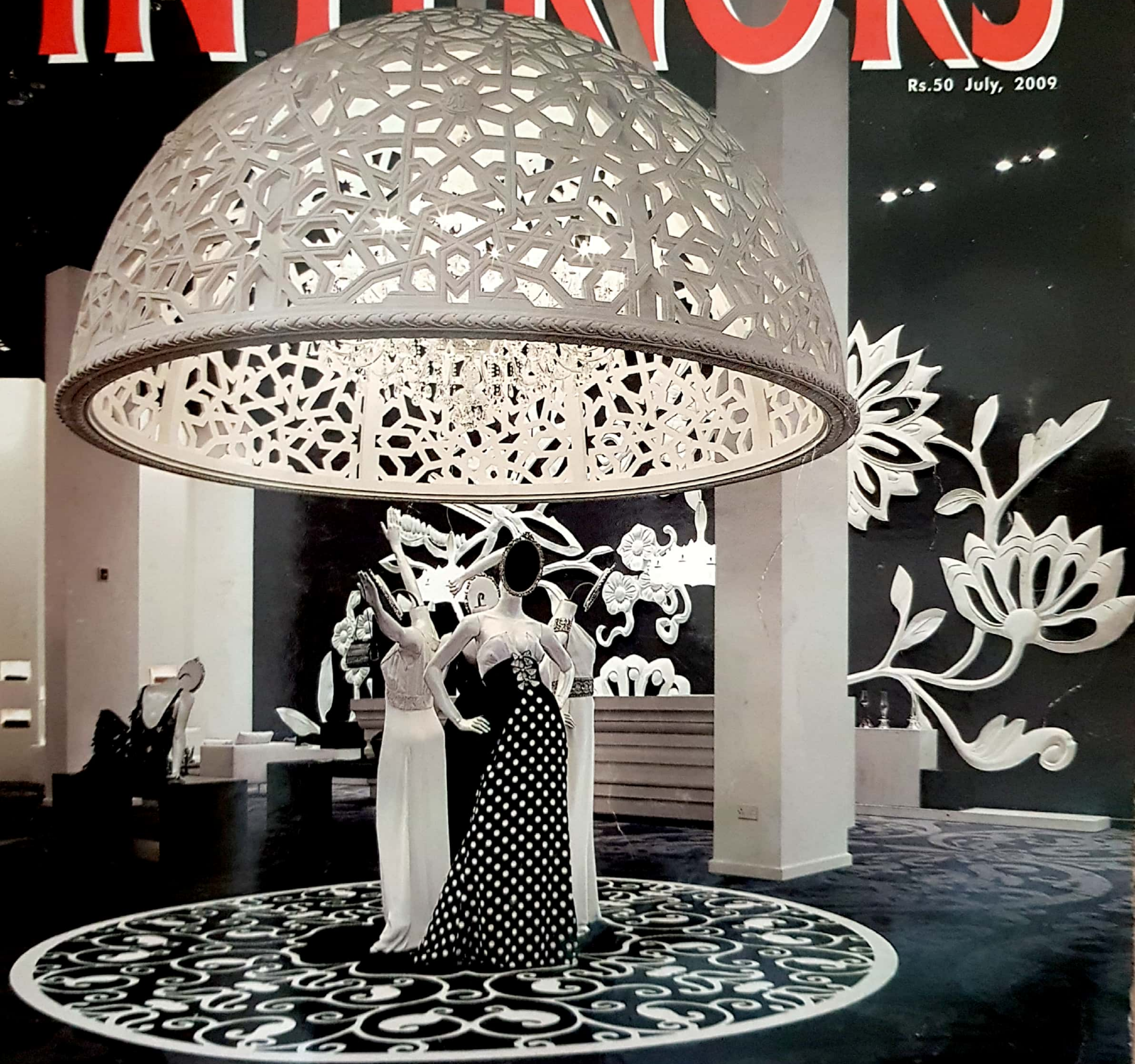


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# INTERIORS

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Celebrating space & design with Shrikant Nivasarkar,  
Kiran Venkatesh, Planet 3 Studios, Dominic Dube,  
Marcel Wanders, Andre Kikoski, WXY Architects and PIA.

