



INSTITUTE OF INDIAN INTERIOR DESIGNERS

# insite

A WALK THROUGH THE WORLD OF IIID AND BEYOND

- 10 X 10 DESIGN CONSULTANTS
- DIPEN GADA & ASSOCIATES
- ARTHA STUDIO
- P.S DESIGN
- PANIKA
- DDIR ARCHITECTURE STUDIO
- INT HAB ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN STUDIO
- DIG ARCHITECTS
- A + S DESIGN
- OPOLIS ARCHITECTS
- A + T ASSOCIATES
- ZERO 9
- ROBIN MATHARU
- UNTITLED DESIGN CONSULTANTS
- SURAT ANJALI ASSOCIATES
- ARCHITECTURE & BEYOND
- ADJ STUDIO
- LAB LANGUAGE ARCHITECTS
- VARSHA & DEEPAK GUGGARI ASSOCIATES
- ARCHOIM CONSULTS PVT LTD
- PUJA SINGH NAHAR
- LOTUS
- THE ORANGE LANE
- CHANEY ARCHITECTS
- MINDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
- INFORM ARCHITECTS PVT LTD
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- BHUSHAN CHAKOTE
- THINK BNK
- KRUTHICA
- ABRAHAM JOHN ARCHITECTS
- USINE STUDIO
- MORPHOGENESIS
- NANDU ASSOCIATES
- SHREE GOVIND MAHAJANI
- VISIONARY INTERIOR DESIGNERS
- SANDEEP SHIKRE & ASSOCIATES
- REALITY SWITCH STUDIO
- PRAKASH JADHAV & ASSOCIATES
- R.C ARCHITECTURE PVT LTD
- VERTEX INC
- SUNIL HUMANE
- URBAN INTERVENTIONS
- TIGERILY BY APARNA
- NBZ ARCHITECTURAL CONSULTANTS
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- K.D.N.D STUDIO LLP
- HIREN PATEL ARCHITECTS
- CHARGED VOIDS
- GAYATHRI & NAMITH ARCHITECTS PVT LTD
- COLLAGE ARCHITECTURE STUDIO
- OCHRE
- ST TEAM DESIGN SERVICES
- STUDIO INFINITY
- COLLAGE ARCHITECTURE STUDIO
- OCHRE

## honouring INNOVATION

step into 100 ravishing interior design projects of IIID Regional Awards 2012

ANKITA SWEETY & PRATYOOSH CHANDAN



### COLOR CODED

### IN FAVOUR OF SPHEROLIT LENSES



AR. THOMAS SCHIELKE





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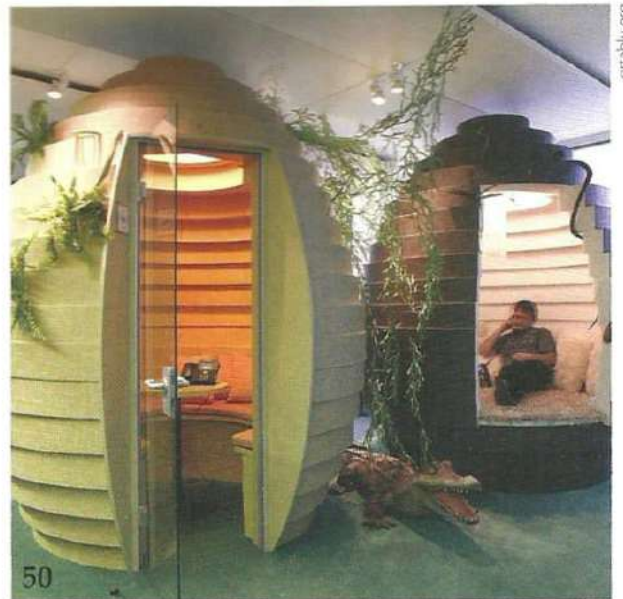
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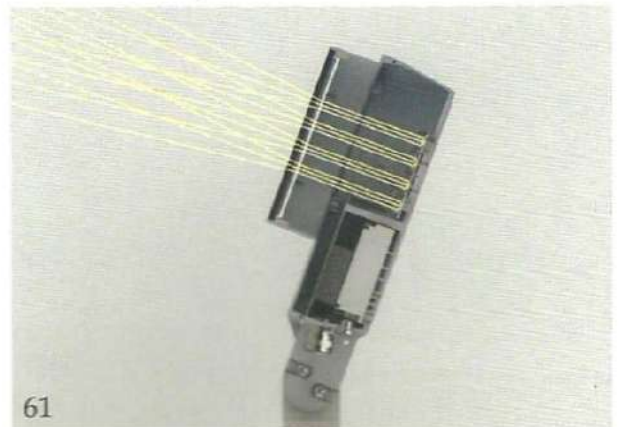
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# COLOURCODED



