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CREATIVE Pursuit

WHEN **ANJU** AND **ASHWIN LOVEKAR** AGREED TO DESIGN THE RESIDENCE OF **ANIRUDDHA** AND **APARNA JOAG**, THEY AIMED TO MAINTAIN THE FEELING OF OPENNESS AND CONTINUOUS SPACE. *CITADEL* TAKES A LOOK.



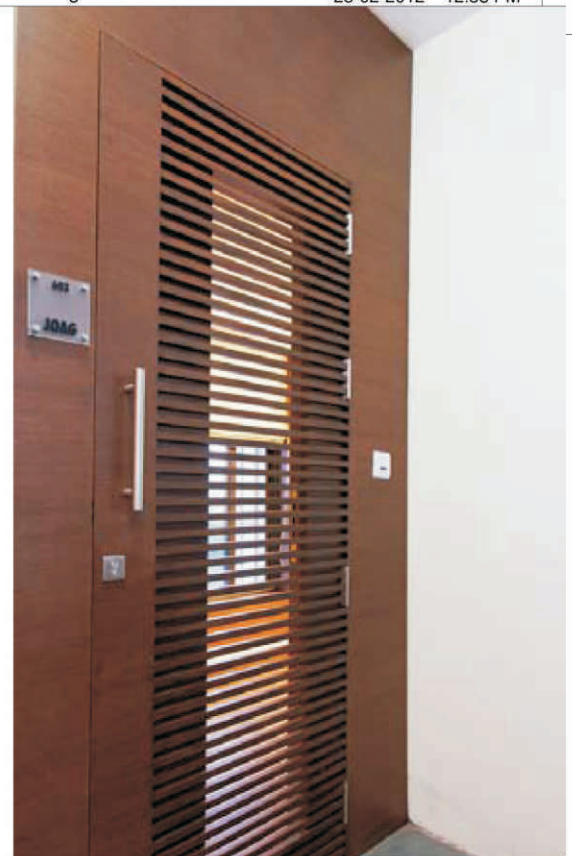
By Nita Deshmukh > nita.citadel@gmail.com

Anju and Ashwin Lovekar of Lovekar Design Associates are known names in the field of interiors and architecture. Ashwin speaks about his project in great details and with much enthusiasm.

"The client came to us at the initial stage of the project when the apartment was under construction. The internal walls were not yet in place and hence we could suggest changes in the layout. As an outcome of this liberty, the living, dining and kitchen area was freed of internal walls, which gave us an opportunity to create multi-use cabinets/ dividers in between the spaces. The divider unit between the living area and the kitchen is hence a multi-use cabinet, which can be used from both sides. It incorporates a book unit, CD storage and a bar from the living area, while it acts like a crockery unit from the dining area and appliances storage from the kitchen. Similarly, the toilet layouts have been changed to make them more spacious than the earlier layout," elaborates Ashwin.

The residence of Joags is a celebration of creativity. The open spaces bring freshness and zest to the house. To strike a balance, they have used dark flooring and light walls. End to end wardrobes in the master bedroom are made to look like panelling. The door to the toilet, door to the terrace and cosmetic storage is hidden in the panelling too. Floor to ceiling mirrors have been used to enhance the feeling of space. "We wanted to maintain a feeling of openness and continuous space while designing the project. As a result, all storages, wardrobes, etc, have been blended with the adjacent areas and do not shout for attention. While designing an apartment, the main challenge is to





use the floor space optimally, but at the same time give maximum storage to the client. As explained earlier, the storages were made to look like panelling, thus eliminating the feeling of a having a lot of cabinets and storages in the apartment," explains Ashwin.

Fine care has been taken to compliment necessities with luxury. The usually unsightly electrical distribution box in the passage has been cleverly hidden by a panel painted by the designers.

The guest room of the house is small. However a large mirror has been used as panelling, thus doubling up and enhancing the space. The wardrobes here have been painted white to add to the feeling of openness.

All in all, it is sure to remain a house that the Joags will cherish for years to come, and turn their friends and neighbours green with envy. ◀

Clients/ Residence of: Aniruddha & Aparna Joag
Place: Patwardhan Baug, Pune
Area: 1300 sq ft
Architects & Interior Designers: Lovekar Design Associates, Anju & Ashwin Lovekar
Photographs: Hemant Patil