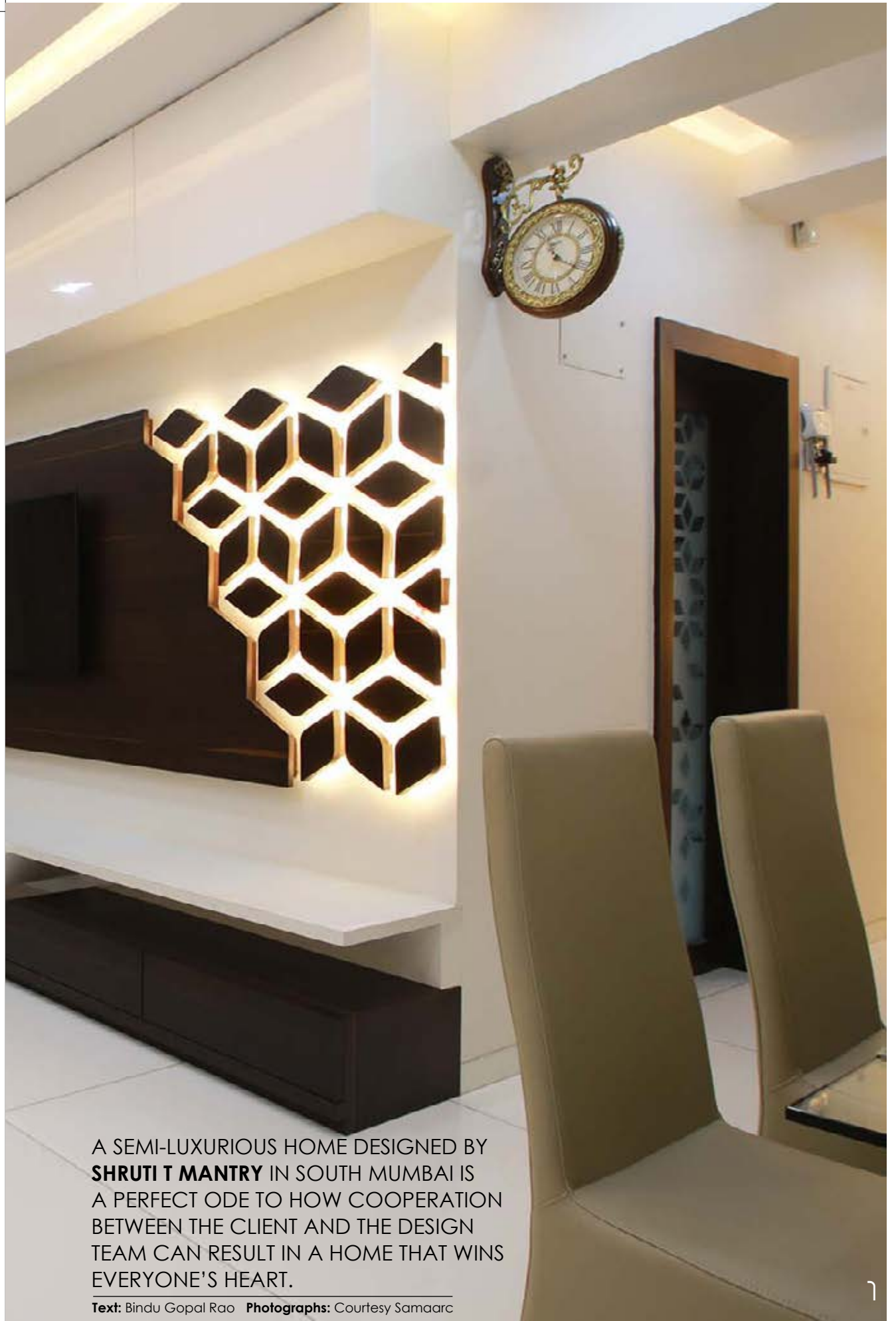


LIFESTYLE



A Compact HOME



A SEMI-LUXURIOUS HOME DESIGNED BY **SHRUTI T MANTRY** IN SOUTH MUMBAI IS A PERFECT ODE TO HOW COOPERATION BETWEEN THE CLIENT AND THE DESIGN TEAM CAN RESULT IN A HOME THAT WINS EVERYONE'S HEART.

