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COVER STORY

HERITAGE RESTORATION PROJECTS

DESIGNER BOUTIQUE

Krsna Mehta

DESIGN TALES

Ar. Nejeeb Khan

CREATIVE PALATE

EXCLUSIVE



From a *dabba* to a *kadhai* and *ketli* artworks on the wall capture the subtle moments of life in Mumbai and India in general

a matter of taste

In a conversation with Vikas Bhadra, Ar. Pramod Jaiswal points out that the 7st by Mumbai Spices, a casual dining space in Doha, Qatar captivates the customer with a simple yet chic design

7st by Mumbai spices was designed to cater to the global Indian and spread the spirit of Mumbai worldwide. The brand has recently opened its new outlet in Doha, Qatar. The restaurant heralds the signature look of the franchise but gives apt attention to the location it is set in. Elaborating on the interiors Pramod and Divya Ethirajan, Principal Architects of Between Spaces, an architectural firm based in Bangalore says "The interiors of the restaurant draws its inspiration from the single toned colour of the desert sand inherent to Doha and Middle East in general. Our studio was approached to design this Indian restaurant post completion of the mechanical and firefighting services in the premise. The studio was requested to conceive a design solution which could work around the existing service lines"

The architect's effort was to design a space where the visual simulation will

match up with the native co-ordinates and define the ambience of the space. The tranquility of the desert resonates in the single toned timber slats, which add a certain sense of order and serenity in the space. The cost and availability of wood in Doha trumped other material possibilities; also supporting the argument was the fact that use of wood meant a faster rate of construction.

Akin to an office segregation of spaces in a restaurant is equally important. The co-ordinates of classification are dedicated spaces for families, couples, staff and the kitchen area. The seating arrangement was primarily governed by the need for catering to primarily a group of four or more. The idea was to ensure sufficient privacy for patrons who would walk in with their families without creating visual barriers or enclosed spaces. Hence, it was decided to split the lower level seating in two levels. The raised



Ar. Pramod Jaiswal



Ar. Divya Ethirajan



A cloud of spoon shaped battens were suspended from the ceiling creating an array of pattern floating over the double height dining space

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Suspended LED light fittings in glass jars add its signature charm to the design ensemble

seating was designed to accommodate a family of 4-6 and the raised partitions provided just enough privacy for a family dinner. A mezzanine floor was designed to host private buffet for a larger crowd. The double height dining space is separated from the main kitchen by a **Tandoor** display and service counter. Taking advantage of the linearity of the space, a more informal booth seating was proposed along the wall on the lower level.

The resto bar utilises vitrified tiles for flooring. Initially the architects were keen on using natural stone. However the most feasible size of the natural stone available in Doha was 2'x2' and it didn't augur well with the design scheme following which 2'x 4' vitrified tiles were used on both the levels. The flooring revels in the dynamism that prevails in this quaint entity much like the ceiling. A cloud of



The cost and availability of wood in Doha trumped other material possibilities



Chairs from Italy and lights sourced from Bahrain sync effortlessly in creating a quaint and ambient space for families and couples alike



“ At Between Spaces the endeavour is to make simple spaces but rich enough to engage and titillate your visual senses. The spaces needs to initiate a conversation but should not speak out loud ”



The arrangement of furniture maximizes the use of available space and also provides considerable ground for movement

spoon shaped battens were suspended from the ceiling creating an array of pattern floating over the double height dining space. Suspended LED fittings in glass jars add its signature charm to the design ensemble.

Though almost all the elements in this space looks custom designed the architects are quick to add that the chairs were purchased from Italy and the art work and light fittings from Bahrain. From a *dabba* to a *ketli* the artwork tries to capture the subtle moments of the Mumbai city life and the essence of India in general.

In the age of consumerism, when a lot of inessential parameters find its way into design and interiors, Between Spaces successfully engages the customer with a simple yet chic design. In the words of Pramod "At Between Spaces the endeavour to make simple spaces but rich enough to engage and titillate your visual senses. The spaces needs to initiate a conversation but should not speak out loud." 📍



A mezzanine floor was designed to host private buffet for a larger crowd



The space at night looks ornamented with golden hues of lights right from the exterior to the interiors