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A REVAMPED  
FACSIMILE  
Chromed Design Studio



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Jimmy Mistry

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# Colour Essence

Availability of a plethora of new, exciting materials that pave the way for innovative design, contemporary architecture is particularly fascinating when it comes to the use of colour and colour palettes, **Tanveez Makrani** in conversation with **Jimmy Mistry** brings to light the importance of Colour in Architecture.

**According to you, what is the importance of colour in the Indian culture?**

Colour has always played a very important role in the Indian culture, be it architecture and interior design or home decor. Colour represents emotions and hence the state of mind. So if you want to create a serene ambience, you use a particular colour whereas to denote love, you use a particular colour along with a handful of combinations. The design intent of the user and its usage are the deciding factors as to which colour be used.

**How important is it to use the right colours in the designing of a space?**

Exterior spaces and interior spaces are two different criteria. Speaking about exterior spaces, your design evolves around nature and hence a particular colour scheme should be used e.g. While designing in Lonavala, a hill station located between Mumbai and Pune, for me the backdrop were mountains, predominantly of sand stone and are brown throughout the year and green during the monsoon, so all my colour were pastels that bled into the entire environment and did not stand out. Everything is done with sandstone colours, predominantly the colour that emanate from the earth. As we get into the interiors, the intent of design in space decides the colours to be used. Be it a residence, office, a commercial space or a hospitality space, textures and colours need to be used in combination using primary or secondary colours.

**What are the favourable colour tones in designing a suite?**

The design aspirations of a suite are opulence, luxury and the theme is what decides the colour tones. Talking about my project in Lonavala, the suites have been dedicated to a number of designers like Armani, Cavali, Fendi, etc. that have inspired me and the colour palette selected in each of the suites represent them. For e.g. Armani, is minimalistic and beige and grey, whereas Versace is the juxtaposed opposite. Along with these, creating opulence

**How can visually appropriate light and colour scene be created to enhance the ambience?**

The kelvin of the light used as well as its colour determines how the colour will enhance the space. Lighting cannot be harsh, it cannot be less or more. Lighting plays a very critical role and that is where mood







lighting gets into picture that determines the ambience you want to create. This can be done using multiple kinds of lighting. You can use indirect lighting, a cove lighting, down lighting, uplighter or a combination of these lights in a given environment to get desired results.

**Is it possible to use natural colours for long term use in interior designing and other products?**

It depends on the usage. Whether the structure is in a high traffic area or it is a personal space, the usage and the atmospheric conditions are the essential aspects. If you are in a relatively high humid area and use oil paint, it will not take the moisture, it will bubble up and damage the colour. Hence, it all depends upon the location, and the atmospheric and climatic conditions of the place.

**What is the shelf life of natural colours and how can you increase it?**

When we look at natural colours used for painting across all over

Europe and India in terms of architecture, they have lasted a lifetime. It clearly depends upon the atmospheric conditions and the climate of the region. By utilising technology that is readily available, like various kinds of coating and plasticisers used, the additives that are used along with the paints and the resins that are mixed with the paints, the shelf life of colours can definitely be increased. Also by controlling the climatic conditions by using the technology that is available, we can utilise the product that will give a long shelf life. ▲

*Jimmy Mistry has been at the forefront of the design industry, at the onset of his career, with contracting jobs and executing projects. But the turning point of his life came while working with an Italian design firm as an importer, which gave him abundance of experience and real understanding of designing. He has taken on the role of Designer, Adventurer, Hotelier and Developer. This path has culminated in an expertise in User Experience and Product Development. He has recently designed Delta Wings in Lavakia, India.*