*Ankita Sweety and Pratyoosh Chandan of New Delhi-based Studio An-V-Thot Architects Pvt. Ltd harness the power of colour to make their workplace a mix of playfulness, liveliness, dynamism and seriousness.*



In 2009, Ankita Sweety and Pratyoosh Chandan set up their design consultancy, Studio An-V-Thot Architects Pvt. Ltd., in New Delhi. Since then, the studio has taken up and completed several architectural and interior projects of varied nature, scale and sizes.

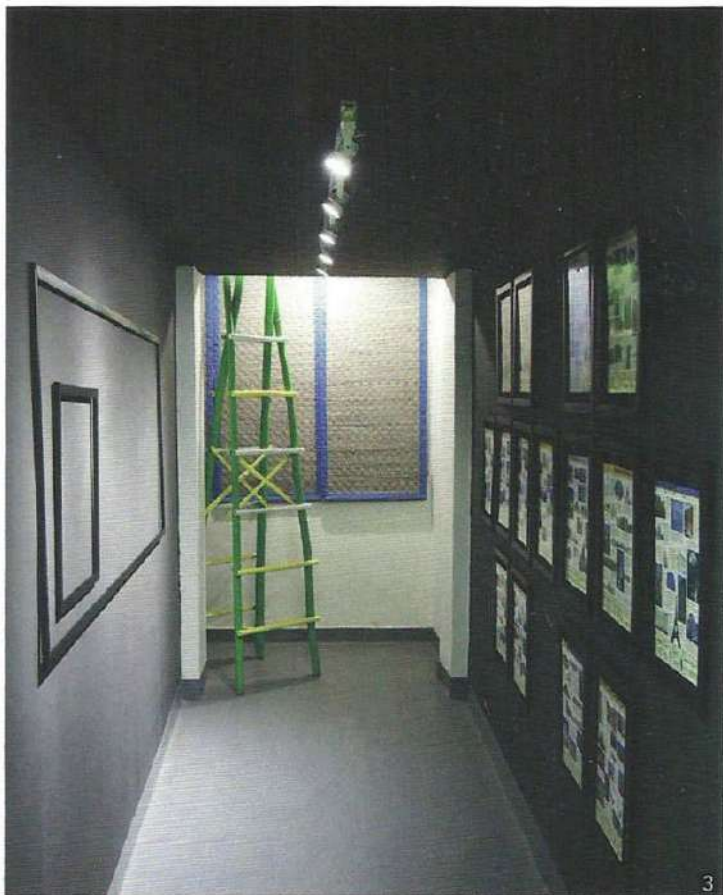
The unusual name was thoughtfully coined. "An-V-Thot is a hybrid of two words, anvit (Sanskrit) and thought (English). Anvit means followed by, so it is actually a studio followed by a thought," says Sweety. "Our name says it all as far as our philosophy is concerned. We strive to define our endeavours in a manner that ensures the evolution of thought," adds Chandan.

Sweety and Chandan have varied yet similar backgrounds. Sweety, who has a degree in architecture, graduated with distinction and also won various national and state-level design contests for students. A visiting faculty at an architecture college in Gurgaon, she also holds the post of India's editing member for the World Architecture Community. Chandan, meanwhile, graduated in Architectural Technology and Construction Management from Rai University. He worked with an established firm in Delhi for three years, after which he pursued his architectural critique, from University of Brighton, UK.

The duo co-created Studio AVT to provide design solutions that take into account the "space within and beyond rather than just the built frame". Studio AVT has a variety of projects, completed and upcoming, in its portfolio. These include offices, restaurants, factories, service apartments and residences. But the highlight of their work experience remains their studio, a 650 sq. ft. space in the chaotic urban environment of Delhi.

### The Concept

Sweety and Chandan were clear that their workplace would be an energetic space, one that made the most of colours and the available space. The challenge was to design and develop the space



within a very strict budget and timeline. They seem to have met it ably.

