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**AR. RAHUL MISTRI'S
INNOVATIVE CLINIC DESIGN**

PLUS

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MINIMALISTIC



ELEGANCE!

STRIKING THE RIGHT BALANCE BETWEEN FUNCTIONALITY AND DESIGN AESTHETICS **VIPUL PATEL ARCHITECTS** HAVE DESIGNED A DREAM HOME FOR **JAYESH CHOKSI**, IN AHMEDABAD.

Text: Kakoli Poddar **Photographs:** Peachart

The formal living room is characterized by neutral shades in fabrics and a customized pedestal lamps.

W

hen **Vipul Patel Architects (VPA)** was approached to design **Jayesh Choksi** 8,200, sq.ft. bungalow in Divine Highland, near Ahmedabad's Science City. The client had three requirements: first, there should be very little decoration (that was easily accomplished, since the designer is known for a minimalist style); second, the interiors should require little maintenance and VPA obliged them with the right use of materials; and the last and most challenging requirement was to create a cosy feel minus the frills and excessive ornamentation.

So VPA went about designing a contemporary home taking into consideration all the functional requirements. The energetic design team comprising of **Vipul Patel, Ronak Patel, Jinal Patel** and **Naiya Patel** designed a home characterized by simple straight-line, seamless design, at the same time taking care of the comfort and the aesthetics of the space.

The family comprises of the couple and their two children and their elderly parents. VPA were roped in to design this bungalow right from the construction phase of the building, hence, they got ample freedom to undertake civil changes according to the interior layout. For instance, the dressing areas and bathrooms underwent significant modification, as did the public spaces. They did make major civil changes with the common public spaces and their sizes.

As the architects were involved in the exterior look of the building, the material selection for the elevations also came under their purview. The generous proportions of the internal spaces posed a challenge. The architects say, "Our challenge was to aesthetically enhance the interior spaces, where the decor is cosy with minimum interior elements. We have used a lot of colours in fabrics and walls to create an illusion of a smaller space."

2,3&4

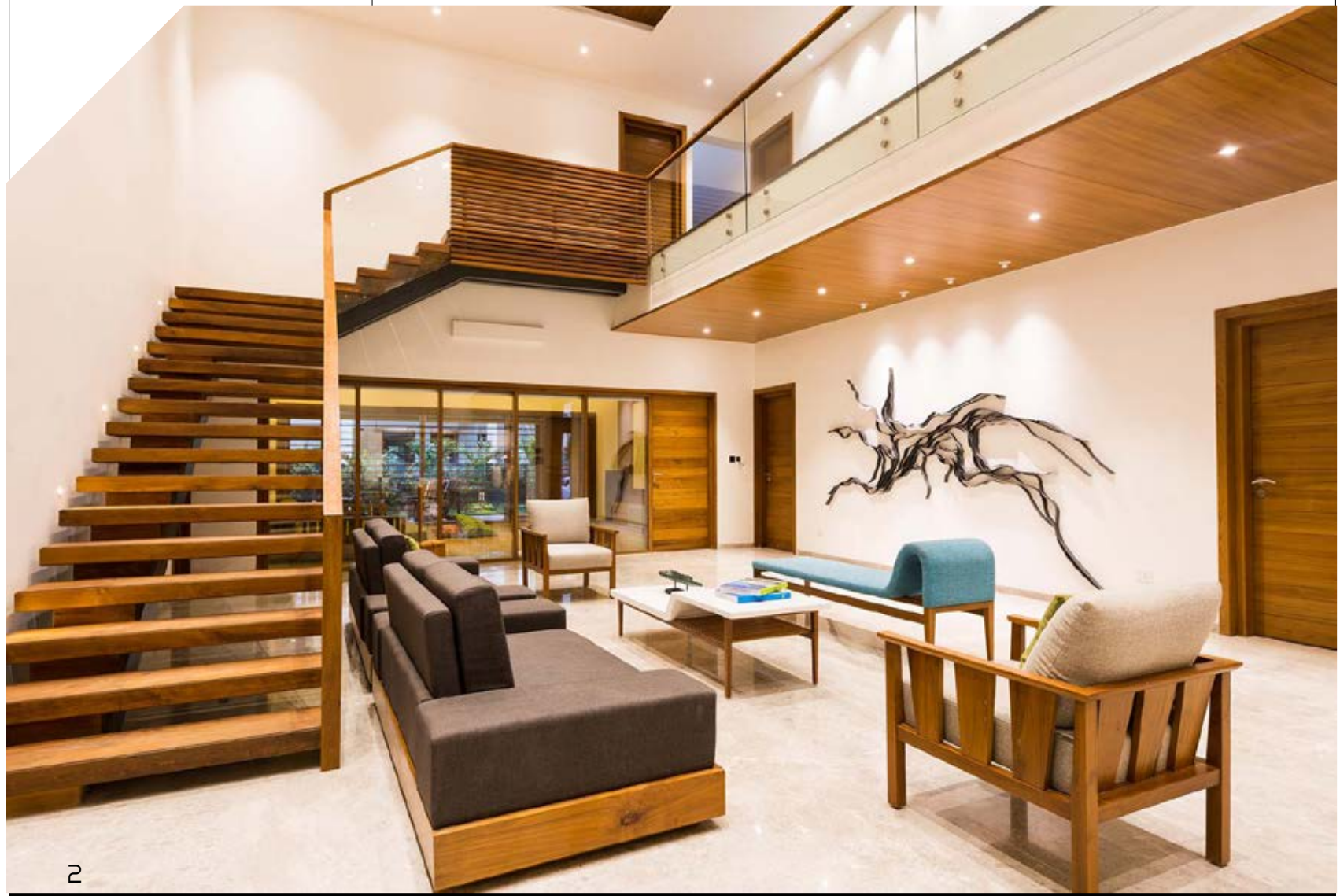
The double-height entrance lounge has a MS wall mural on wall that complements the neutral colour scheme with a tint of blue in the informal couch. Note the admirable space planning, the glass sliders can be opened to create a large multifunctional space.