Citizen M — A hotel built-out of containers



# Refreshing Abstract



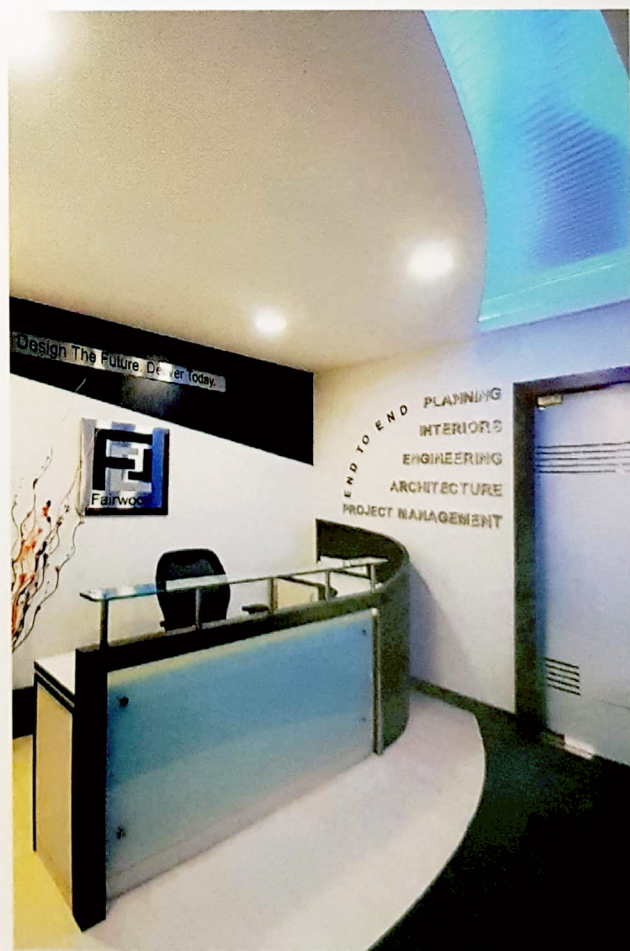
**R**evolving around the upcoming dream project of the Gujarat Government — Gujarat International Finance Tec-city (GIFT) — is the interiors of the corporate office of Fairwood Consultants Ltd. in Ahmedabad. Fairwood was recently retained as Architectural & Engineering Design and Project Management Consultants (PMC) for this new city development in Ahmedabad, which is, reputedly, the largest new city development across the world with a total project outlay of two billion dollars. This project is promoted by



Gujarat International Finance Tec-city Company Limited (GIFTCL), a joint venture between Gujarat Urban Development Company Limited (GUDC) on behalf of Government of Gujarat (GoG) and Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited (IL&FS). The conceptual design of the entire city has been frozen and design development is under way. The pre-qualification of the contractor on EPC Turnkey basis is also underway.

The corporate office of the firm is designed by Deepak Yadav along with architect Peeyush Srivastava and is located in the heart of the city in GMDC (Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation) building. The 5,000 sq. ft. area accommodates a work force of 40 along with a huge exhibition area to showcase the city project. This was an important project and close to their heart as being a part of the firm, Deepak and Peeyush were designing for themselves, in a way. Divided into two major zones — one for public interface and the other for operational workforce, the place also incorporates reception, lounge and conference, pantry and washroom areas. The reception marks the beginning of the blue-fluted ceiling depicting the rippling effect of River Sabarmati. The gypsum wall holds the logo of the company.

Open the door and a tall and majestic Diamond tower encased in glass and colour-changing metal



halide light marks the entry to the opulent exhibition space leaving the visitors enthralled. "The descending partitions, along with dual flooring in carpet and laminated wood, and POP-fluted ceiling form the primary axis for the circulation of the visitors," says Deepak. The surprise element — city model — is highlighted by colour changing fibre optic lights giving it a starry-night effect enhanced by the blackout blinds. Also, lot of storage space is created under the dais of the architectural model displays.

After viewing the display area, one moves to a suave enclosure — the lounge area — where a plush white sofa enables the visitors to enjoy the architectural projects on a multimedia screen. The abstract design and niches on the walls are in sync with each other, balancing the recession and projection on the walls adding to





the drama. Lime green colour adds spark to the otherwise muted colour palette like white and wenge to give a fresh feel.

The continuous laminated wooden flooring leads to the main operational work area "that carries a hangover of the designing style which is a free flow of thoughts within the check points of functionality, but with a clear distinction from the exhibition area." Simple yet different is the work zone. "The graphical elements are added to break the linearity of workspace, hence breaching de rigueur interpretations of the office idiom," shares Peeyush.

The conference room has wooden flooring and simple ceiling along with the F-shaped table that depicts the first alphabet of the company name in combination with the crossover wenge and hiland pine laminate. Video conferencing makes the room compact and serious enough to hammer out high-powered deals. Large windows with roller blinds let the natural light snuggle into the work zone enlightening the entire area, making it a part of the outside green zone.

"With an abstract masterpiece as a design philosophy", the office, according to the designers, is a stylish address for A-list business deals and simply exemplifies élan at its best 