

DESIGN DESTINATION: GDANSK

SPECIALIST: THE QUIRK WORKS

DESIGN QUEST: CRAFTTER

# HOME REVIEW

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## A LUSH SENSE OF CALM

FADD TAKES INSPIRATION FROM LE CORBUSIER  
AND PIERRE JEANNERET TO CHANNEL ICONIC  
DESIGN INTO A HOME

SMART WORK  
VIKRAMA ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN  
SOLUTIONS THAT SPEAK VOLUMES  
STUDIO HINGE

**KITCHEN SPECIAL**  
AN IN-DEPTH LOOK INTO CUTTING EDGE  
SOLUTIONS FOR OUR KITCHENS



The living room provides ample seating. The family worships the Indian god Krishna, signified by peacock feathers embossed on a panel, flanked by blue textured walls.

# DOUBLE DUTY

*A sprawling 10-bedroom apartment in Powai, Mumbai has been designed by Aum Architects to function as home as well as office. Additionally, the family wanted every room to look different.*

Text By Devyani Jayakar  
Photographs Courtesy Prashant Bhat





Yes. That's right. Ten bedrooms. With a brief that every room should look and feel different, Manish Dikshit, Sonali Pandit and Nachiket Borwade of Aum Architects have designed a 7300 sq ft home cum office by combining two apartments with five bedrooms each. The space now encompasses three bedrooms for the family, another three for the guests, one multipurpose room, a children's playroom and two offices - one for the father and another for the son. Using different colours for each room, the styles vary between classic, contemporary and Asian to create an extravagant larger than life narrative.

In times gone by, it was not uncommon for workspaces to be integrated with living spaces - maybe on separate floors of the same building, as in Singapore's shophouses. Convenient, time saving, they offered an easy blend of work with the leisure that home offers. Here, father and son can conveniently work from home as in yesteryears, without wasting time commuting in Mumbai's demented traffic.

Since each apartment had an L-shaped living room, combining them has resulted in a large C-shaped space. One arm of the C houses the foyer for visitors. Executed in pastel colours, it has a parquet ceiling, powder blue furniture and a sofa with a canopy, natural light percolating from arched dummy windows. The original flooring provided by-the builder has been retained, shunning unnecessary wastage. A curved screen offers privacy to the dining area further inside.

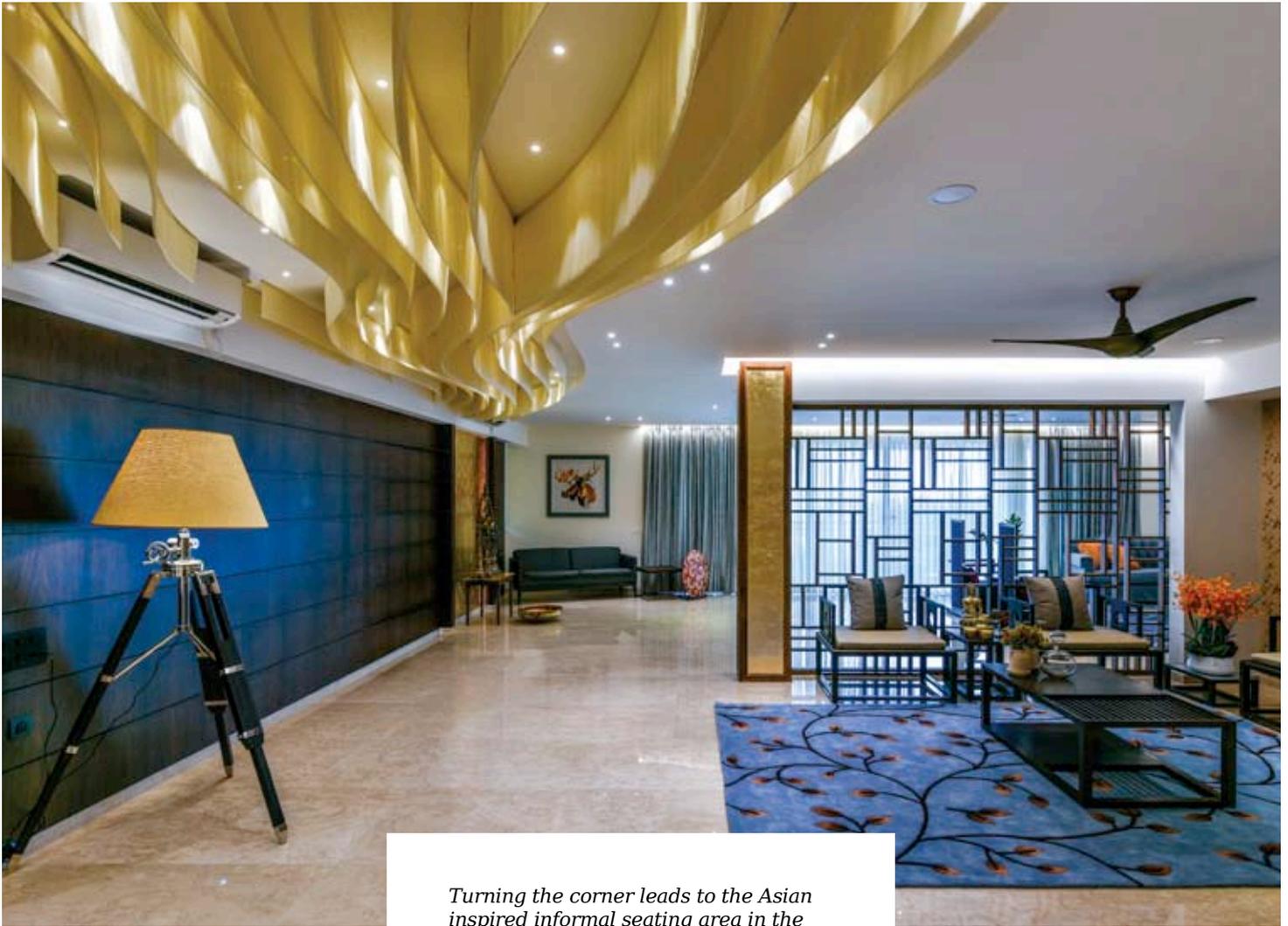
**The handcrafted teak dining table seats 10 and is crowned with a contemporary pendant light overhead.** "Customised on site, the table has been positioned at a diagonal to create better overall circulation. Lemon yellow chairs add a cheerful touch, while gold leafing in the niches between the dummy windows ups the luxury quotient," says Manish.