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The highlight of the home is the soaring double-height section in the public zone in the entrance lounge area. This double-height atrium imparts a feel of grandeur to this home. The MS wall mural on the expansive wall lends an element of interest.

The furniture and accessories have been especially customized for the project. The designers say, "Every piece of furniture, decorative lights, wall murals that one sees, has been designed specifically for this project by us."



5



5
The minimalist master bedroom with its solid wood furniture. Shades of greens are added to give the room a more personalized touch.

6
This bedroom has an orange and greys colour scheme as per the kid preference.

7
Note the vibrant shades of yellow, blues and reds in the guest bedroom.

8
Dining and breakfast counters made of solid wood, which complements the shades of yellow and blue added in the otherwise white kitchen.



6



8

9
Solid wood breakfast counter break the monotony of the white modular kitchen.

10
The landscape backyard designed as an extended verandah, with swings and seatings opening into a lawn.

VPA is also the landscape designer for this project. The landscape has been divided into two parts; the backyard and the front garden. The designers point out, "The backyard is mostly designed as an extended verandah, with swings and seatings options in the lawn. The front garden has a lot of graphical play along with water features and sculptures to enhance a few corners and areas. The plants selected included fountain grass to strongly define the entry."



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11
The toilets designed using classic combination of marble and colourful mosaics.

The expansive bungalow has varied spaces as per the family's requirements—the entrance vestibule, puja room, formal drawing room (central living room double-height connecting all spaces), formal dining space with huge kitchen, common store & powder room, home theater, parents bedroom on ground floor with dressing area and toilet, son's bedroom with dressing area and a toilet, back and front verandah.

The first floor has the Master bedroom (suite room) with sitting lounge, sleeping space, dressing area and toilet, son's room with dressing area and toilet, common store, study and library room with balcony, guest bedroom with dressing area and toilet.

The bedrooms have colours schemes as per the resident's preference. The master bedroom has a green theme given the couple's liking for the shade. Same goes with the children's bedrooms — one has the colour combo of orange and yellow, while the other has a predominantly blue hue. The parents' bedroom is done in neutral subtle shades, given the subdued taste of the elderly parents. The guest bedroom has a vibrant shades or yellow and blue and red. In each bedroom, the designer has gone by the preference of its respective occupants. As far as the theme of each room, they have tried incorporating elements of the occupants' interest. For example, in one son's bedroom, there is a car mural, since this boy has a fetish for cars.

In keeping with the minimal simplicity of the design, the designers have kept the common areas more subtle with neutral shades of beige, brown and grey. At times, to a break in monotony the designer has used a dash of colour either in the form of a feature wall, mural or fabric. For example, green has been used in murals in the drawing room. Red pedestal lamps, a blue couch in the double-height lounge matches with the blue painting in that area.

This bungalow speaks of an understated grandeur, finely combining functional utility with aesthetic charm. ■



Ronak Patel, Jinal Patel, Vipul Patel and Naiya Patel

VIPUL PATEL ARCHITECTS

Vipul Patel Architects (VPA) was found in 1994, by Architect Vipul Patel. The firm has completed several projects in the field of architecture, interior designing, landscape designing and product designing. Now VPA has an influx of fresh dynamic ideas with the second generation architects of the family joining the fray -- Ronak Patel, Jinal Patel, and Naiya Patel.

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