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Inspiration and insight for architects and interior designers

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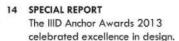


Our much-awaited list of gen-next architects and designers who, we think, will shape India's built future

AATIRA ZACHARIAS 1LEAPINGFROG, BENGALURU ABIN CHAUDHURI ABIN DESIGN STUDIO, KOLKATA AKSHAT BHATT ARCHITECTURE DISCIPLINE, NEW DELHI AMAN AGGARWAL CHARGED VOIDS, CHANDIGARH AMEYA KAMAT & TUSHAR JOSHI OZONE, MUMBAI AMIT & BRITTA KNOBEL GUPTA STUDIO SYMBIOSIS, NEW DELHI AMIT KHANNA AMIT KHANNA DESIGN ASSOCIATES, NEW DELHI ANJALI & ASHWIN LOVEKAR LOVEKAR DESIGN ASSOCIATES, PUNE ANKITA SWEETY & PRATYOOSH CHANDAN STUDIO AVT, NEW DELHI ANURADHA PURI & VIVEK SINGH RATHORE SALIENT, KOLKATA ATHIRA PRAKASH AAVISHKAR ARCHITECTS, KOCHI BEHZAAD NOSHIR KHARAS THE BNK GROUP, MUMBAI BHAVYA KENKARE ARCH-AID, MUMBAI GAURAV SANGHAVI & HARSHAD POTE PENTASPACE CONSULTANTS, MUMBAI **GOWRI RAO GAYATHRI & NAMITH ARCHITECTS, BENGALURU** JAYADEV K SPACE STATION, KOCHI KAYZAD SHROFF & MARÍA I.J. LEÓN SHROFFLEON, MUMBAI KETAN JAWDEKAR STUDIO K-7, MUMBAI MALLIKA & PRIYAL THAKKER VIBE DESIGN LAB, MUMBAI NAMAN SHAH SFERA BLU ARCHITECTS, AHMEDABAD NANDA KUMAR BIRUDAVOLU NANDU ASSOCIATES, HYDERABAD **NIKHIL MOHAN COMMON GROUND, KOZHIKODE** NIROOP & RUPANA REDDY NA ARCHITECTS, HYDERABAD NITIN PATEL STUPA, NASIK **OBAID & AFSHA HAKIM O&A ARCHITECTS, MUMBAI** PADMINI PANDEY STUDIO PADMINI PANDEY, MUMBAI PRAJWAL KRISHNA ARCHITECTURE PARADIGM, BENGALURU RINKI & MIHIR KOTAK 4TH DIMESION ARCHITECTS, MUMBAI SANYA DESAI IMPRESARIO ENTERTAINMENT & HOSPITALITY, MUMBAI SHIVJIT SIDHU APOSTROPHE A+UD, MUMBAI SHWETA B VISTAAR ASSOCIATES, HYDERABAD SMRUTI KAMAT & LESTER ROZARIO KAMAT & ROZARIO ARCHITECTURE, BENGALURU SOURABH GUPTA ARCHOHM, NCR SUDHIR PS GAYATHRI & NAMITH ARCHITECTS, BENGALURU **SUMIT ARORA DADA PARTNERS, GURGAON** VAIBHAV DIMRI & MADHAV RAMAN ANAGRAM ARCHITECTS, NEW DELHI

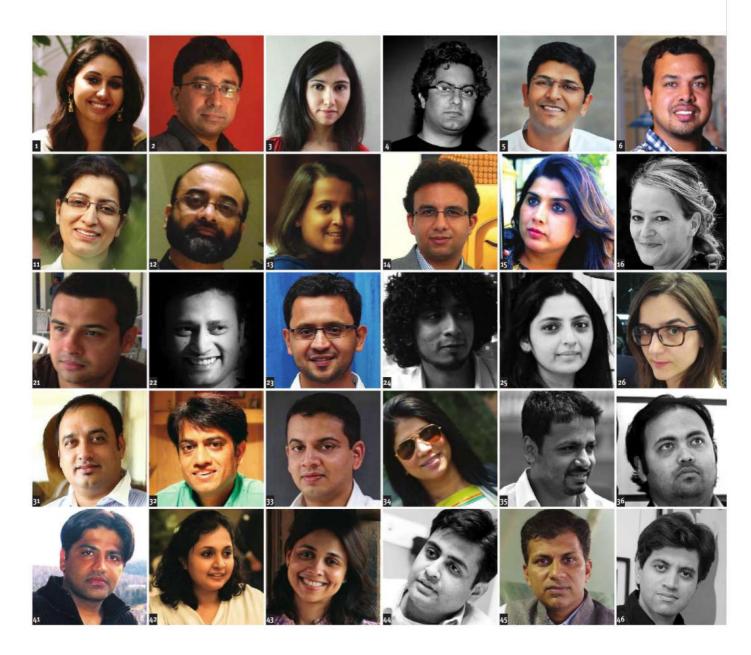


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## FUTURE STOCK

Our much-awaited list of gen-next architects and designers who, we think, will shape India's built future