Further inside, the living room provides ample seating. **The family worships the Indian god Krishna; this is referenced by peacock feathers embossed on a panel which is flanked by blue textured walls.** The Travertino panel with laser cut peacock feathers is the focus of the room. The size of the living room demands a 12 tonne air conditioner. The balcony outside has seating on the wooden decking.



In the children's room for two girls, a feminine beige-pink colour dominates, making the gender of the occupants evident.





*Turning the corner leads to the Asian inspired informal seating area in the other arm of the C-shaped living room. The corridor has a fabric ceiling; detailed in both conception as well as execution as a sheer fabric with a weight at the bottom to ensure that it responds to gravity and falls vertically at 90 degrees. It is composed of strips which vary between nine inches and thirteen inches. 34 feet in length, these undulating strips are removable for maintenance as they are attached to the ceiling with the help of hook and loop fasteners.*

Each bedroom measures approximately 300 sq ft. Television sets are present in the bedrooms alone, while the master bedroom also enjoys a walk-in wardrobe. With grey, navy and gold in the colour palette, the panelled walls are in colour lamination. The buttoned headboard goes all the way to the ceiling while the underlit bed is seven and a half feet wide. The practical necessity of storage has been taken care of by providing it under the bed, although the visual impression is one of a light, floating bed.

The father's bedroom has a PU coated ribbed wall in MDF. Vermilion - his favourite colour - has been liberally used for the curtains, rug, sofa and the colour lamination of the shutters; however it has been toned down by more sedate walls. "The children's room, for two girls, has a four-poster bed and a seating nook with drawers under its seat. A feminine beige-pink colour dominates, making the gender of the occupants evident," says Sonali.

The first guest bedroom is in black, with charcoal grey walls and a tropical print on the cushions. Cane chairs recreate the feel of a plantation home, while the floral hand painted bases of the lamps take their cue from the cushions. The second guest bedroom is for the sister and her son, sporting a blue palette, a study table and wallpaper with geometrical checks. An olive green headboard is the focus of the third bedroom. "The family often uses this room for informal meals," says Sonali.

"The multipurpose room is used by the children for dance classes, while the playroom has a bunk bed and depicts a cityscape through its bookshelves and the detailing on its bunkbed and doors," says Nachiket. The puja room has concentric "ripples" created in wood on the walls and ceiling, with a white underlit onyx counter for the deities.

The father's office, a contemporary yet formal space, has a dark brown SHERA wood wall with inserts of concealed lighting extending partially onto the ceiling like a canopy. The son's office has artificial turf on the floor, its theme reflecting his entrepreneurial flair with a large poster recalling the recent "Made in India" campaign, with its lion and engineering parts.

