

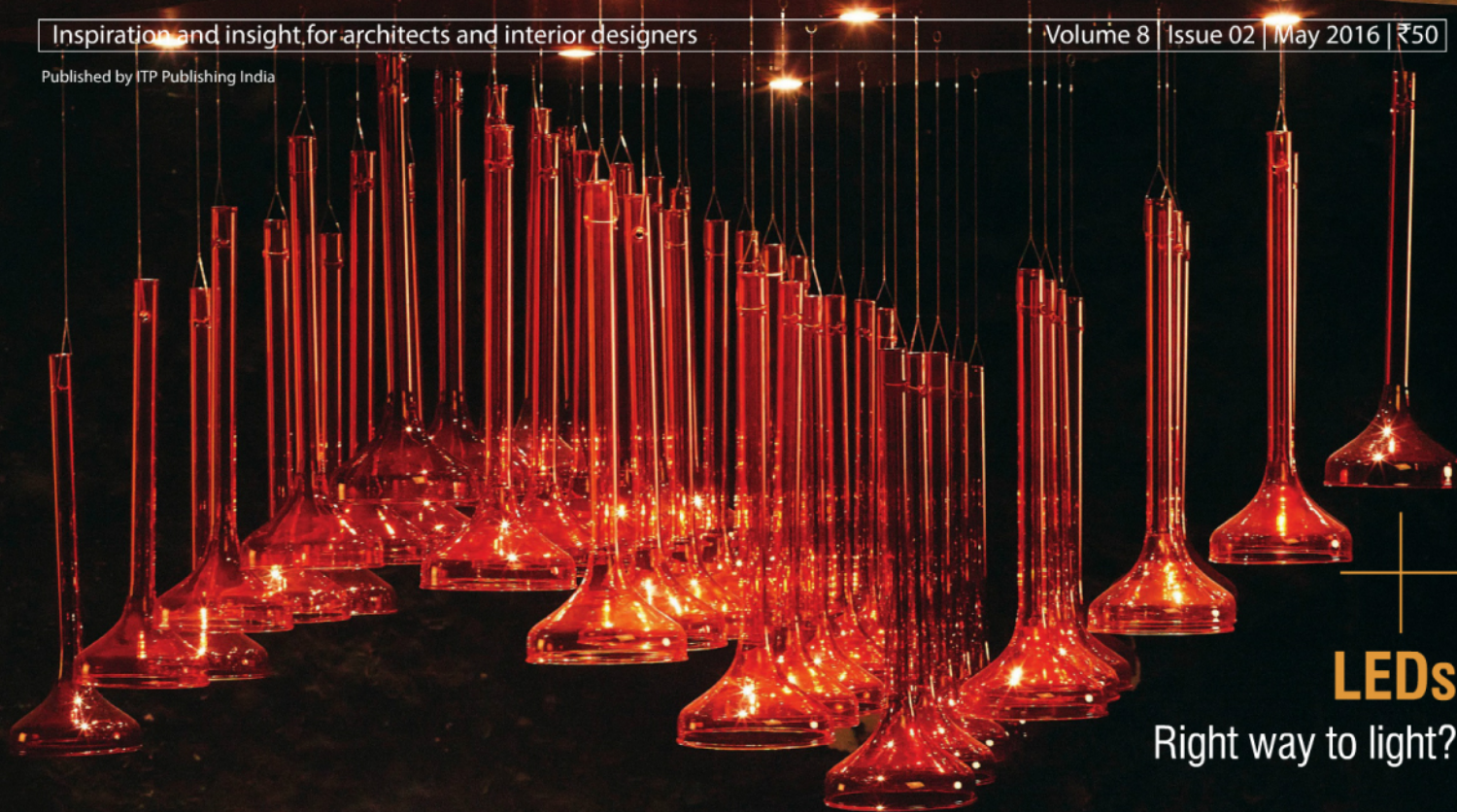
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# ARCHITECT and INTERIORS INDIA

Inspiration and insight for architects and interior designers

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## BRILLIANT FUTURE

IDEALISTIC, INSPIRED, INTELLIGENT,  
INFORMED, INDIVIDUALISTIC AND  
INNOVATIVE, OUR 50 GEN-NEXT  
ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS WILL  
BRIGHTEN OUR URBAN LANDSCAPE



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# THE SHINING

Our Top 50 gen-next architects and designers who make it to our iGen 2016 list promise to add brilliance to the Indian urbanscape through innovative design

BY MARIA LOUIS





It is now five years since we at *Architect and Interiors India* began our quest for the next generation of young architects and designers who could take on the mantle of responsibility from their seniors. This is in keeping with our mission of encouraging the idealism and innovation of those who will influence our lifestyles and build our future world.

