in one bedroom and passage area. For activity room and master bedroom we opted for photo prints to bring down the costing.

Hand-made tiles and terracotta tile cladding:

Living and dining walls are covered with beautiful play of hand-made blue, turquoise ceramic tiles and terracotta tiles. Kitchen wall is also covered with blue handmade tiles.

Furniture:

Furniture forms are kept very simple and minimal and are customized on site except dining chairs. Wooden chairs we ordered online. Furniture is mostly worked out from wood and plywood. Wardrobe shutters are made out of wood & glass.

Ceiling:

Majority we used bamboo to highlight the ceiling as bamboo is natural and recyclable material. Only in master bedroom we used hand-made cane mat to cover the ceiling area.

JUNE 2017 SURFACES REPORTER 115



PANDIT'S HOUSE

Client's Brief

User is a young industrialist couple with two children. The couple travels frequently overseas for business and leisure. They were very much clear about their needs, liking and disliking. They wanted their house to be maintenance free. They wanted to incorporate finished, luxurious and royal feel. They were too much conscious about the dust free interior and loved neutral color palette.

Concept

Since the client's choice was very clear, it was easy for us to decide the concept for them. We did fusion of contemporary forms with royal finishes with the help of strong geometrically balance form hexagon.

Art Installation

For the maintenance aspect we introduced art in the form of wall coverings. One major wall in each area is covered with natural stones for ornamentation of the space. Each artwork is carefully selected with its own importance & vibration.

Color

Lighter shade of sea green is introduced in dining area wall to add a little drama in the monochromatic space and in the form of accessories. Tint of golden is introduced in jali, hardware & lighting fixtures to add the glaze of royalty.

Value of Material

We are very much conscious about the material wastage and unnecessary use of material. Furniture is made with minimalist approach. Only necessary furniture elements are added in the space. All the furniture is kept modular with consideration of reusability aspect of the furniture in future. For paneling in TV unit wall to hide the wiring Gypsum Dado line Boards are used instead of plywood paneling. We tried to get maximum value of everything with minimal approach.



Client: Pandit's House, Morbi
Project type: Multi dwelling residence
Carpet area: 2050 SF
Project cost: ₹ 1.25, 00,000
Cost per SF: ₹ 4400 per SF carpet area
Photography: Satyam Dave

Client: Hirenkhai Ratadiya & Pravinshai Ratadiya, Rajkot
Project Type: Twin Residence - Urban House
Plot Area: 2051.54 SF
Built up Area: 5439 SF
Construction type: RC Frame structure
Project Cost: ₹ 55, 00,000 (excluding interior cost)
Cost Per SF: ₹ 1016.03
Photography: Satyam Dave



Visit www.surfaces.in to have a look the projects in detail

RATADIYA'S FAMILY HOUSE

Client's Brief

The architectural requirement of this residence for joint family was of a single spatial volume for all the public spaces like, kitchen, dining and living areas. Private areas were to be separated from living place, at the same time the client wished for an outdoor space having connectivity from the dining room to the street. An existing semi tree located at the south-west corner protected the outdoor space & south facade from harsh glare and endowed a cool breeze. Carved wall with deep full size window at south facade helps to divide living and kitchen areas.

Concept

The residence was designed to provide an indoor recreational space with the dense foliage of existing tree. With various types of opening as per the functional need, inside-outside connection, and variety of experience remains the prime focus of the design. The entire area has been explored with linear alignment which concludes the character of the architectural form.

Context

The site is in prime locale yet a peaceful residential area on Marvada plot at Rajkot city. Plot boundary is having two-directional side streets. South side street is 40' wide road which has throw connectivity to the Gomdi Road. It also had 1200 sq ft of small temple at north-west corner that needed to be retained and renovated.

