



Trikalayam

— FLEXING TIME AND SPACE.

Down the 13km road off Panvel proper
nestles architect Nitin Kiliawala's weekend home.

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The white tower stands out as
stark relief to the rooms
constructed in random
rubble masonry.

A bamboo pergola defines
the entrance to the 'yellow
bedroom'.

Trikalyam, the home of Nitin and Nita Killawala, invokes a resonating sense of timelessness and the traditional significance of the number three. The triad principle is reflected in the triangular roofs over the three primary structures that the home comprises. The first impression one has of *Trikalyam* is the comfortable contradiction, that while being very private and secluded it is also very inviting. Like there was something rustling among the mango and the *champa* trees that seems to be saying, "Come on in ...it's a holid-ay!"

The plan for the house and some of the details evolved in the process of construction. However, one thing that Nitin was always certain about was that he was building a *getaway* home, "...back in Mumbai we are swamped with the noise and clutter of the city, we live in enclosed air-conditioned spaces, the phones are always ringing, the TV is blaring. I have deliberately excluded all that here – there are no air-conditioners, no TV, no phones... trying to rebuild a bit of the city here would defeat the purpose entirely," he explains.

Natural materials like stone and bamboo, used in combination with industrial materials like steel and trafford sheets give the home a texture of being simultaneously rustic and modern, while being sturdy and built to stand the test of time. The IPS flooring of red oxide and white cement along with



The play of light and shadows, and the interconnection of interior and exterior spaces are the focal points of this house.



The warm tones of the house are in contrast to the cool evenings.



Light filtering through the bamboo shutters and slatted roof creates a myriad of patterns on the floor and walls.



A tasteful combination of contemporary and traditional furniture in the living room. The circular steel column is used innovatively to support the dining table.





The bamboo shutters lead to little pockets of open space.



A glimpse into the picturesque outside.



The built-in sunken bath lined with tiles by ceramist Pratima Vaidya.

first encounters the gatehouse and the servants quarters. After which an undulating pathway of broken Shahabad stone paving, nestled in the shade of a young mango grove leads up to our first tentative view of the house – the living room, the water tower and the two bedrooms. Also tucked away unobtrusively, is a compact little storeroom.

All the rooms have enormous picture windows that are always kept wide open and one is overwhelmed by a pervading sense of the surrounding landscape. The insides are always looking out and the outsides in, till any demarcations between inner and outer spaces dissolve.

The square-shaped living room is spacious and holds in a true holiday spirit recliner chairs. The kitchen area is just a compact platform that also conceals the cabinets for crockery. Nitin admits, "...the kitchen (or the lack of one) was my wife's only condition about the house. She didn't want the

the steel and bamboo windows were cost effective measures that allowed the house to be beautiful yet not extravagant.

The house is built on a one-acre plot of a horticulture farm. Built structures were restricted to being within 1,500sq ft, "...which doesn't really amount to much for a bungalow... so I decided to separate the structures, thus creating an expanded sense of space within 1250sq ft," says Nitin.

The plan, in fact, consists of several separate structures. One