Text: Bindu Gopal Rao **Photographs:** Courtesy Samaarc



Indo - contemporary drawing room with warm lit petals highlight.



Drawing room in harmony of parallel line with petal abstract form being charm.



This apartment, spread over an area 720 sq. ft., in Mumbai is designed by the young designer **Shruti T Mantry**, Founder, **Samaarc**. Designing a small space yet creating an illusion of spaciousness is a task where form and function needs to be balanced. This home does all of this and more. A petal abstract element is a common design element that runs through this home. The main passage has a petal form gypsum ceiling, which further continues on the adjacent wall.

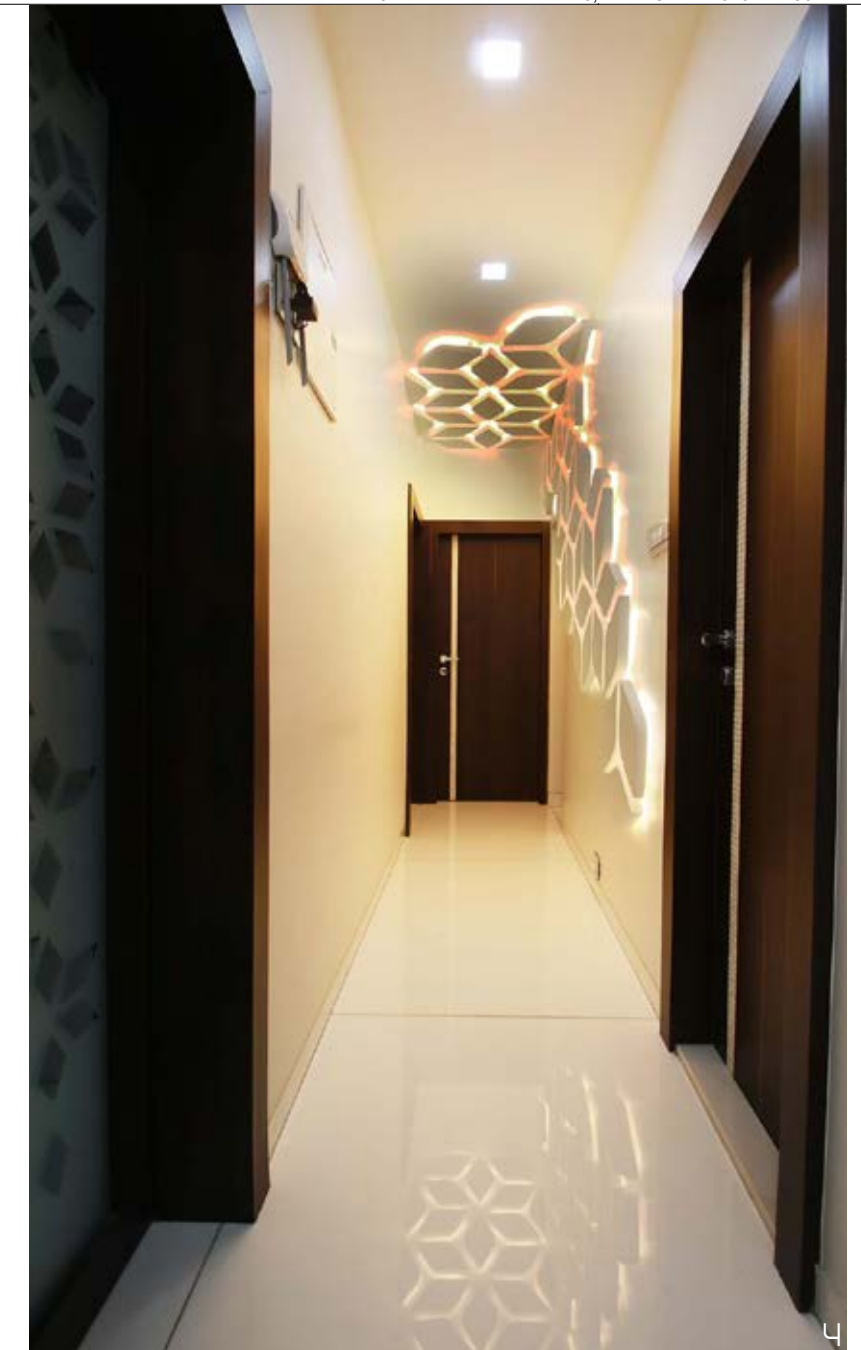
The kitchen glass sliding door after the passage has the same petal abstract design which is engraved on it in frosted glass. The petal element continues on the common basin counter storage adjacent to the other end of passage wall. The television unit has the panel finished in veneer and highlighted with backlit LED lighting, and the

