THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

In this luxurious Mumbai home by JOSMO, the picture window steals the spotlight

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n one Mumbai living room, in the suburb of Prabhadevi, the Bandra-Worli Sea Link appears like a postcard magicked to life. Only, unlike in a postcard, this scene isn't permanent. It changes by the hour, or the blink, depending on the day. The only thing that doesn't change is the 20-foot-long window through which it is viewed. "It was this constant ebb and flow from sunrise to sunset that inspired the story of the home," says Anjali Mody, creative director of Goa-based design practice JOSMO, who was tapped by the homeowners, Shael and Samiksha Oswal, to design their newly acquired home in Prabhadevi.

True to her words, the home unfolds room by room, colour by colour, like a multi-part tapestry woven together at twilight. The living room speaks in whispers, through subtle details. As weeping feature wall reminisces Parisian chateaus, while a mirrored bar, concealed behind fluted panels, opens up to offer sparkling reflections of the Sea Link. The foyer is less muted, its character amplified by the wooden flooring and patterned marble borders marking its passages.

For Samiksha and Shael, who are both from the entertainment industry, it was important that the home reflect their personalities and travels, and their exuberance for life. For Anjali, that meant showcasing as much of their journey as possible—or at least those parts that the couple held dear. By the same token, each room was conceived differently, with Scandinavian, Parisian

and Indian artisanal references included in equal measure. Even with their differences, however, all the spaces seem to coalesce, as if each born in the same breath.

"We wanted the house to be luxurious, but never boring," says Anjali, adding that she and her team—which also included senior designer Akanksha Sharma—wanted to veer away from anything that screamed luxe. Instead, they opted for the application of more understated elements, and carefully curated decor in the way of moulding, wallpaper and finishes. "No two rooms have the same material application," adds Anjali, who handpicked fabrics and furnishings from JJDS, and decor from brands such as Claymen, House of Things, Atelier Ashiesh Shah, The Wooden Story, Jaipur Rugs, Ambiente Rugs, Mother Gone Mad Lighting, Harshita Jhamtani Lighting and Tarq Art Gallery.

As you make your way around, it's evident that the drama lies in the details. In the primary bedroom, a floor-to-ceiling bed back with a scalloped edge takes pride of place, while an eight-footlong bay window seat presents a glorious vantage point to the sea. The attention to detail is echoed in the primary bathroom, where green onyx finishes cut a majestic presence, and then again in the guest bathroom, in the way of a custom mosaic inspired by the Gucci Heron.

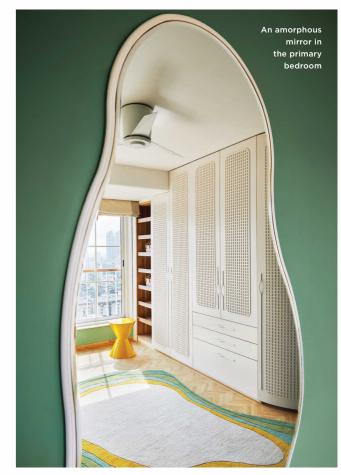
On evenings when the couple feels like a tipple, the secret bar opens up more than just pretty potations. "Its mirrored walls enliven the sea opposite, truly summoning the outdoors," finishes Anjali. ♦ josmostudio.com

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