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A WALK THROUGH THE WORLD OF IIID AND BEYOND

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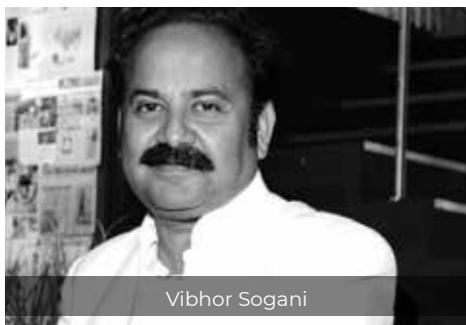


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THE ART OF LIGHTING



Designer Vibhor Sogani's unique design mantra exemplifies that lighting is not only a fundamental requirement but also an art to beautify a space. This section throws light on some of his very interesting installations that use illumination as an element of art.

TEXT: Marilyn Madathil

PHOTOS COURTESY: Vibhor Sogani & Shailan Parker

Lighting is essential in terms of creating the mood and ambience of an environment, so getting it right becomes vital. Designer Vibhor Sogani, one of the leading product designers from India, is known for creating a benchmark in the world of lighting with installations, created with an eclectic mix of delicate handcrafted and industrial production techniques.

Relevant works

Famous for India's largest and most visible public art installations, the 'Sprouts' (a Delhi Government

initiative towards the beautification of Delhi), a 40-ft high stainless steel installation spread over 6 acres of greens surrounding the AIIMS flyover in the heart of Delhi, Vibhor Sogani's creations are recognized globally. He has recently executed a 35-ft high installation, 'Kalpavriksha – the wish-fulfilling tree' in Ahmedabad, which is perhaps the largest public art installation of the state and the second largest for India.

In October 2016, his solo exhibition titled 'Mahatma in Me', a tribute to

1. Blue Grass is a sensuous installation taking inspiration from swaying tall grass.



The innovative installations designed by Vibhor are synonymous with style, perfection and potential; and give life to any space with a vitalising effect.

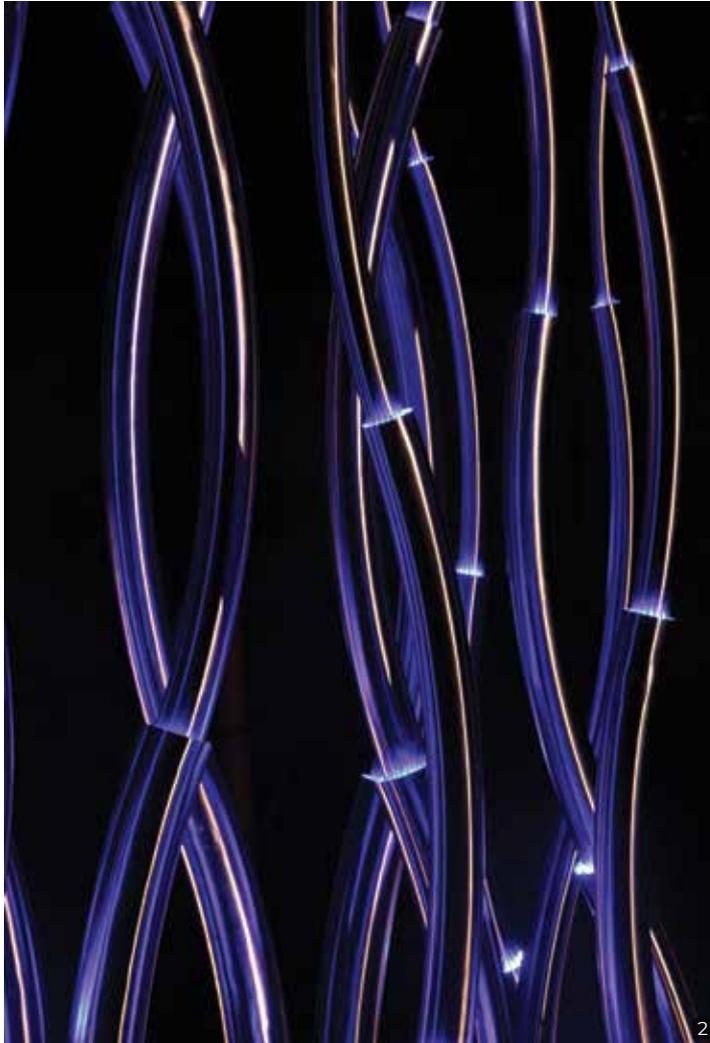
Mahatma Gandhi, travelled to Australia to mark the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. It was supported by the Australian & Indian Government and was a huge success globally in the art domain. In August 2017, the exhibition was invited to Zimbabwe to mark the celebration of 70 years of India's independence and the beginning of the Indian festival 'India in the Sunshine City'. In December 2017, the exhibition travelled to Tanzania and was displayed in the National Museum. The exhibition was

supported by the Government of India and ICCR. The exhibition features 12 artworks in stainless steel representing Mahatma's values of peace, equality and nonviolence.

Here, we take a look at offbeat installations that are dynamic and out of the box style:

Blue Grass

Inspired by soft and swaying tall grass, this sensuous installation is made in



circular strands of stainless steel. Each strand in this light installation is made with reducing diameter segments. The nodes (gaps) thus achieved, contain blue light in it. The light throws a gentle wash on the stainless steel segment above it, creating an interesting light installation.

Vibhor strongly believes that dimensions and formats are customised to the spaces. Two more inventive works designed by him shed light on this fundamental theory.

Cascade

This light installation takes inspiration from Frank Lloyd Wright's modernistic masterpiece and embodies a sense of fluidity and transparency. It consists of 'Floating Planes' with a soft texture to catch the light on its surface. This gives a gentle glow and illuminates the surroundings with indirect lighting. The central shaft of light is covered with mirror finished SS chains, which tend to create a fine texture of reflections. The beauty is in the fact that one sees many lit surfaces, glowing and illuminating the surroundings without showing the

2. Circular strands of stainless steel with blue light in Blue grass installation.

3. Cascade is a modernistic masterpiece with fluidity and transparency.





source of light. The finely handcrafted installation is held together by thin SS wires, invisible to eyes, thus giving a floating effect to the light silver surfaces. The light installation is also being crafted in copper, brass and white finishes.

Savannah

Blending into nature, it is an abstraction of the Savannah grasslands which are characterised by widely spaced, scattered trees. Representative of long blades of grass, the light changes hues and transforms itself. Embodying fine craftsmanship and technology, Savannah is a decorative landscape light installation.

The innovative installations designed by Vibhor are synonymous with style, perfection and potential to give life to any space with a vitalizing

effect. Recipient of many honours, the designer has also been awarded 'Indian Art Icon of the Year 2014' in Singapore. ■

Vibhor Soghani has been recently nominated by the Government as a member of governing council of the India Design Council. Born in Jaipur, Rajasthan, specialized in Industrial Design from the prestigious National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, the designer is engaged in a wide range of creative projects in the areas of exhibition, graphic, retail and product design. Vibhor Sogani, the brand, specialises in bespoke decorative lights, sculptural chandeliers, and light installations that feature subtle yet powerful designs.

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4. Cascade Round Black installation is known for adding floating effect.

5. Savannah, a decorative landscape light installation is an abstraction of grasslands and nature.