

# A+D HOTSPOT

ARCHITECTURE+DESIGN Initiative

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## VIEWPOINTS

### MOVE STEADILY WITH FOCUS

By **Anand Sharma**

*Founder Partner, Design Forum International*



Before the virus hit the world like a tonne of bricks, the construction and infrastructure sectors of India had been enjoying an upward trajectory. The sudden onset of COVID-19 has brought industry after industry to a

shrieking standstill worldwide. The architecture and construction industries have been affected as well; nonetheless, the outlook for 2020 can still be seen as promising. To start with, a good way to alleviate the damage and stay steady until the economy returns to a solid surface is to protect employees, job sites and clients from catastrophe, and then quickly implement the next best course of action. This would entail maintaining project management from a distance by enabling remote information collection and sharing, screening COVID-19 symptoms at the clock in/out, and utilising connected practices in architecture such as cloud-based solutions. The sheer audacity of hope to deal with the pandemic together has renewed the ideals of empathy, inclusiveness and the balance between our work ethics and family life.

### WFH: A PRODUCTIVE EXPERIENCE

By **Sabeena Khanna**

*Principal, Studio KIA*



In these stressed times of the pandemic and lockdown, WFH has been a relatively pleasant and productive experience so far. Architecture, being a creative field, is not bound by the formalities of a structured workspace. As architects,

we experience inspiration in abundance around us and our creative minds can have a eureka moment for an idea at any place.

Technology today is a boon for communication, interaction, data storage and even data security. One large design studio has been fragmented into independent silos that are brought together at the click of a button to let the team feel as one. Systems have been put in place to work remotely, yet be a part of a whole.

Team engagement via daily reviews enables the productivity to be measured and targets to be met within timelines. Flexible work hours are making working from home more enjoyable, as long as deliverables stay in focus.

Time spent in commuting to offices is being used more productively. Traffic on the roads will be much reduced if this system is to continue, thereby

resulting in a huge reduction of carbon footprint. Noise levels are low, pollution is history and blue skies is the new calling.

We're now able to pack in more in the given 24 hours each day than we could in the earlier scenario. In work from home situation, we can adapt ourselves to be as productive, at our own pace. Physical offices are now virtual work spaces. Large office inventories may stand to change forever.

*Photo courtesy: Neha Wattas*



Night skyline of New York, with a glimpse of the Hudson river on the right side, as seen from the rooftop of One Hudson Yard Tower - an eerie silence prevails these days.



*A constant connect with nature and keeping the inner child alive are*



*important keys to leading a healthy and fulfilling life"*

—Ar. B V DOSHI, 2018 Pritzker awardee

## APRIL-MAY 2020 ISSUE

Profiling the architecture  
and design approach of SAA



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## FAST TRACK ARCHITECTURE



New Delhi-based firm, 42mm Architecture has unveiled a unique and quirky pool house that breaks many conventional architectural ideas with a bold design. The house was conceived as a stand-alone structure to complement the existing house, without replicating it. It accommodates a consolidated entertainment zone with a home theatre, lounge, pool, changing room, a gym and two suites with dressers and toilets.

Kriss Real Estate, a design centric developer, recently launched its debut project 'Si-Oul Villas' at Siolim, Goa. The firm worked with SAV architecture, an international contemporary architecture and design studio, to create a customised villa that would focus on the architecture of experiences and immersive interiors. Sol (Sun House) is the first of a trilogy of celestially-inspired, architecturally-inventive homes. The other villas, which are nearing completion, are similarly named after astral muses - Lua (Moon House) and Terra (Earth House).



*Architecture is the learned game, correct and magnificent,  
of forms assembled in the light"*

—LE CORBUSIER



## UPDATES

### TRADE NEWS

**H**&R Johnson (India), the leading ceramic tiles manufacturer, opened its second exclusive experience centre in Pune. The occasion was also marked by the launch of its 'Smart Series' tiles, for which Johnson recently received the 'Superbrand' status in India. This showroom is thematically designed with product application mock-ups and is branded as 'House of Johnson Experience Centre'.



### EXHIBITION

**N**ivasa Contemporary in collaboration with Art Pilgrim Live presented 'Breath of Art', a collaborative show of 20 artists to celebrate art and its ability to connect from 16 January to 20 February in New Delhi. The show looked at re-energising a space with art that inspires, changes and forces one to think. The show was a visual odyssey that followed a rare presentation approach – taking art down the gallery walls, and integrating it into an experience.

### EXHIBITION

PHOTOINK recently presented 'IIT Delhi: A Modernist Case Study', designed by Chowdhury Gulzar Singh. It was a two-person exhibition by Madan Mahatta and Randhir Singh that explored the role of the photographer in relationship to architecture, history and time. Designed by architect JK Chowdhury and structural engineer Gulzar Singh, the project was a critical ground for early experiments in modernist architecture in the capital city.



*Architecture should speak of its time and place, but yearn for timelessness"*

**—FRANK GEHRY**

## VERSATILE PRODUCTS



### Finely-crafted premium floors

**T**he new Flexuous Chevron range of premium floors from SPAN FLOORS offers a visually-rich surface and variations in installation patterns. Available in a wide range of colours, it includes 20 designer floors, manufactured from white oak, ash and American walnut.

### Sensitive lighting design

K-Lite presents the efficient and cost-effective LED bollards that provide rotationally symmetrical illumination on ground surfaces. Featuring a photometric design, they are characterised by their high luminous efficiency, extremely long service life and uniform illuminance. These luminaires are available in Ø100 and Ø166, with three different heights.



### Statement furniture piece

**A**TLAS is a console and chair ensemble with a design that is aesthetically pleasing and functionally viable. The design methodology has been kept minimal and focus has been rendered to the geometric alignment of the console. The chair is bestowed with a metal finish called bronzo chiaro.



*Architecture is a visual art and the buildings speak for themselves"*

**—JULIA MORGAN**

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