same form is seen on the main door where the petal form builds up into half a flower. The safety door, which has an antique gold plated finish, also has the same pattern laser cutting and is fixed on frost acrylic sheet, which is back-lit and serves as light medium for entrance. Lights have been used intelligently to accentuate the spaces.



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"The Alabaster paneling done in the dining area, which continues in an L-form from ceiling to wall, appears to be beautiful onyx marble paneling (alabaster is a substitute for onyx marble, exactly resembling onyx) while in the evening it has a complete different charm of its own when it is self-lit," says Shruti.



"The parallel style kitchen dominated by white, provides ample storage, while the colourful abstract design tiles accentuates the otherwise functional space. Further, to make overhead units lighter, we made major use of glass profile shutter and used profile handles to give the kitchen a sleeker look," says Shruti. The kitchen storage shutters have been finished with pearl white imported acrylic material. In order to accentuate the space, light shades and mirrors have been used effectively and efficiently. "The dresser in the master bedroom has a full wall mirror. This helps the small niche space to look bigger and the full height mirror to the left of the dresser is actually a sliding door which has a small storage area behind it," adds Shruti.

3 Warm lit petals ceiling to wall emphasizing common passage of house.

4 Daughters room with circles breaking monotony of lines in shades of blue.

5 Master bedroom in simple browns and beige with highlighting golden fringe.

6 Sleek white parallel kitchen with colourful mischief of tiles.

7 Petals creeping onto basin storage to keep up with harmony of theme running in house.

The home is primarily done up in white, brown, and golden hues. Since the client's teenage daughters have a fascination with the colour blue, Shruti has used the shade liberally with different slabs of blue back-painted glass. "To break the monotony of linear forms in the bedroom and make it more interesting, we added a few curves in some furniture like the bed and dressing unit, even the ceiling was in a curved form. The main show-stealing feature happened when we designed the bed back wall with pop circular, placing them in random sizes to make curve out of it and colour it in same hues of blue, which were used on wardrobe," says Shruti. Wooden flooring complete the look in the daughter's room. PVC blue and white laminate has been used for all furniture here and all the wardrobes have back-painted glass as finishing material. The master

bedroom has a very contemporary look, with a combination of white and brown. "We have made use of mirrors wherever possible to create the illusion of bigger space, as the room was cluttered with storage all over. Even on wardrobe shutters and other storages in bedroom, we have used white back-painted glass which helps place look lighter even after ample of storage," adds Shruti. The biggest challenge in the project was that the client had a big requirement of storage space and the designer had to meet the same without making the space look cluttered. The drawing room has two full height wardrobe size storage units, one at the entrance used as shoe storage partially and one beside the television unit. Even the television unit has huge overhead storage and drawer storage, while there is storage, beside the dining table used to store table accessories too.



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"I made it a point to use storage units as design elements rather than giving them the form of bulky storage furniture, which I achieved by making different kind of display niches in various storage units and adding light to the same. The shutters and the body of storage has been done up in white to lighten up the otherwise bulky feel." The kitchen has white acrylic storage shutters and glass profile shutters with sleeker profile handles that also helps the space to feel less bulky. Keeping in mind the budget constraints, the designers substituted high end material with moderate rate materials, achieving the same look. This is a house that has beaten the myth that size matters – a small space that is as functional as is stylish. ■



SHRUTI T MANTRY

After completing her interior designing from Rachana Sansad in year 2010-11, Shruti worked with various designing firms for four and half years. This included a two and half year stint in Aamby Valley Sahara. She then started Samaarc in mid-2015 which she has been spear heading since. Her brother Jaynish M Panchal is also an interior designer and works as site execution head for projects.

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