



## THE BUTTERFLY HOUSE

*Architectural Design for a Residential Bungalow*

Client:	Dr Kalpesh Jain & Dr Sonal Jain
Site Location:	23/A, Gurukrupa Society, Ghod dod Road, Surat- 395007
Plot Area:	2520 sq ft/ 235 sq m
Construction Area:	5160 sq ft/ 480 sq m
Cost of Project:	Confidential
Year of Completion:	2012
Services:	Architecture, Interior Design, MEP Integration, Landscape, Artworks
Firms Involved:	EssTeam, Oblique

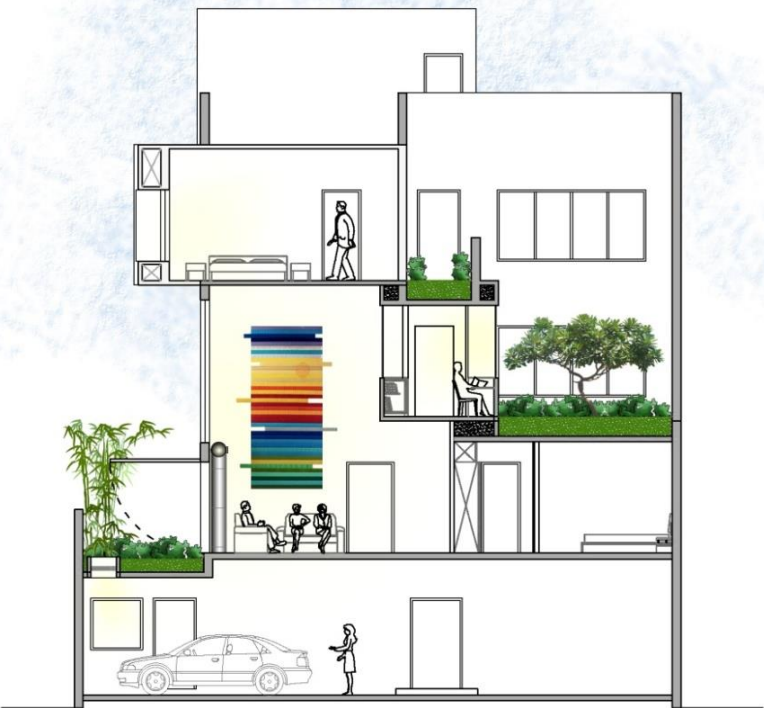


## THE PROJECT:

The resident family is a reputed doctor couple with high ambition to live their life at the pace of today's progressive world, at the same time he is a huge biking fan. They wanted to live their life amongst nature as well as today's modern facilities against comparatively small land that they own. The desire to achieve the dream and wish, we the designers triggered ourselves to achieve the milestone with the hurdles to overcome.

## THE SITE:

The site is located in a gated residential society with narrow 20 feet wide access road, and semi detached houses sharing one common wall with the neighbor. The context for the residence was what our immediate physical contexts today usually are: uninspiring and banal. So, we latched onto the best prospective contextual influence we could find, all around us- nature.



## THE NATURAL EFFERVESCENCE

This single-family residence had an interesting requirement- the desire to live with and within nature, to have a garden on each floor- to accomplish which, the clients were even ready to sacrifice room sizes and internal volumes. What resulted through these ever-inquisitive dialogues with the clients was what we fondly call the “Butterfly House”, where we generated an astute synergy between material aspirations and natural vibrancy. And yes, there’s a garden on each floor, full of butterflies and a belief that dreams do come true.



While the house incorporates nature as the quintessential contextual feature for a conceptual generation of its architecture, there is simultaneously an apparent composition of materials, textures, functional integrity, and spatial expressiveness and vitality within. The light falling on exposed concrete walls, the serenely ascending fabricated staircase and the double volume are respectively reminiscent of a veracity, sensuousness and liberty so abundant in the natural environment.





