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## VIVACITY

### REDEFINING INTERIORS

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The sixth edition of the India Design ID encompasses miniature furniture, designer rugs installed as decoratives, enormous centrepieces and pop hues wallpapers. By Team Viva

With brass coated stools, chandeliers made out of canadian glass, subtle nude designs, miniature furniture and birds sitting on branches achieved through interplay of lusturous marble, the India Design ID was a melange of unconventional ideas and much more. The interiors and designs are inclined towards subtlety, sophistication, style and minimalism.

The sixth edition of India Design ID began with loyalists from India and abroad displaying their latest collection. With limited spaces, the designers at each stall have artistically used the space. Mounted on the wall, the lights made of brass with an assortment of clean cut and bold forms reflected the sensibilities of modern India today.

With colour palette ranging from greens, pinks, gold, blue and red, the monochromatic shades that dominated the industry are slowly fading into the background. At various stalls, a wide range of miniature furniture was exhibited so customers could see their designs. The concept of showcasing miniature furniture is to provide customers with various designs with the limited space provided in the stall. The small chairs, tables, bookcases were given quirky names like uru, kutu and pustak Daraj. The owls dominated few stalls as huge centre pieces on bed side tables, coffee tables and the dresser. Old paint brushes which most assume to be useless were hanging from the ceilings giving the stall Artychoke a rustic and contemporary look. In the centre of the design house, a vintage car was placed in the form of a seating arrangement. The black antique automobile was cut in two with luxury cushions facing each other. It suddenly brought back memories of watching Pulp Fiction where Uma Thurman and John Travolta go to Jack Rabbit Slim's restaurant.

Walking around, in the corner was a beautifully dried up grey tree with thorns and on the floor around it were scattered colourful pictures. Done by Tanuj Ahuja, it was a depiction of a his thoughts with a stimulating question. What if trees refuse to let go of their dying leaves? Letting go, allows us to grow. The rugs and carpets have made a comeback in our hearts with various stalls having rugs and carpets mounted on the walls. At Cocoon carpets, the signature collection is celebrating design sensibilities of JJ Valaya and mastery in fine rug weaving of cocoon. The carpet on display was Qalamkari 1 which was filled with geometry designs in the upper half and a scene of two birds in the lower half of the carpet. The birds are somehow communicating with each other though they are upside down filled with flowers in the background. The scene evokes romance and the estrangement we feel when we lose the only one we love because we are unable to understand their perspective.

One of the most eye catching stalls was Elan. The artist design placed a range of kitchenware and baking utensils with innumerable desserts on the bed. When asked, why she placed them on a bed, she was quick to reply that she was bored of seeing utensils on the table. Rather than using shades of grey and white, the design line has recently introduced pink and sea green cutlery. "The colours work well together. One is pastel and the other one balances it without making it too girly. I want to have an overload of cake. I wanted people not to focus on buy the products." The idea of owning beautiful utensils and kitchenware is to use it when you call people over and add an element of uniqueness. The modern audience went gaga over the oriental dream stall by Asian paints nilaya. Designed in the form of a train, each compartment had a different wallpaper designed by Sabyasachi Mukherjee. The patterns on the wallpapers were traditional with floral motifs and tigers. The compartments were named Charulata and Gulbahar Green based on the colour of the wallpaper. The comfortable cushions on the furniture, the lacy white curtains covering the window, the teak wood table and the racks on top for keeping luggage will transport every individual to Kolkata. To add authenticity, there was a coat and umbrella hanger at the entrance. Young couples were sitting in the compartments looking through the windows thinking about the bygone era.

In the decor section, the Jaipur rugs were hung installed on a white platform as floor rugs and on the walls. The designs are inspired from abstract ideas. Apparently, the trend today is to have a half made rug with the other half left incomplete with woven yarn to add an edge of creativity to the wall.

Bamboo silk is the upcoming fabric popularised to reduce the killing of caterpillars. At the end of the stall, a weaver was sitting with a charkha. He was separating the sheep wool and trying to make a thread out of it. By spinning the wheel of the charakha, the threads were converted into rolls. Sitting behind him were two women in bright coloured saris giggling from time to time on an inside joke. Working on the loom with warps and wefts, she was diligently knotting each warp.

The concept of displaying making of carpets is to spread awareness among people about the arduous task of weaving and to preserve the legacy.

One of the rugs made by a weaver was inspired by the north-Indian snack Shakarpara that is sold in the village. It is passion such as this that awakens us from our shell and encourages us to look beyond our horizons.