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A WALK THROUGH THE WORLD OF IIID AND BEYOND



rejuvenating
THE SPIRIT



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Rejuvenating THE SPIRIT

Wellness spaces are increasingly gaining momentum as more and more individuals are seeking relief from the monotony of daily life, the hustle-bustle of the city and the toxic effects of technology. Spas, resorts, wellness hubs and getaways offer relaxation and rejuvenation for tired urban souls. The key here is the ambience and atmosphere these places offer; the architecture, interiors and the overall layout of a site are of utmost importance in defining the wellness experience of a visitor.

Design firms and architects are experimenting and giving newer meanings to such spaces to offer apt environment for individuals seeking to relax, meditate or just spend quality time with their loved ones.

The following pages of this issue of INSITE entail various such projects in the wellness category that are diverse and innovative in their approach towards design.

A CLASS APART



Breaking away from the stereotypes, Sumesh Menon designed a salon that takes centre stage with its bold, minimalistic and functional design. Crafted with precision and panache, this salon is chic as well as opulent.

TEXT: Sukhman Chawla

PHOTOS COURTESY: Sumesh Menon Associates

The brief was to design a brand new European-style modish salon called "There She Glows" in the lane behind the Taj Hotel in Colaba that was to match up to the grandeur of its surroundings as well as be a statement of its own; and Sumesh Menon creates not just a salon but a piece of art. "Nestled in the back lane of the opulent Taj Hotel in Colaba, the elegant salon intentionally resonates the rich, classical look of its surrounding heritage structures such that it blends into the area seamlessly and yet stands out in its sheer elegance of design," quotes Sumesh.

Visually compelling and efficiently functional, There She Glows makes a stylish statement right at the entrance with rustic white brick cladding and sleek double doors. The moulding design on the doors hints at the rich classical style of the entire space. A petite lacquer finish black bench creates a welcoming waiting nook outside.



Minimalistic clean lines are a fresh concept offering functionality along with style



2. The floor, the wallpaper as well as the ceiling were customised to blend with each other and create a unique and stylish space

3. Use of mouldings impart a fusion classical style to the salon wherein the pendant light acts as the ultimate accent piece

Creatively used myriad black and white patterns are seen throughout the salon imparting a very definitive, distinguished and dignified elegance to the space. “A distinct monochromatic theme runs throughout the entire salon, right from the main salon area to the secluded facial rooms and even the washroom,” shares Sumessh. Entirely customised floor and ceiling designs along with custom wallpaper designs, all in monochromatic patterns, lend a sense of timeless character to the space.

Hints of the classic theme evidently seep into the space by means of mouldings of the product display and the graceful silhouette of the reception desk. A grand throne-like chair for manicure-pedicure takes centre stage with its quintessential golden studs and intends to make the visitors feel the royal vibe. “To compensate for the space constraint of the place, a charming bevelled mirror cladding was done on one end of the wall which immediately opens up the entire space to look even more



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statement with a mix of eccentricity and disseminates a celestial glow to the décor.

Sumessh’s creative thought is evident in the detailing of the minutest of elements and their meticulous execution such that the result is a gorgeously crafted, seductively luxurious design; whether it is then a residential, commercial or hospitality project, it inevitably bears a resplendent signature style of Sumessh Menon. ●

imposing,” adds Sumessh.

It is interesting to see how modern materials like metal and glass are blended seamlessly with classic elements like mirrors and rich fabrics to result in such a striking interior design all the while keeping feminine elegance in mind. Each piece of furniture is precisely crafted to match up to the grandeur as well as maintain the subtle chic style of the salon. A pendant light suspended from the ceiling makes a striking

Sumessh Menon Associates is a Mumbai based interior design firm known for high-end residence, villa and bungalow designs as well as various commercial and hospitality projects. With projects in India as well as abroad, Sumessh Menon has managed to be named among the best interior designers in the country. His distinct style and meticulous designs have brought him accolades across the globe.

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