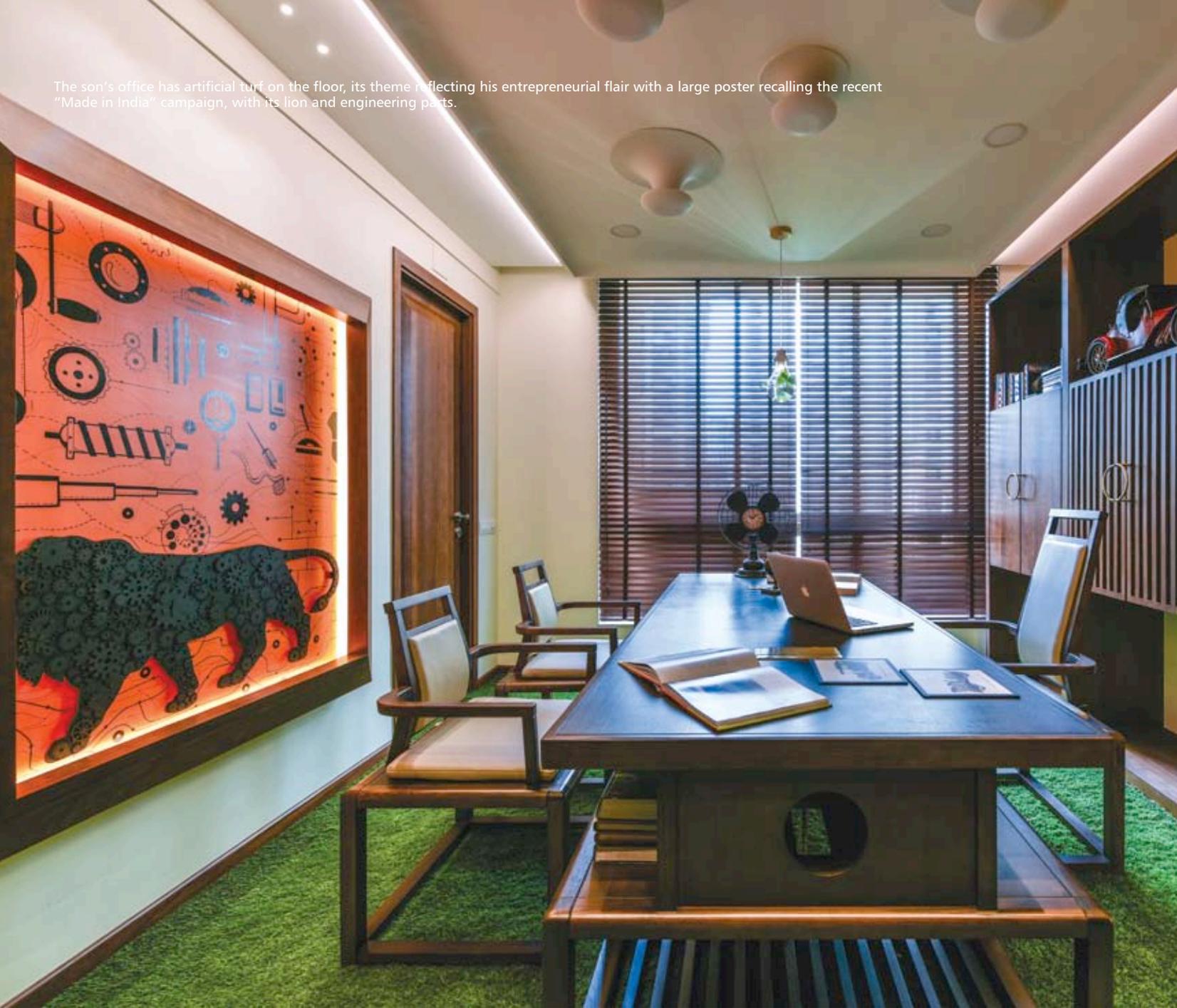


The master bedroom has a grey, navy and gold colour palette with panelled walls in colour lamination. The buttoned headboard goes all the way to the ceiling while the underlit bed is seven and a half feet wide.



This guest bedroom is in black, with charcoal grey walls and a tropical print on the cushions.

The son's office has artificial turf on the floor, its theme reflecting his entrepreneurial flair with a large poster recalling the recent "Made in India" campaign, with its lion and engineering parts.



*"With a multiplicity of materials, luxury and practicality have come together in this apartment to deliver exactly what the clients wanted," says Manish.*

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