

« STORE REVIEW: **MOZAIC & SAMANTHA'S SALON**

Mozaic's Fashion Room



>> Mozaic houses a vibrant collection of designer wear

The home décor and lifestyle store, **Mozaic** in Bandra just turned over a new leaf by introducing a section called Fashion Room. **Priyanka Singh** finds out whether it's worth a visit...



Mozaic, a home décor and lifestyle store in Bandra, will surprise you even before you enter. Unlike other stores that have floor to ceiling glass doors through which you can see most of the items stocked, this store gives nothing away. Housed in a two-storey bungalow surrounded by a garden, even the door through which you enter is made of multi-coloured opaque glass. This sense of intrigue is what sets the store apart from the clutter with the first look itself.

Mozaic opened its doors way back in 2010. Since the store mainly catered to home décor needs, the lifestyle section was always a bit underwhelming. But, Shilpa Gupta, the store owner, is all set to change that by introducing a new section called Fashion Room.

It will take some time for you to reach Fashion Room, not because it is situated further inside the bungalow, but because the moment you enter, you get so enamoured by Shilpa's collection of interiors that for a few moments you forget that you are here to shop for clothes, which is what happened to us. Our entry was followed by a series of superlatives exclaimed by me and my companion while looking at the décor items on display and the interiors.

The section that showcases accessories and apparel is quite small but Shilpa plans to expand it soon. The collection here has been handpicked by Shilpa and boasts an impressive lineup of designers such as James

Ferreira, Myoho, Aleena Jeetha and Ritu Didwania. Shilpa says, "It reflects my personal style and includes designers that I wear myself."

The collection is aimed at a younger crowd with items such as dresses, kurtis, tops and accessories that include clutches, necklaces, bracelets, cuffs, earrings and rings. The price ranges from ₹3,500 to ₹15,000 and accessories start at ₹750. The collection is chic but not over-the-top. Most of the dresses, in Shilpa's words, are 'multifunctional' as they can be worn at any time of the day.

We especially liked the clutches that were hand painted, the neckpieces with intricate pendants and the accessories, which instead of being around a bored mannequin, adorned Shilpa's décor items such as vases and hangings. You might find the collection limited, as we did, but that's a conscious decision on Shilpa's part. This is so that the collection always remains fresh and so that when you visit next, you don't come across the same items.

Our verdict is that Fashion Room is worth a visit. It houses some vibrant items which are worth the price for their uniqueness. However, you might emerge from the store, not just with clothes and accessories but with classy artifacts for your home as well.

WHERE 77, Victory Villa, Ground Floor, Turner Road, Bandra (W)
CONTACT 26404897

Cuts & conversations

If homely salons are your thing and you enjoy a good chat, newly opened **Samantha's Salon** in Bandra is right up your alley, says **Rhea Dhanhoora**



WHERE Shop No. A 17, Elco Arcade, Hill Road, Bandra (W) **CONTACT** 9820409749

>> Samantha's Salon is spacious and has a friendly atmosphere

Bubbly hairstylist, Samantha D'souza finally has her own salon. It's as homely as they get and that's exactly why I fell in love with it. Its white and pink décor peppered with black chairs, long mirrors and lampshades add to the well-lit ambience. The salon is surprisingly spacious and well-designed, with little nooks and crannies dedicated to different items.

I opted to get a hair spa (₹1,000) done and while the salon doesn't have a dedicated area for hair spas, you'll be made to feel relaxed during the procedure, complete with a stress busting massage. It also left my hair surprisingly less sticky and weighed down as the salon uses products with natural ingredients.

At Samantha's, they manage to achieve a balance between conversations and silence. However, the music

is a bit outdated, which may put some people off.

Even though it's laidback, the salon is extremely professional; we can vouch for Samantha's haircuts and styling without a doubt. Prices are not over-the-top either. A simple wash starts at ₹200 and a blow dry at ₹350, while haircuts start from ₹500 for guys and ₹800 for girls. Their Keratin treatments start from ₹3,500 and hair straightening costs ₹3,500 onward. They also do makeup for ₹2,500.

My hair was soft and shiny after the hair spa, making it worth spending money over, in a salon that's refreshingly down to earth and devoid of the false adulation that plagues other salons in the suburb. Add it to your list of favourites, we assure you that you won't leave disappointed.

NEW LAUNCHES: FIND OUT WHAT'S JUST OUT

CROCS' PINK COLLECTION

Crocs' latest collection of pink canvas lace-ups is their way of raising awareness about breast cancer. The collection has two styles of shoes in pink — one model features stripes, the other is covered in a solid, bright pink colour. Both the shoes feature laces that have been designed to look like bows and these also add a touch of cuteness to the shoes.

Where Crocs outlets in the city
Price ₹2,995 onwards



FORMAL WEAR FROM JOHN PLAYERS

John Players has come out with a new range of formal wear for men that includes bright and bold shades. The collection has a wide range of shirts, trousers and suits that will give you a good fit and ensure comfort at work. The shirts are available in hues of blue and pink while the trousers come in earthy tones of beige, charcoal, green, brown and grey.

Where John Players stores in the city
Price ₹599 onwards