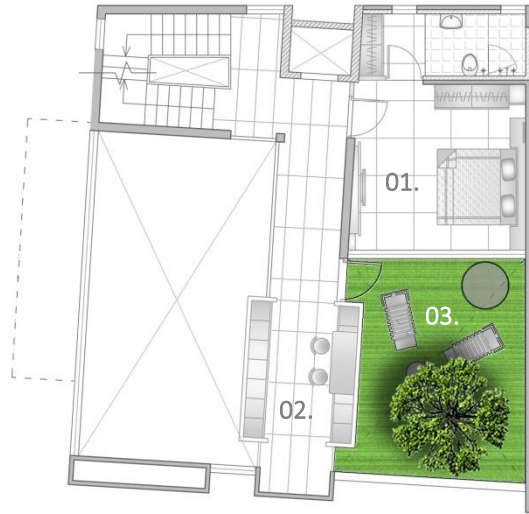
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

- 01. Parking
- 02. Servant Room
- 03. Central Store
- 04. Service Areas
- 05. Entrance Foyer
- 06. Home Theatre/ Multipurpose Room
- 07. Living Area
- 08. Dining Area
- 09. Kitchen and Utility
- 10. Guest Bedroom
- 11. Garden Space



FIRST FLOOR PLAN





- 01. Parent's Bedroom
- 02. Central Library
- 03. Garden- 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
- 04. Daughter's Bedroom
- 05. Master Bedroom
- 06. Garden- 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

SECOND FLOOR PLAN



THIRD FLOOR PLAN







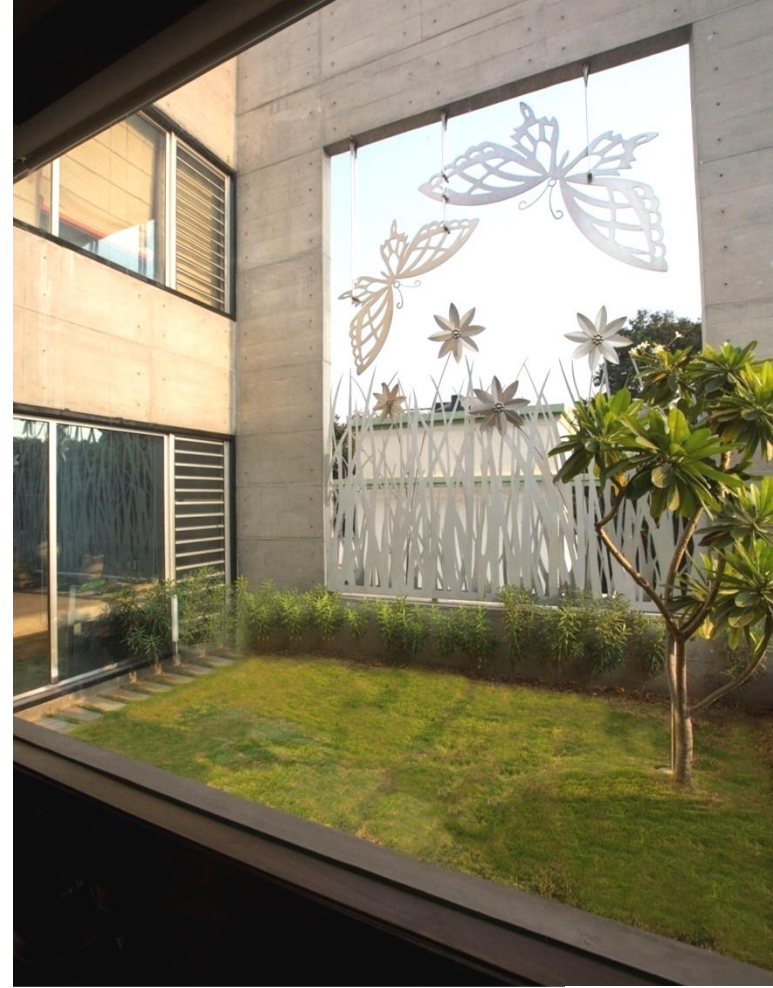
Since the clients were so keen to incorporate gardens on every level, we decided to virtually bring them in, through large fenestration, ample daylight and gardens overlooking each other. The clients desired cross ventilation and natural daylight thereby we modulated the design to take care of the climate, where we scooped out the south- west block brought in south- west winds and enough daylight in order to keep the interiors cool and naturally lit. In order to reduce the heat, roof gardens are provided at all the levels. They provide shade and remove heat from the air, reducing temperatures of the roof surface and the surrounding area. Therefore, the gardens act as insulators for the interiors, improving indoor comfort.

