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Inspiration and insight for architects and interior designers

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th Anniversary issue

iGen 50

ICONS OF TOMORROW

THIS BATCH OF INSPIRED YOUNG ARCHITECTS
AND DESIGNERS OF 2018 HAVE WHAT IT TAKES
TO CHANGE OUR LIFESTYLES AND CITY SKYLINES



APRIL 2018 VOLUME 10 ISSUE 01

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“NOW THAT OUR FIRST CROPS OF iGENS ARE FLOURISHING, WE CAN SAY WITH PRIDE THAT WE HAVE STARTED A REVOLUTION”

NUMBERS TO NOTE

April is the cruellest month, said poet TS Eliot in his masterpiece, *The Waste Land*. But for us at *Architect and Interiors India*, it is neither cruel nor a waste land. Instead, it's a time to celebrate a new crop. This month, our magazine completes 9 years of bringing to our readers informative and insightful articles as well as inspirational profiles and case studies. We mark this milestone with our 2018 list of 50 gen-next architects and designers – the 7th one so far.

Back in 2012, when we coined the word iGen to define the young professionals who have grown up on a diet of iPhones, iPads and iPods and are invested with the idealism, intelligence, inspiration, information, innovation and ingenuity to make a difference to our lifestyles through design, little did we know how powerful that word would become. Now that we have 350 iGens, and our first crops are flourishing, we can say with pride that we have started a revolution.

A couple of months ago, when I announced that our talent search had begun once more, our inboxes got even more flooded than usual with requests to consider founders of young firms and associates of established ones on the basis of their work. As usual, we appealed to senior architects as well as resident denizens of the new planet to help us, and the most exciting finds have been made through clues dropped by both established and emerging practices about youngsters with passion and potential. Evaluating these below-40 youngsters through an examination of their thoughts, works and deeds has been exhilarating.

Our exhausting but fulfilling task reached its zenith last month, but we are proud to present a sparkling lot of newly-minted iGens.

We have a diverse crop this year – young entrepreneurs who started their practice early on in their professional career, associates and senior architects from the leading design practices in the nation; we even have globe-trotters who are taking their design genius across continents. While they represent their time perfectly through their work, their design philosophy is still rooted in tradition and a genuine desire to pursue all that is good and worthy.

The significant numbers I have mentioned are reflected on the cover of this, our 9th anniversary issue. Check out the iGen 50 of 2018...and be amazed by their aspirations as well as their actions. Another number you need to keep in mind, is a date – June 22nd, when we celebrate this new crop with a day-long forum. Look out for the announcement of this landmark event, and do all you can to be there.

And now, it's time to celebrate – for a number of reasons!

Maria Louis, Editor
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BLUE STAR

PRESENTS

ARCHITECT
and INTERIORS INDIA



iGen

50

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Jaquar
GROUP

THE YOUNG ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS
REPRESENTING GENERATION NEXT
WHO ARE SET TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
TO OUR BUILT SPACES



ADETEE SAWHNEY



AKHIL P



AKHIL VK



AMIT JADAV



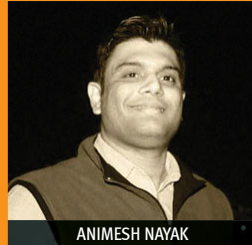
AMITA KULKARNI



AMREEN KALEEL



AMRUTA DAULATABADKAR



ANIMESH NAYAK



ARUN SHEKAR



ARUN TILAK



BABA SHASHANK



BADRINATH KALERU



DEVYANI GUPTA



FAVAS MOHAMMED K



HARDIK SHAH



HEMANT PUROHIT



HILONI SUTARIA



HUZEFA RANGWALA



JASEM PIRANI



JAYAKRISHNAN RJ



JESAL PATHAK



JOSHUA DAWSON



KETA SHAH



KRUTI GARG



LEVIN JOY



ICONS OF TOMORROW

These 50 inspired young architects and designers of 2018 have what it takes to change our lifestyles and city skylines

