







e designed this bungalow for a young couple based in Bengaluru – the husband, a successful industrialist and his wife, a talented pastry chef. They envisioned a 9,600 sq ft house that included a basement for car parking, four bedrooms, a home theatre, a gym and public spaces such as living, dining and kitchen sections facing a verdant garden. What drew my partner Amaresh Anand and I to this site was the mature foliage that was part of the surrounding streetscape. And, what attracted us to this couple was their trust and willingness to leave the artistic expression of the determined plan entirely to us.

## **ONE WITH NATURE**

The anchor of the house as well as its most striking feature, is a dramatic double height ceiling in the living room that culminates vertically in a sweeping butterfly shaped roof, orienting west and east towards the street as well as the garden. Walkways on the upper level lead to private bouldoirs and merge with the expansive volumes of the staircase shaft on one side and the living area on the other. Abundant natural light bathes this section, along with a series of skylights, while louvered operable blinds allow for controlled lighting and views with large expanses of glass on the east and west elevations.

## **BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL**

The great stretch of yellow Jaisalmer sandstone flooring is juxtaposed with the warmth of timber on the sloping roofs and polished cement on the internal walls and ceilings. A freestanding exposed concrete partition in the living area emerges from a sea of yellow stone and strikingly offsets a linear accent wall painted in a deep ink blue. The furniture is a mix of custom designed pieces by us, along with accents by brands such as B&B Italia, Gervasoni, Crate and Barrel and Moroso. Lighting pendants by Louis Poulsen and Ingo Maurer and canvases by Paresh Maity, A Balasubramaniam and Deviprasad Rao are showcased alongside vibrant work by our clients' ten year old daughter. Traditional Kashmiri carpets and tribal kilims add comfort to the floors and contrast the contemporary decor, lending subtle layers to the textured architectural narrative.

The bathroom fuses with the tropical outside. The basin and faucet by Gessi from FCML, cabinet designed by Khosla Associates and burnished metal and amber glass from Oma, impart a clean finish. Earthenware is from Hybiscus, Bengaluru Right While the MF Husain painting lends character, the cosy bed custom created by Khosla Associates and manufactured by Timber Works, adds warmth to the boudoir. The cushion covers and bed linen are from Shades of India