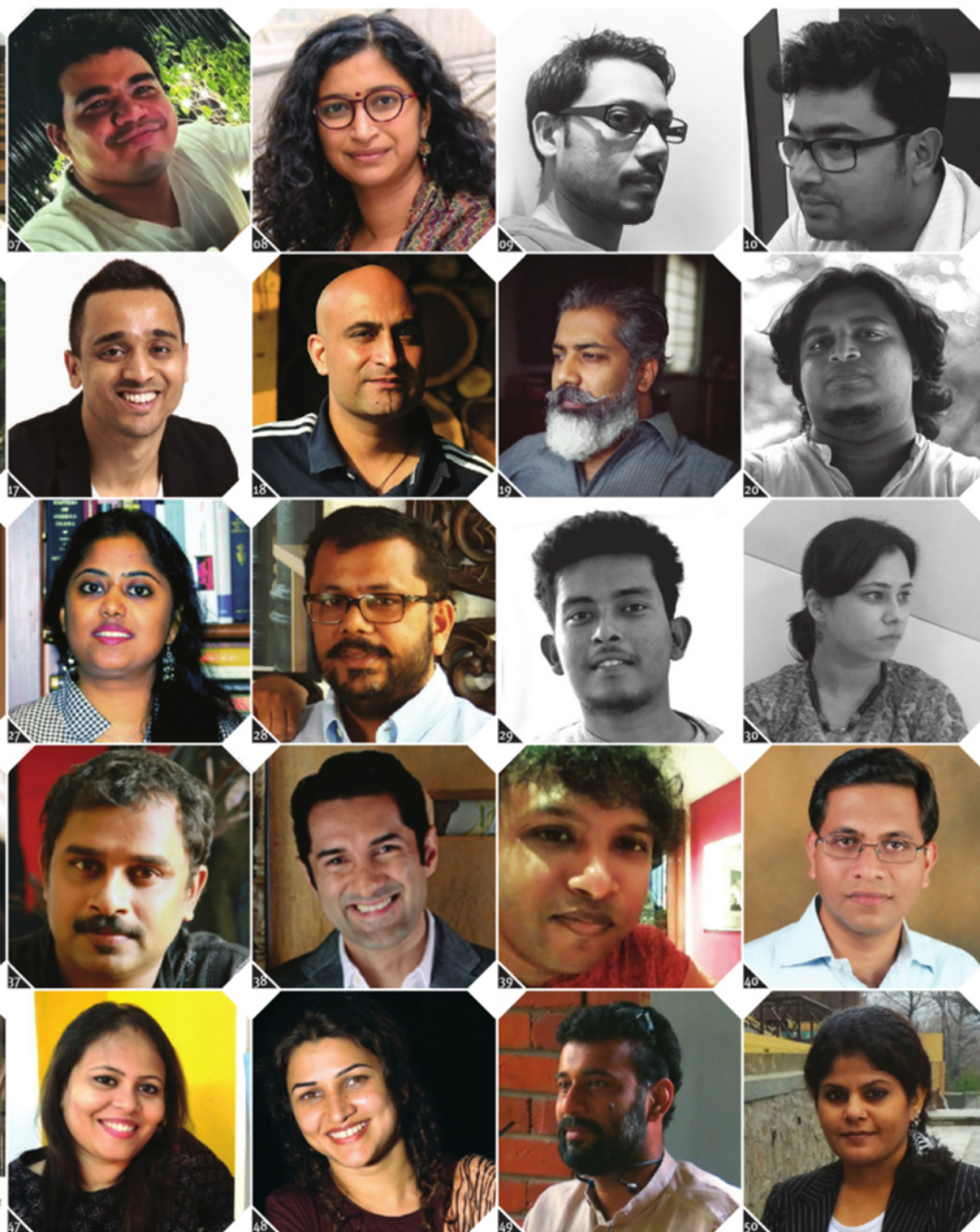
Like we do every year, we sought out the best of the new crop who are blessed with intelligence and individualism. You will agree that all these words that begin with the small 'i', make a big

difference. This little alphabet has acquired its high status thanks to Steve Jobs and the now ubiquitous iPhone, iPad, iPod, iMac and iTunes – to which we add our own iGen.

This year, the inspired and innovative architects and designers we invited to share their dynamism, energy and enthusiasm through this forum, give us even greater hope that the future of our country will be bright thanks to responsible design.