### BY MARIA LOUIS

## CONTRIBUTORS: CAROL FERRAO, S. IYER, GAURAV SAXENA

nce again, it's that time of the year when we wade through a sea of information and images in our quest to unearth the ideals, inspirations and icons of India's next generation of architects and designers. We have consistently celebrated excellence in the Indian design fraternity, through the magazine as well as our networking initiatives. As we have done in the past, this eagerly-awaited iGen issue will unveil a fresh crop of Indian architects and designers who represent the energy, dynamism and enthusiasm that characterises generation-next.

Intelligent, inspired, informed and individualistic – these are just some of the many 'i's that characterise our youth. As a young publication conceived with the purpose of disseminating ideas, inspiration and insights among Indian architects and designers, we identify with this new generation.

We believe that the spark of their creative passion must be fanned to prevent them from becoming jaded like many older but not necessarily wiser folk are wont to do. So, we asked them to share with us the thrills and chills of their journey – the early inspirations and ideals that made them take the first steps, the signposts that told them they were on the right track, and the stars that they follow so they don't lose direction in reaching their destination.

As we have said before, while we continue to provide our readers with information to help create inspirational designs, we would like to give talented young professionals the exposure that will help them further their career. Through this issue, we showcase the sense of vitality, optimism, animation, creativity and essence that defines the new India.

Turn the pages to discover the torch bearers of the idealism, innovation and individualism that mark those influenced by the legacy of Steve Jobs: the iPhone, iPad, iPod... in short, iGen 2014.



## ANKITA SWEETY & PRATYOOSH CHANDAN

STUDIO AN-V-THOT ARCHITECTS PVT LTD





We try and create an environment for stories to take birth, where feelings are captured and a sense of belonging prevails - only to resonate through time."





t was a slow start for architects Ankita Sweety and Pratyoosh Chandan, who set up their practice in October 2009 in Delhi, with one small project of 60 yards and a monthly income of Rs4,000. "Our days were a monotonous cycle of opening the rolling shutters in the morning and rolling them down in the evening," they recall about those initial days. Then, in June 2010, they got another project... and that August, two more. "Now, in the fifth year of our journey, we have crossed several milestones," observe the duo. Studio An-V-Thot Architects is the fruit of those humble days, and has already earned merits such as Emerging Interior Designer of the Year, Era Fame Awards 2013, and has been widely published in India.

An alumnus of NIT Patna and country editor for the World Architecture Community, Ankita was drawn to architecture when Ranchi began major infrastructure development. For Pratyoosh, who studied Architectural Technology and Construction Management at the Rai University, New Delhi, it was the charm of the landscape of the capital city that got him interested in this field; and he went on to do his further studies in architecture at the University of Brighton, UK.

An-V-Thot is a hybrid of two words: 'anvit' (a Sanskrit word that means 'followed by') and 'thought'. "It is a studio followed by a thought. As the name suggests, we are always eager to, and strive to, define our endeavours in a thought-evolving manner," explains 28-year-old Ankita. With each project, the duo concentrates on the space within and beyond, rather than just the built form. It's about creating an environment where stories come alive and emotions are captured, they insist.

While designing a bungalow for a family of four on a rigid square plot, the architects came up with the concept of The Plus House. The project was perceived as a creation of rectangles within a square, with volumes and voids sharing spaces, overlapping and interchanging their behaviour. The courtyard forms a dense green focal point in the house, that is accessible from the entrance as well as the private areas. The 'plus' is actually two axes which generate four rectangles that go from end to end [of the plot], which facilitates a comfortable passage for air and natural light throughout the house.

Talking about the thrills and challenges of being a young architect, they disclose, "There are clients who are fascinated with our young age - but then, keeping their trust and investment at a secure level while making them understand the power of freedom that we need... is nothing less than an adventure." Another challenge is the right use of technology. "Life and work has become easier, but one should understand that getting the best out of you is not easy. I feel that young graduates should concentrate more on 'architecture' rather than just create 3D visualisations," recommends 29-year-old Pratyoosh.

PROJECT The Plus House