BY MARIA LOUIS



MANMEET ARORA



MEGHANA KULKARNI



MOHAMMED AFNAN



NEHIT VIJ



NEIL PAREKH



NIMISHA HAKKIM



NISCHAL ABHAYKUMAR



NISHANTI PANNEER CHELVAM



NISHITA KAMDAR



POOJA SHAH



POOJA CHAPHALKAR



PRERNA AGGARWAL



RAKESH KAKKOTH



SAKSHI KUMAR



SHARATH NAYAK



SHIVANI KUMAR



SHRUTI JAIPURIA



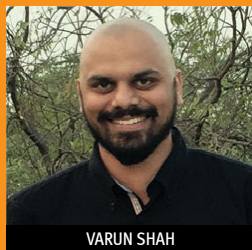
SMITA KHANNA



SUCHETH PALAT



SWATI GAUTAM



VARUN SHAH



VASANTH PACKIRISAMY



VIKRANT TIKE



VINAY SHIVOSKAR



VINDHYA GUDURU

It has been an exciting and hectic time at *Architect and Interiors India*, for we embarked on our annual mission of looking for the brightest, most passionate and idealistic young architects and designers in the country. Adding a celebratory flavour to our ninth anniversary issue this month, are the iGen 50 of 2018 – a truly remarkable bunch of young trendsetters. Trust us, we are not exaggerating when we say we have found some of the very best, surpassing even our own expectations.

What you will read and be impressed about in the following pages are the efforts of a dynamic group, spread all over the country, in pursuit of idealism, intelligence, inspiration and ingenuity. Strangely enough, there seems to be a common thread among them all. Names like Charles Correa, BV Doshi, Charles & Ray Eames...are cited over and over again as their design heroes. Sensitivity towards the environment,

commitment to contextual architecture, a simultaneous drive to explore technology and materials to produce the best design that's possible – there is no stone left unturned when it comes to creative exploration with this group.

We have a diverse crop this year – young entrepreneurs who started their practice early on in their professional career, associates and senior architects from the leading design practices in the nation; we even have globe-trotters who are taking their design genius across continents. While they represent their time perfectly through their work, their design philosophy is still rooted in tradition and a genuine desire to pursue all that is good and worthy. They take forward these noble aspirations while unfolding their clients' dreams and wishes into marvellous built forms that not only make for picture-perfect sites – but also extremely liveable spaces! Read on...

CONTRIBUTORS: CAROL FERRAO, RUPALI SEBASTIAN & ARUNA RATHOD



iGen2018

“Good design makes the user experience unique and memorable. A design that allows a user to connect, explore and enjoy the space”

PROJECT
ABC Emporio, Kochi.

ARUN TILAK & FAVAS MOHAMMED K

CO-FOUNDERS AND PRINCIPAL ARCHITECTS, ATMOF ARCHITECTS, BENGALURU & KANNUR

Passion towards design and the desire to make the surrounding [environment] a better, purposeful place was the primary reason that nudged Favas Mohammad K and Arun Tilak to pursue the profession. Both hold a degree in Architecture from Anna University, Chennai, after which they interned and worked with leading architects in Ahmedabad, Bengaluru and Mumbai (the most notable being Cadence Architects, RSP Architects and Nudes). Design icons like Toyo Ito and Peter Zumthor – “two contrasting architects” – have inspired them too, because of their work in fast-growing urban metropolises, the nature of materials they use and cultural roots that are significant in their work.

It was in 2009 that the idea to set up ATMOF (an anagram of their names) was born, but it was officially set up only in 2012. “We enjoy aesthetics in its evolution and in its true natural form,” explain the 31-year-old architects who, influenced by the unravelling of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, appreciate good parametric design technologies. They do not believe in a rigid pattern of practice – but rather, prefer to approach every project in a unique way.

The biggest challenge for an architect, they feel, is to strike a balance between the client, user, society and environment. “We are constantly experimenting with design and using alternate approaches,” they say. According to them, good design makes the user’s experience unique and memorable – a design that allows a user to connect, explore and enjoy the space.



Their most significant project is ABC Emporio in Kochi, mainly because it was an experimental project in program, design and construction. Its eye-catching form departs from the conventional retail and commercial image of the surroundings. This project also reflects the traditional craft that inspires them the most – origami.