Here, then, is our eagerly-awaited selection of promising gen-next architects and designers.

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS: ARUNA RATHOD, CAROL FERRAO & SHREETA NAIR



- 1 Abdul Hazeeb PK
- 2 Abhijit Rai Chaudhuri
- 3 Abhishek Dutta
- 4 Aditya Goswami
- 5 Ajay Arya
- 6 Amit Aurora
- 7 Amit Goregaonkar
- 8 Amritha Ballal
- 9 Anindya Das Gupta
- 10 Anirban Bhaduri
- 11 Anita Choudhuri
- 12 Arjun Rathi
- 13 Ashish Jauhari
- 14 Biju Balan
- 15 Biley Menon
- 16 Chitra Biley
- 17 Deepak Jawahar
- 18 Deepak Kaw
- 19 George Seemon
- 20 Hafeef
- 21 Hamid
- 22 Hiten Sethi
- 23 Ipsit Patel
- 24 Mandar Joshi
- 25 Noufal C Hashim
- 26 Prashant Kapoor
- 27 Prathima Manohar
- 28 Rahul Bansal
- 29 Ranjan Bordoloi
- 30 Rika Chaudhary
- 31 Ritika Dhamija
- 32 Riyaz Tayyibji
- 33 Rohan Patankar
- 34 Rohit Mankar
- 35 Roma Tayyibji
- 36 Runa Dasgupta
- 37 Saiju Mohamed
- 38 Saket Sethi
- 39 Shayan De
- 40 Shivaji Karekar
- 41 Shivangi Shah
- 42 Shoaib Vazayil
- 43 Shweta Grover
- 44 Soumya Raja
- 45 Suditya Sinha
- 46 Suprio Bhattacharjee
- 47 Susweta Dutta
- 48 Suvarna Joshi
- 49 Vinod Cyriac
- 50 Zainab Sarawala



## CHITRA BILEY &amp; BILEY MENON

PRINCIPAL ARCHITECTS, IDEA DESIGN, BENGALURU &amp; KOCHI



## Good design is aesthetically pleasant and ecologically sensitive

**C**reative freedom, coupled with a sense of responsibility that comes with any architecture and design project, is what excites this husband-wife team about their profession. Chitra Biley and Biley Menon established Idea Design in 2000 and, during these 16 years, they have developed a practice that genuinely pursues sustainability (or as they call it “ecologically sensitive” design) as a core philosophy. “As architects and landscape architects, Idea Design focuses on everything you can see and touch and how that total physical environment – from open space to built environment – affects people. We unite function, aesthetics, environmental quality and economic considerations to give each of our client’s projects a distinctive sense of place and identity,” state the duo.

After completing his Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Kerala, Biley went on to acquire a Master’s degree in Architecture (Urban Design) from the School of Planning & Architecture (SPA), New Delhi. Thereafter, he worked as an urban designer with Prof. KT Ravindran in New Delhi. During these years, Biley developed a keen interest in the symbiotic relationship between nature and culture, which led him to work in the fields of ecology and heritage.

A gold medallist in both her academic pursuits – architecture graduate from University of Kerala and Master of Landscape Architecture from SPA, Chitra complements her husband’s interest in urban design with her passion for landscape architecture and in-depth knowledge of plants

and horticulture. It’s no surprise that both architects look up to Geoffrey Bawa and mention his exemplary Heritance Kandalama in Sri Lanka as their key inspiration.

The two architects’ work primarily focuses on the fields of environment and heritage, having worked on ecological restoration, biodiversity conservation, zoological parks and urban conservation projects in different parts of South India. The firm has won the IIA State Award for Excellence in Architecture (2008), Wipro – Best Sustainability Partner Award (2014) and, recently, they were shortlisted for the IIA National Award for Excellence in Architecture (2016) for the Greenfield Office at Yercaud.

“Every aspect of this building’s design tries to be ecologically sensitive and environmentally responsible,” explains Biley about the Greenfield office, which he considers one of their defining projects. This zero-energy building is off the grid and uses biogas-based generator, wind power and solar power. The structure is mostly built with reused steel frames, silver oak wood, bamboo, stone, mud and thatch. The landscape incorporates big boulders of the site in its contours.

The highlight of the project is the water body, which penetrates the building and culminates in a vertical garden wall (made of reused mineral water-bottles on metal frames wrapped with geotextile). Organic vegetable garden, waterless toilets, mud-floor, bamboo floor, bamboo furniture and several other elements are what made the IIA jury laud this project for being “eco-sensitive in every aspect.”

**PROJECT**  
Greenfield Office, Yercaud.