

FAMILY

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INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

BABURAO MHATRE GOLD MEDAL 2024

PRESENTED TO

PROF. CHRISTOPHER CHARLES BENNINGER Ph.D. (HC)

Dear Reader,
Warm greetings from Team MRP Publications!

I feel glad to present you the latest issue of **Family Interiors**.

Right off the bat is the coverage of Prof. Christopher Benninger's felicitation by IIA, honouring him with the 'Baburao Mhatre Gold Medal 2024', which is ostensibly the highest accolade in the field of Architecture. The cover story chronicles Prof. Benninger's inspired journey, his numerous accomplishments, and his invaluable contribution to the realm of Indian architecture.

Flip through the subsequent pages and you will discover a showcase of select projects. Each article is inspired by a new benchmark; every story reveals the passion and proficiency of professionals who pushed the limits of excellence to create something extraordinary.

The SSPU article brings out the architectural firm's innovative thinking that resulted in crafting a world class landmark for a prestigious educational institution.

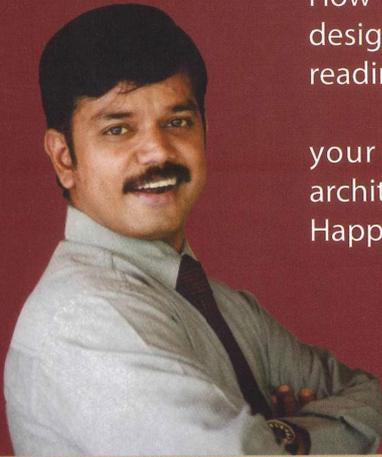
Ar. Babu Reddy's distinctive and rather radical approach to interior design perhaps holds a lesson for young, aspiring professionals who think technology is the panacea for everything.

Ar. Hemant Mahajan's coverage brings out his passion for urban heritage conservation. This article also highlights how his spirited efforts have resulted in preserving and protecting several heritage sites in a culturally vibrant city like Pune.

How furniture entrepreneur Viral Veera and his talented family members designed their own 'home, sweet home' indeed makes for interesting reading.

The issue is packed with many more lively stories that will enrich your knowledge about the ever-evolving and exciting milieu of architecture and interior design.

Happy reading!



