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## People we love

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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*ELLE DECOR brings you more in-depth articles and insights into design, decor and culture. Introducing our special contributors*



## ANAND MENON & SHOBHAN KOTHARI

ARCHITECTS, MUMBAI

The duo initially interned with esteemed architect Nitin Killawala. It was here that they decided to partner for their firm ADND (Atelier Design N Domain) that has now been in the industry for over 14 years, covering residential, corporate and commercial spaces

**Home to me AM:** A state of mind that is free of pretense **SK:** An oasis in the ordered chaos we live in

### Designer/architect on my radar

**AM:** Studio MK 27 **SK:** Pitsou Kedem

**In this issue** Show us around the stunning Alibaug villa they imagined, in "Cool in the Tropics"; Pg 198



## ANUPAMAA DAYAL

DESIGNER, NEW DELHI

The couturier is renowned for her unique printing and needlework techniques on fabric. With a philosophy rooted in the organic, her main aim is to spread joy through her creations

**Design to me** The liberating opportunity to change the world, even if it is in the tiniest way

**Favourite monsoon dish** Curried and steamed Hilsa fish laden with eggs

**Secret obsession** The colour green

**In this issue** Details the bohemian forest homestay she brought to life in Haryana, in "Wild & Free"; Pg 126



## NEESHA ALWANI & SHRUTI JALAN

DESIGNERS, MUMBAI

Their practice n+s architects | interior designers was established in 2000. While Neesha's expertise lies in understanding the client's requirements, Shruti micro manages the project, with a keen eye for details

**Design to me NA:** The metamorphosis of an idea into reality **SJ:** Being creative, innovative and having fun with it

**Travel staple NA:** Google Maps and my camera **SJ:** iPad Pro and iPencil

**In this issue** Introduce us to Studio 23, the sustainable fitness centre in Mumbai they envisioned in "Alive & Well"; Pg 122



## SIDHANTH MADAN & VIDUR KATARIA

RESTAURATEURS, NEW DELHI

Sidhant is a former finance student and part time garment exporter. Vidur, on the other hand, is an engineer, designer and musician. Their common passion for food led them to launch Wok Me, an Asian cuisine diner in the capital

**Food to me SM:** Exploring cultures through the palate **VK:** What connects your mind, body and soul

### Favourite midnight snack

**SM:** Pizza **VK:** Scrambled eggs with wholewheat toast

**In this issue** Share unconventional noodle recipes served in playful ways in "String Theory"; Pg 248



## SONALI RASTOGI

ARCHITECT, NEW DELHI

She co-founded the globally renowned architecture firm Morphogenesis with her partner Manit Rastogi. One day, she hopes to physically build a structure with attention to every detail

**Design to me** A way of life, a process of thinking, filtering, observing and creating new realities

**Currently reading** Chronicle of a Death Foretold by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

**Travel essential** Thick lead pencil

**In this issue** Describes the making of The British School in New Delhi that boasts a unique jaali-like facade in "Screen Effects"; Pg 128



## MATTEO THUN

ARCHITECT & DESIGNER, MILAN

### Tribute to an Ultimate Legend

Every issue, we honour a design or architectural legend whose work continues to inspire generations, long after they've passed. Here, Matteo Thun pays an ode to Italian visionary Ettore Sottsass who was the genius behind the Memphis movement of the '80s, that Matteo also co-founded. Read it on Pg 264



## LIGHTWORK & SHADOWPLAY SCREEN EFFECTS

*What goes into planning and executing an architectural marvel? Sonali Rastogi of Morphogenesis elucidates how she gave the humble jali a cool geometrical twist for a global educational institution in New Delhi*



The British School has the tagline “International education with an Indian soul”, resonating with Morphogenesis’ philosophy of the co-existence of global and local elements in contemporary Indian architecture. Identity and morphology deeply rooted in passive sustainable design lead to its perforated front. Along with creating a sense of enclosure, it offers a dynamic play of light and shadow in the daytime, throughout the year. The jalis form a unifying structure to address the constraints of suboptimal orientations while being part of the environmental demand of the design. We also looked at reinventing craft where modules were cast using traditional mould and plaster. The modularity came out of a study of minimising the number of components, while lending enough diversity in the pattern for it to appear random (it’s essentially five units that repeat in different ways). The sizing for each came out of safety concerns – modules made of glass bricks available as infill panels. For the railings and around the courtyards, we used MS and a generous range of bright colour highlights. The key challenge was to achieve intricacy at a limited cost, so stripping it down to bare essentials, including the number of materials helped. What makes this building stand out is the reinterpretation of jalis in a unique proportion and magnitude with respect to sustainability, affordability, identity and lending a livable quality. ♦ **Sonali Rastogi**



Clockwise, from Top Left The British School’s exterior was mainly constructed out of mould and plaster; The facade is a contemporary ode to the traditional jali; Sonali Rastogi; Colourful railings that face the internal courts break the monotony of neutral hues; Minimum materials helped make this cost-effective, sustainable project come to life Photographs by Randhir Singh courtesy Morphogenesis