## THE SOUTH- WEST BLOCK AND HEAT ISLAND EFFECT





GARDENS AT VARIOUS LEVELS







CONCRETE



POLISHED KOTAH  
STONE



STAINED TEAK  
WOOD



STAINLESS STEEL



ALUMINIUM



GLASS

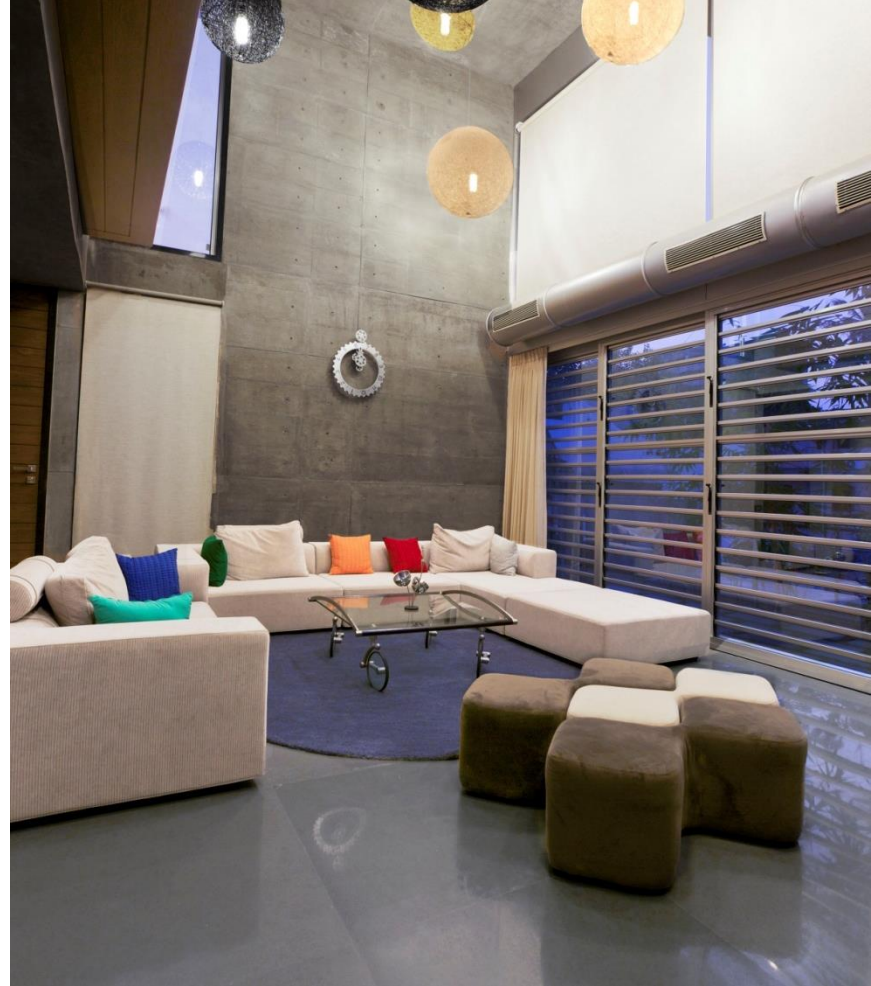


YELLOW  
TRAVERTINE STONE

The material palette swears to be very basic in nature. The walls and ceiling are bare RCC with the walls capturing the textured sunlight. The floor is immaculately matched 1 m x 1 m Polished Kotah Stone. Stained teak wood, stainless steel, glass and aluminum- all in their natural form are carefully crafted to create the furniture, railings and the fenestrations. To enliven the neutral material palette, vibrant and energetic colors have been splashed through soft furnishings like the tapestry, bed cover and window coverings.