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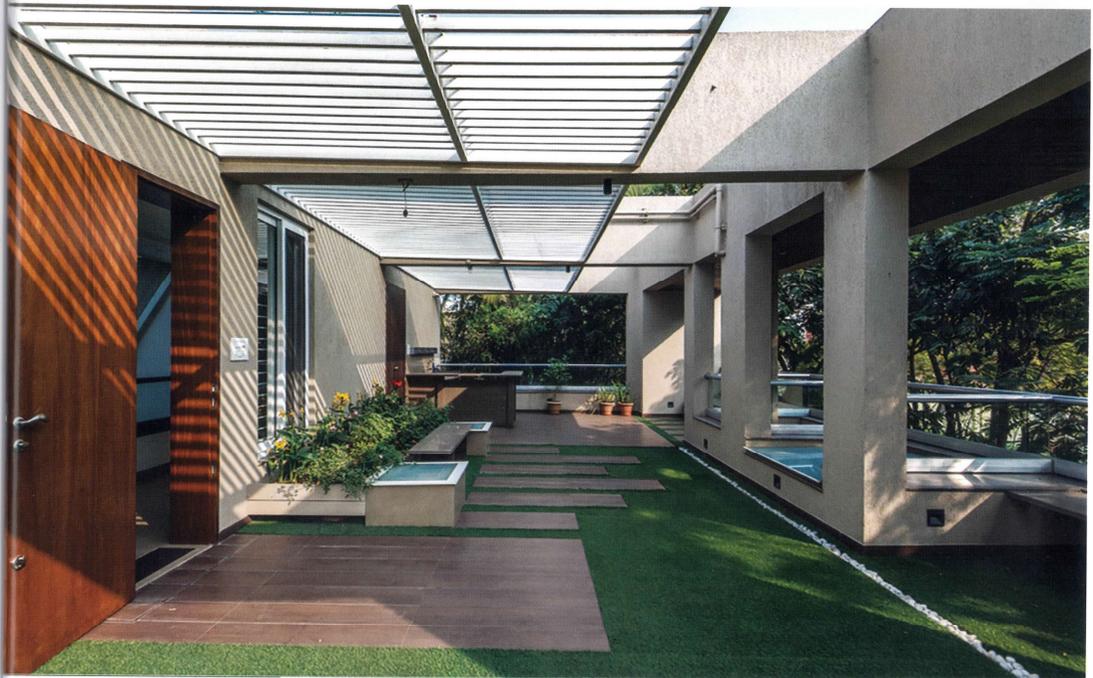
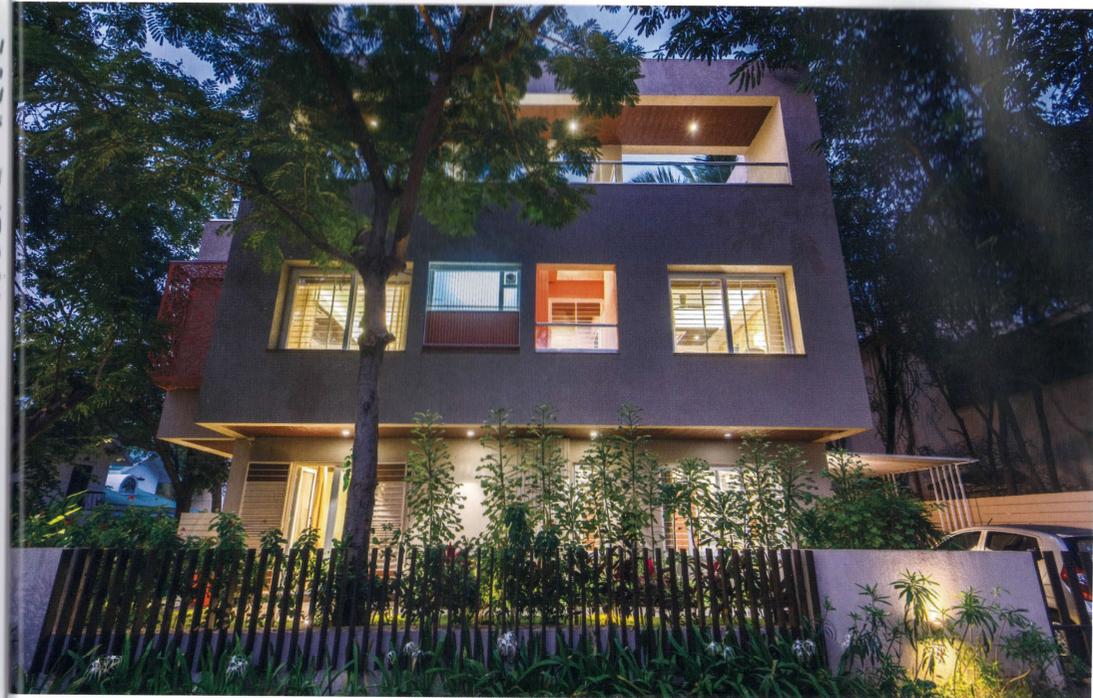
Ar. Hemant Mahajan

Inspired by Purposeful Spatial Interventions

An industry veteran and a recipient of several coveted awards, Ar. Hemant Mahajan approaches each project uniquely. He emphasizes on harmony in design and focuses on responsible living and working through his innovative design solutions.

An architect and planner backed by over 37 years of prolific experience, Hemant Mahajan is the Founder, Partner, and Principal Architect of **GROUP PHI Architects and Designers** based in Pune, India. Running a growth-driven practice since 1986, he is a seasoned industry professional who has created his own mark in the field of Architecture, Interior Design, and Campus Planning.

Ar. Hemant Mahajan's exemplary work has been acknowledged not only locally but also at national and international levels. He is the recipient of various prestigious awards that include: two International Design-share awards (at Minneapolis, USA) for Institutional projects, five Indian Institute of Architects (IIA) National Awards in Urban Architecture, Office Interiors, and Industrial category, and ten awards of the Architects, Engineers & Surveyors' Association of Pune, in multiple categories.





Apart from his core domain expertise, Hemant is also endowed with excellent management and leadership skills. He has served as a Committee Member of the Institute of Indian Interior Designers (IIID), Pune Regional Chapter (2010-2012) and also worked as Hon. Joint Secretary (2012-2014) and Hon. Secretary (2014-2017).

A staunch advocate of heritage conservation, he has officiated on the Urban Heritage Committee of Pune Municipal Corporation as a Heritage Committee Member (2011-2022). Under his leadership and initiative, comprehensive documentation of Parvati as a Heritage Precinct is nearing completion, which has not been attempted by anybody till date. He has also worked as a respected jury member in various competitions at professional and institutional levels across India.

Hemant is also passionate about nature conservation and photography. He is an avid traveler and explorer, who has visited several parts of the world. He is an active member of Urban Sketchers, Pune, since 2016, and is engaged in sketching in pen with black and white ink as well as alcoholic markers.



