

ARCHITECTURE+DESIGN

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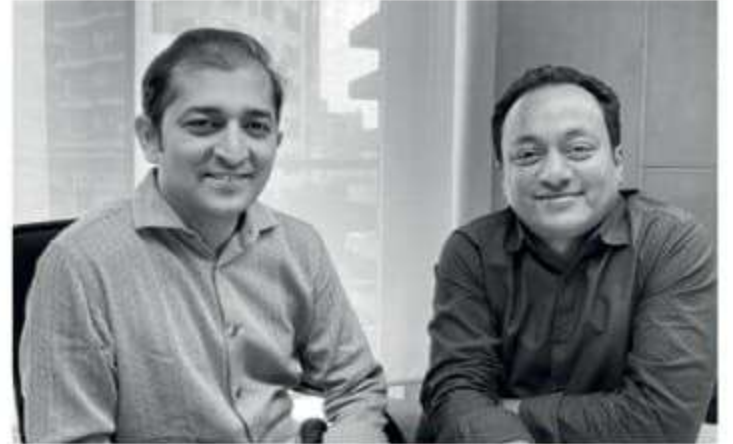
43RD ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL



TOP FIFTY

*The minds reshaping
architecture, interiors, and
the way we live*





AYAN SEN

FOUNDER, AYAN SEN ARCHITECTS,
URBAN DESIGNERS & PLANNERS

KOLKATA | EST. 2006

DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

The practice is grounded in critical regionalism, with a focus on contextuality expressed through local architectural language and climate-responsive design.



Ayan Sen Architects, Urban Designers & Planners is a Kolkata-based practice established in 2006, known for its context-driven approach rooted in regional identity. The studio engages with architecture as a cultural and climatic response, drawing from local language while integrating contemporary design strategies. Its work often navigates the intersection of heritage and modernity, shaping spaces that are both responsive and relevant to their urban and environmental context.

PROJECT IN FOCUS

The redevelopment of Bengal Rowing Club engages with Kolkata's evolving cultural landscape while preserving the legacy of the site. Central to the intervention is the restoration of the historic Art Deco drum at the entrance, which is retained as a defining architectural element even as the rest of the structure is reimagined. The design introduces a contemporary language that responds to the site's tropical setting, strengthening visual and spatial connections to the adjacent water body and landscape. The architectural strategy focuses on refining the existing structure while introducing new elements that enhance usability and experience. The facade is reworked with subtle striations, warm tonal variations, and integrated service shafts screened with metal louvers, balancing performance with visual coherence. A restrained palette of browns, beiges, and whites reinforces a relaxed, resort-like character, further extended through a renovated terrace overlooking the lake. Around the swimming pool, a sculptural canopy defines the space, its curved form echoing the surrounding landscape. Supported by a lightweight structural system with cantilevered edges and a Vierendeel girder, it creates shaded gathering zones while maintaining visual openness. The landscape is designed with sensitivity to the existing ecology, ensuring continuity between built and natural elements. Interiors complement this approach, combining contemporary materials with updated facilities while maintaining a strong connection to the outdoors. 🏡



SIGNATURE FEATURES

The restored Art Deco drum, paired with a sculptural poolside canopy, anchors the project, bridging heritage and contemporary intervention while reinforcing its connection to landscape and water.