As the door opens, multiple frames of illusion can be felt and the spaces emerge as question marks, showcasing the inquisitiveness of youth. The free-flowing layout leads to the view of contrasting spatial experiences where directions can be felt through eyes. The first volume of space has a junior studio with high display panels to its left,

**1.** The design of Studio An-V-Thot Architects' workplace makes the most of colours and available space

**2.** A ladder acts as the floating member of the team – on shifting position, it adds depth, life and colour to any given frame

**3.** A dark corridor, with a play of light, acts as a display unit and serves as the contrast to the vibrancy elsewhere





4. In the Principals' cabin, the use of white furniture allows the spotlight to be trained on the displays

5. High display panels create an aesthetic environment and provide maximum display in the studio

6. Grey PVC flooring is used throughout the office, except the Principals' cabin, to provide a neutral touch

facing the library-cum-waiting area. The studio welcomes you with optimum and precise usage of the colour blue against a backdrop of white. It can be seen in the niche of the sunken waiting area, and symmetrically positioned pigeon holes for exposed display of books and magazines. Dark wallpaper adds contrast to the enclosure.

"The studio has been planned on a hierarchy system. This was achieved by placing a dark room in the centre, which gives birth to a junior zone and a senior zone. An imaginary path, created from one end to the other of the office, takes the visitor through various volumes of spatial experiences," says Chandan. The third zone is created in the rear-most area for services without disturbing the rest of the workspace and workflow.

#### A Burst of Colour

The "boxes of colours" were brought to life with an intention to break free from conventional storage design, in an expression to explode with harmony, balance and colour. "The space acts as a

display for project models and works as a model in itself," explains Sweety. Casual seating helps the space act as a transitional area and serves as the focal point.

The space next to the dark room acts as the "Senior Studio". High display panels create an aesthetically pleasing environment while providing the maximum display. This area also works as a discussion/conference area. The "ladder" behaves as the floating member of the team – it has the flexibility to change its position and dramatically add depth, life and colour to any given frame.

#### Fact File

**Project:** Design studio

**Location:** New Delhi

**Area:** 650 sq. ft.

**Site In-charge:** Nitish Kumar  
**Turnkey Consultants:** Mehta Enterprises

**Duration:** 45 days

**Completion:** June 2012

**Cost of Project:** Rs. 7,50,000



The exhibition space is developed with a dropped-down ceiling to break proportions and give a dramatic effect to the whole area. This dark corridor, with a play of light, acts as a display unit and serves as the contrast to the vibrant playfulness elsewhere.

The Principals' cabin – a mix of youthfulness and authority – overlooks the rest of the office. "This was achieved through the use of low saturated colors with a single small box of yellow to intentionally break the attitude," says Sweety. The use of white furniture was to give importance to the vibrancy of displays all around. Apart from three visitor chairs, the linear and elongated seating serves the basic necessity of multiple visitors while increasing depth.

### Juxtaposition of Materials

The selection and placement of various materials were dependent on two main criteria: Hierarchy of importance, and colour, texture and reflectivity.

Grey PVC flooring is used throughout the office, except the Principals' cabin, to add neutrality and balance the vibrancy of the studio. Wooden laminate flooring is used in the main cabin. A large amount of MDF finished with German-based PU Pigment Paint has been used. It has the quality to devoid wood completely of its appearance and brings in reflectivity and shine to the surface. This leads to a dramatic environment with the play of shadows, light and reflection. Dark wallpapers can be thematically seen at various intervals. Gypsum board partitions and false ceilings were used to cater to time constraints. Glass is also used for partitions that provide privacy while still managing to retain lightness and transparency.

A lot of light had to be used to create the dynamic ambience, so LEDs were an obvious choice for their low-energy consumption quality. Low-density fibre boards with a selection of fabrics were used for display panels. The blinds were



procured from various road side vendors with high quality craftsmanship.

"Our studio is a designer's expression of life within boundaries, where colours add a playfulness so as to give freedom for thoughts and ideas to take birth and evolve with an intention of positivity," says Chandan. "In a city that drains you with its clusters, traffic, noise and where workplaces are limited by scarcity of space and air; this place is alive. You can feel the energy," ends Sweety. ●

*Our studio is a designer's expression of life within boundaries, where colours add a playfulness so as to give freedom for thoughts*