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## **Gen** 2017

## **VYOMA PATWA**

PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT, DESIGN LAB VYOMA, MUMBAI



It is of utmost importance to see every project with an innovative eye and implement it practically."

ince childhood, Vyoma Patwa has been intrigued by how spaces work wonders on a person's psyche. Her passion for travelling led her to see how architecture evolved across cultures and left an impact. "I kept pondering the deep meanings architecture holds within itself," she recalls, "The need to understand this holistically acted as a catalyst to choose it as my career." This quest led her to study architecture at Kamla Raheja Vidhyanidhi Institute of Architecture, Mumbai; and for an international exposure, she became part of an exchange programme at the University of Bern, Switzerland.

After her academic puruits, Patwa had the privilege of working at IM Kadri Architects, which enhanced her experience and knowledge. "Here, I worked on large-scale projects – right from micro to macro level of planning, details and executions – such as Symbiosis Pune, CA Institute Nagpur, holiday resort projects, etc," she mentions. As for inspirations, Antoni Gaudi ranks first – for his work challenged her to think outside the box. "His

flawless details and the inspiring spaces help me to look beyond the horizon. He designed structures that look impossible to build and (still) managed to make them a reality," explains Patwa, who also enjoys the works of Santiago Calatrava, Zaha Hadid and graphic designer MC Escher.

The 29-year-old's sense of wonder and professional experience find fruition at her young practice – Design Lab Vyoma. She has independently designed and

executed residential interiors and corporate projects, besides hospitality projects involving restaurants and resorts. Speaking about her work, Patwa says, "We create spaces that are functionally true to itself and sensitive to the end user. At the same time, we take great effort to achieve this in the most balanced, economical ways – at times leading to reuse and recycling of available resources."

One of her significant projects is Seth's Residency, located in Thane's Hiranandani Estate. The client's interest in a Victorian style of architecture governed the overall aesthetics of the house. "One can see the beautifully and meticulously crafted details in all parameters like mouldings, carvings, wallpaper, furniture, carpets, lighting, artefacts, etc. Each object has been custom designed. True to its concept, Seth's Residency creates a sense of awe," adds Patwa

Incidentally, she sees innovation in a similar manner, as "timeless beauties, adding a sense of awe across centuries." It is something she wishes to pursue in her work each day with every project.





**PROJECT**Seth's Residency, Thane