01. ENTRANCE



02. LIVING AREA





02. LIVING AND DINING AREA











05. PARENT'S BEDROOM







07. MASTER BEDROOM





08. DAUGHTER'S BEDROOM



08. DAUGHTER'S BEDROOM



We needed to provide a protection grill at the common wall with the neighbor's house which was an important part because the entire main element of the Butterfly house came forth due to the same and moreover, security purposes.

## THE NEIGHBOUR'S WALL

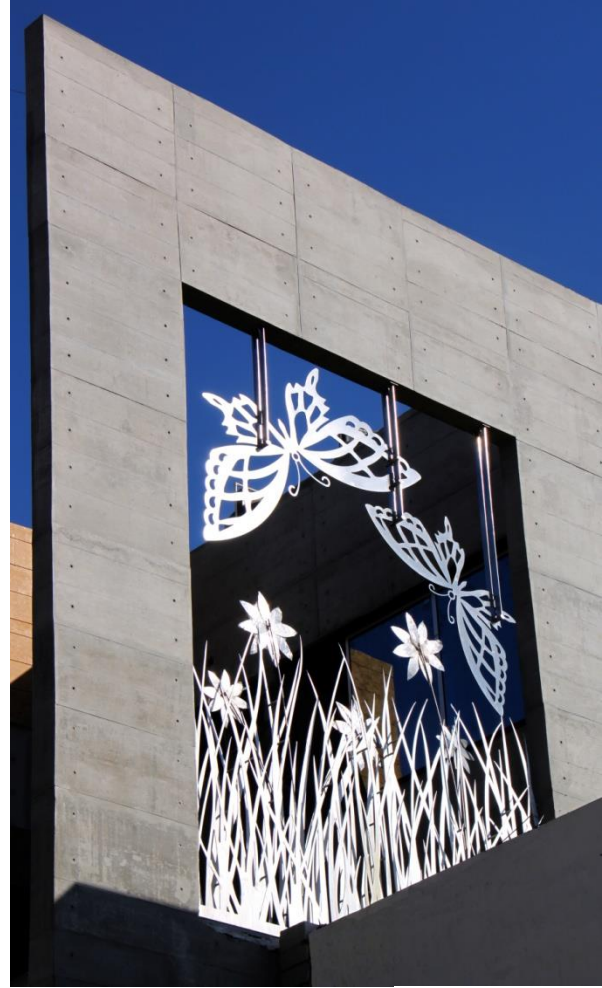






What began as a functional requirement of providing security, ended up becoming a feature that has given the house its identity. The huge 3.6 m wide by 5 m high opening in the concrete wall along the garden on the second floor was to incorporate something that would not allow anyone to cross over into the garden from the terrace of the adjoining house. Instead of providing a regular 'security grill', the art designer took inspiration from what one sees commonly in a garden – grass, flowers and butterflies, enlarged their scale manifold, and created a wonderful composition of grass with flowers emerging from it and two huge butterflies suspended from the top as if hovering on the flowers. The artwork is made using aluminium and stainless steel. The strategic location of the feature as well as the scale and material of the artwork itself ensures that it is visible to everyone passing by the main road, which has given an identity and association to the house. Similarly the butterfly theme is carried forward in the name plate- 'Khwahish'.

## ARTWORKS- 'THE BUTTERFLY JAALI'





ARTWORKS- 'KHWAHISH'



The following artwork is a beautiful play of hues reflecting the five elements- Earth, Water, Fire, Air and Ether. Various colours describe the five different elements. All elements originate from ether. Ether moves to become air, air causes friction to become fire, fire becomes water as it becomes denser, water becomes earth as it coagulates. And all five elements are contained in the Earth.

## ARTWORKS- 'FIVE ELEMENTS'







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