



The first-floor family room drifts in a monochrome haze, with LifeSpace Home furniture, a soft dome light from Nexus Lighting, ethereal wall art from Best of Bharat and a cloud-like rug by Vishvesh Textiles (OPPOSITE PAGE) The foyer unfolds in quiet drama with a sculptural chair from LifeSpace Home, an undulating 3D wall installation by Best of Bharat and cool Kota floors embellished with Black Marquina marble



Dream Come True

This Tiruchirappalli home by YellowSub Studio is a dreamscape of soaring spaces, golden light and air that appears to defy gravity

WORDS VAISHNAVI NAYEL TALAWADEKAR **PHOTOS** NAYAN SONI **STYLING** SHIVANI RAINA



The living room is a slow exhale of dreamy forms, grounded by a curved sofa and sculptural coffee and side tables from LifeSpace Home, and pendant lights from Nexus Lighting that float like art (OPPOSITE PAGE) The dining room feels like a serene reverie with a LifeSpace Home table and chairs, a sculptural pendant from Nexus Lighting and walls and ceilings wrapped in the soft embrace of lime plaster by Studio Allure

HOME TIRUCHIRAPPALLI

From the undulating crimson wall sculpture and intricate lattice panel to the console, sofa, armchairs and end tables, the living room is a living library of Gayatri's creations, all crafted in her very own atelier, LifeSpace Home. The rug is from Vishvesh Textiles, while the lighting is by Nexus Lighting



Most nights, architect Gayatri Gunjal drifts into a recurring dream, floating high amidst the clouds. In that quiet, suspended world, the edges of reality blur: city streets shrink below her, buildings dissolve into mist, and all that remains is light, air and an unshakeable sense of freedom. It is a space where ideas take shape before they exist on paper, where structures breathe and move, and where the founder and principal of Chennai-based YellowSub Studio feels both weightless and grounded, as if the sky itself is guiding her hand.

A few years ago, that dream edged its way into Serora, a 5,900 sq ft private residence in Tiruchirappalli that Gayatri unwittingly conjured from her imagination and brought to life, softening gravity with double-height volumes, creating airy voids that spill sunlight through every level, and translucent screens that filter the sun like drifting clouds. As she puts it, the project was “me getting outside my own head.” Fortuitously, the owners’ vision was scarcely different from her own: they sought a home that felt expansive yet intimate, light yet grounded, a space that enlivened her dreams – and more importantly their own.

Every design decision reflected this harmony. Double-height windows; staircases that float like sculptural elements rather than mere connectors between levels; and rooms oriented to capture natural light at different times of day ensure the house changes mood as the sunlight shifts. For any material she introduced, Gayatri had a rule: if it did not bring warmth, it was off the table. And apparently, the floors and walls too. Stone, timber, and terracotta appear here, vanish there, and return elsewhere, evoking a gentle suspension that makes the architecture feel alive, as if the house itself is breathing.

And if she ever slipped out of her light-filled reverie, it was only after ensuring she could slip back in – this time with twice the impact. “One unforgettable moment was installing the massive double-height panels and artworks,” recalls Gayatri, who was assisted by in-house designer Varun Kumar and partner Premkumar. “It became almost theatrical, with nearly 20 people moving in perfect unison to manoeuvre and anchor these sculptural pieces into place.” The effort was worth it. Once installed, the towering panels transformed the interiors into a play of scale and sensation – part gallery, part sanctuary. Shadows stretch and shift across the surfaces, animating the walls with the passage of light, while the artworks themselves

act as anchors, rooting the dreamlike architecture in something tactile and grounded. As for the furniture, it was all designed and manufactured by LifeSpace Home, a bespoke furniture atelier co-owned by Gayatri.

As to whether the end result holds a mirror to the fever dreams that inspired it, Gayatri does not hem or haw. “Not really,” she says matter-of-factly. “The home kept evolving, and by the end, it felt like the project had outgrown even our first sketches.” Mind you, she is not complaining. “It is sort of like planting a tree. You know what seeds you have sown, but the way it branches out will always surprise you.” Hear, hear. ♦ yellowsubstudio.in



YELLOWSUB STUDIO, led by architect Gayatri Gunjal, is a Chennai-based practice known for creating light-filled, imaginative spaces that blend function with poetry. The studio specialises in airy volumes, thoughtful materiality and seamless indoor-outdoor connections, crafting homes and interiors that feel both grounded and ethereal. Each project is designed to respond to its inhabitants, offering intimacy, exploration and a sense of movement, where architecture becomes a living, breathing experience.

YOUR FAVOURITE SPOT FOR A LAZY SUNDAY?

The sun-lit, garden-facing sofa corner with a book, coffee and dappled light for company.

ANY UNEXPECTED CLIENT REQUESTS?

Here, we flipped the script, nudging them to embrace a playful drama they hadn’t imagined at first.

THE SPACE THAT CHANGED THE MOST FROM YOUR ORIGINAL VISION?

Every one of them — the home kept evolving until it outgrew even our first sketches.

IF THIS HOUSE WERE A FAMOUS SONG?

Louis Armstrong’s version of La Vie en Rose: nostalgic, yet melodically fresh.

ONE DESIGN ELEMENT THAT TURNED OUT BETTER IMAGINED?

The black stone wall cladding – it doesn’t just add texture, it became the house’s quiet showstopper.



The primary bedroom is an earthy escape, with a LifeSpace Home bed and bedside tables, a delicate chandelier from Nexus Lighting and a plush rug by Jaipur Rugs that adds a soft, cloudlike touch