

28 • THE SOUND OF RAHMAN

His music changed the country, and then took the country to the world. After 30 years of pushing boundaries, AR Rahman is still a work in progress

38 • DREAM RUN

For Alia Bhatt, 2022 was a special year, unlike any other, in which, she says, she's grown as an artiste, entrepreneur and person

46 • WORLD AT HER FEET

Actor, producer, entrepreneur, investor and philanthropist Deepika Padukone has traversed a journey that's been difficult, but now she's found global acclaim

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Manoj Bajpayee has survived rejections, dejections and sneers to emerge as one of Indian cinema's most acclaimed actors

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After tiptoeing around fame for close to 20 years, Shefali Shah is finally staking her claim to the spotlight

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At 26, opening batter Smriti Mandhana has notched up quite a few milestones and firsts in Indian cricket. And she's not done yet

74 • FIFTY SHADES **OF SHEEBA**

She is not your conventional lead 'heroine', and Sheeba Chadha's impressive resume shows she never had to be one



Aishwarva Lekshmi excelled in various roles in 2022

PG. 84

Madhuri

debuted

on OTT

Dixit



Hardik Pandya led Gujarat Titans to their first IPL title

80 • 'IF YOU FAIL IN **OTT AS AN ACTOR, IT'S DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO** SURVIVE'

Actor R Madhavan on why going to the theatres is slowly going to be an exclusive experience, the discerning taste of the audience and not taking his success lightly

84 • SILVER SCREEN **GOLD**

While much of 2022 saw an unsettling economic and political climate, some of the brighter spots emerged from the fields of entertainment and sport

IN FOCUS

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While questions are being raised about its stock, the company says its expansion plans are not impacted

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With their innovations, Gradiant founders are helping some of the world's biggest corporations reuse their water

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An Indian owner of an elite football club could have a global branding platform in European leagues, while expert knowhow can improve grassroots football in India

THE BOLD CLUB 113 • THE DISRUPTORS

The country's top architects who are making waves with design

On the cover:

AR RAHMAN:

PHOTOGRAPHER: SELVAPRAKASH LAKSHMANAN FOR FORBES INDIA Costume Stylist: Shruti Agarwal; Outfit: SN by Shantanu & Nikhil; Sunglasses: Turakhia Opticians

ALIA BHATT:

PHOTOGRAPHER: MASHA MEL Makeup: Hila Karmand Hairstylist: Christos Kallaniotis Costume stylist: Farrah O' Connor

DEEPIKA PADUKONE:

PHOTOGRAPHER: VAISHNAV PRAVEEN / THE HOUSE OF PIXELS Make up: Anil Chinnappa; Hair: Gabriel Georgiou; Styling: Shaleena Nathani

MANOJ BAJPAYEE:

PHOTOGRAPHER: MADHU KAPPARATH Styling: Ashish Sharma, Bhavika Kundnani Makeup & Hair: Manish Joshi, Sachin Jadhav Outfit: Perona; Shoes: Escaro Royale Watch: Swarovski Sunglasses by Opium

SHEFALI SHAH:

PHOTOGRAPHER: MEXY XAVIER

SMRITI MANDHANA:

PHOTOGRAPHER: NEHA MITHBAWKAR FOR FORBES INDIA Styling: Bornalii Caldeira; Makeup: Shivangi

Upadhyay; Hair: Arnold DSouza; Outfit: Mona and Vishu; Jewellery: Anayah Jewellery; Shoes: Nike

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Striving for Change

isha Bhavsar and Shivani Ajmera are first-generation entrepreneurs. They come from different backgrounds, but their love and appreciation for art and design brought them together in a job when they decided to take the plunge together and set up Quirk Studio in 2013.

"Our studio finds its roots in the confluence of our design ideologies, striving towards an ethos that shapes people-centric

Quirk Studio, Mumbai

Shivani Ajmera, 37

Co-Founder & Principal Designer

Disha Bhavsar, 35

Co-Founder & Principal Designer

spaces and environments. We continually focus on creating work that is authentic, inspiring and that reflects our aesthetic, in order to attract like-minded individuals and homeowners," says Ajmera.

Hailing from Oman, Bhavsar pursued her interior design degree from Mumbai and master's in design management from the Winchester School of Arts. Ajmera pursued an education in interior design from Florence, Italy, and thereafter worked with some leading architecture firms.

Quirk Studios has projects all across India and abroad. Their upcoming projects include a large residential project in central London as well as a 100 percent green energy estate in Solapur, among others.

"Change is the only constant,



and we have to keep evolving and bettering ourselves with every project that we undertake. We have always vouched for a design aesthetic that sustains functionality, while being classic in its appearance."

"We are constantly seeking innovative technology in products, materials, and finishes. Whether it's AR, VR, 3D printing, software, virtual resource libraries or apps, there is a lot of innovation in the field of design. Automation and technology have been a natural progression in our spaces. Ninety percent of our spaces are automated."

Ajmera believes a sustainable interior design practice reflects the honest commitment to protecting

the environment. "Sustainability can start with smaller, mindful steps, such as reducing wastage, using naturally and locally sourced materials, using energy-conserving products and incorporating green spaces into your homes and offices."

Bhavsar and Ajmera aspire to work towards their idea of creating spaces that inspire and change the way people live and experience spaces. In their own words, "Our studio's contemporary vision imbibes an innovative and experimental quality to the spaces, which embody a unique experience and subsequently contribute to the design landscape of India."

• KAMAYNI, STUDIO GULMOHAR