

AN EXCLUSIVE TETE-A-TETE WITH **SHAHRUKH KHAN**

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# ELLE DECOR

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## CROSS CULTURAL

A touted contemporary designer shows you how to blend the best of local craftsmanship, Western and modern Indian design to create an imaginative, artful space

TEXT BY **GUNJAN GUPTA** PHOTOGRAPHY BY **TANUJ AHUJA** PRODUCED BY **SONIA DUTT**





**Chakras (left)** Dramatic gold and silver leafed pivoted doors by Jaipur artisans complements the Greek Thassos marble flooring, custom inlaid with motifs

The Illusions dining table in reflective glass with gold and silver leafed legs supplements the structured teak and silk Bombay Blackwood chairs

The self-patterned sofa and the Navratri coffee table in the living room contrasts the Tiger Eye Eastern recliner chairs

In a lounge area on the first floor, the backgammon sofa and Bombay Deck chairs make for quirky seating. The Origami Hi Glass coffee table is offset by the B/W side table. The Twiggly lamp by Foscarini and striped rug by Carpet Cellar complete the look. All furniture by Gunjon Gupta









The bar is an ode to geometry with the wenge Lattice table and upholstered Bombay Blackwood bar stools by Gurjan Gupta. A Tom Dixon lamp and Contemporary carpet by Carpet Celler add the right touches

**Left, Clockwise from Left**

The unusual Framed executive desk by StudioWrap made of recycled gilded photoframes in the study stands out against the antique silver chair and Illusions of Grandeur wallpaper by Deborah Bonness. The Kelvin lamp by Antonio Citterio with Toan Nguyen for Flos blends in

Gold plated steel railings and lit onyx staircase by StudioWrap lead to the upper floor

A bespoke Mosand day bed in the owner's daughter's bedroom invites lounging





An antique teak console, baroque candelabra and Venetian mirror give the marbled guest bathroom an old world elegance

**Right** The attention grabbing Bookshelf wallpaper by Deborah Bowness is the perfect backdrop to the undulating Quizzz bookshelf by Gunjan Gupta in the daughter's bedroom

THE INTERIORS WERE STAGED ENVIRONMENTS FOR MY SCULPTURAL FURNITURE... CULTURAL RECONFIGURATIONS









Marble by Grey Wilton, which covers the staircase, is made lighter by harp-like railings designed by StudioWrap

Below: The ornate wallpaper by Jocelyn Warner, UK, provides a fitting background for the plush bedding and clean lines of the console in a part of the master bedroom

Left: A whimsical play of patterns and textures, the master bedroom blooms with the Bageecha Bistra by Gunjan Gupta and Bageecha canopy in linen, silk and gota by Moyank Man Singh Kaul. A self-designed rug and Glo Ball lamps by Jasper Morrison for Flos provide balance to the opulent setting

### START WITH THE BASICS

Begin with a clean slate – white walls are a great canvas against which you splash the colours and objects of your choice. Here a rich Greek Thassos marble flooring inlaid with oversized mother of pearl motifs embellishes the plain surfaces, and is interspersed with the finest of Indian craftsmanship in a palette of jewelled tones! Shekhwati frescoes, Agra's Pietre Durra, Jaipur's Varakkaar (gilding), Udaipur's mirror mosaic and gota soft furnishings – all coalesced to create the finest of luxury interiors. This excellence was matched by its global counterparts from Milan for lighting and the UK for wallpapers.

### FILLER IT UP

The interiors were staged environments for my sculptural furniture forms that are all cultural reconfigurations of Indian artefacts. The "Bageecha Bistra" in the master bedroom uses the Western four poster form to create an Indian canopy of hand stitched gota and silk Mughal flowers. The "Masand" daybed employs a vertical stack of the ubiquitous Indian bolsters to create a melange of styles. The "Navratna" table follows the Vaastu grid in relation to the planetary positions and gemstones to create a contemporary coffee table with bijou discs.

### THE WALLS AND THINGS

Architecturally, the project was a challenge from its inception as the client brief was very rigid with Vaastu guidelines that were to be followed in the core in the existing building – a cube, which had to be remodelled as a luxury dwelling. We had to think out of the box while inside one. StudioWrap appointed Aneet Singh from Design Bureau to assist them in this makeover and created a conceptual wrap around the building that was both functional and aesthetic. The idea was to move away from symmetry – a basic essential of Vaastu Shastra. ♦

