

The image shows the cover of 'touch' magazine. The title 'touch' is written in a large, white, lowercase sans-serif font at the top left. To its right, 'DESIGN' is written vertically in a smaller, white, uppercase sans-serif font. Below the title, the text 'issue no. 48 september - december 2017' is printed in a smaller, white, lowercase sans-serif font. The background is a photograph of a courtyard with a wall made of vertical wooden logs. A doorway in the center of the wall leads to an interior space with a window and a green chair. The courtyard is flanked by palm trees and has white fabric draped over the sides. The ground is sandy.

# touch

DESIGN

issue no. 48 september - december 2017

A Rediscovered Treasure  
**Casa Malca**  
in Tulum, Mexico

**Designs & Projects**  
When talent and eccentricity harmonise perfectly



# Studio PKA's The Mango House

Connecting Nature and Design





Located in Alibaug – India, the gorgeous Mango House has been designed by the talent-ed design team at Studio PKA. The essence of design of the spectacular Mango House is simplicity in thought and expression through the form, material and decor of the structure. The organic nature of construction successfully connects the outside with the inside and thus manages to convey an earthy feel through its free-flowing plan. The house is a blend of various elements & building materials that are 'azonic', lending simplicity to the design. Since mango trees dominated the plot, the house clearly gets its definition from them to ensure that the basic value of being organic or adopting green culture was exercised.





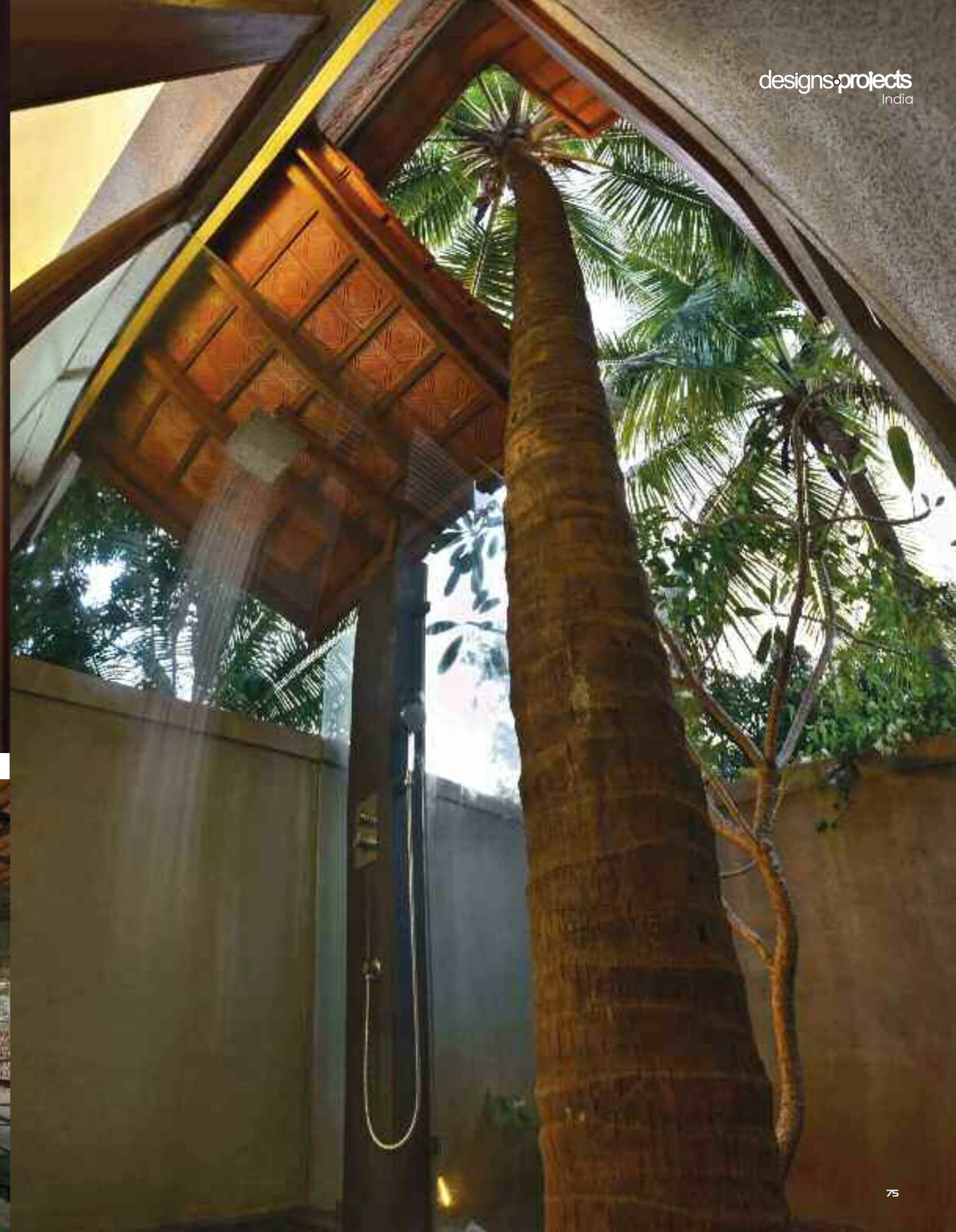


These 70-80 year old inhabitants of the plot became the deciding and guiding factors for the design and concept for the house. The mango trees in the north, south and east directions demarcated the boundary of the house.

There was a need for a balance between the open and covered spaces. With the re-strictions imposed by the trees on the construction, the only solution was to go a level up but stay true to the village like feel. The house reflects a free flowing and uninterrupted connect with its surroundings without losing the proportion in design.







Creating volume was an important aspect of the structure and with the sloping roof one gets about 35 feet at the highest point. This is emphatically accentuated at the suspended staircase as it sweeps up to the first floor. A skylight here and another over the dining area allow light to filter in and underscore the feeling of vastness.

This vastness of space and its uninterrupted connect with the surroundings is the highlight of the house. Alluding to the vernacular, a rich sense of culture and tradition is ever present - The Mango House helps the city-dwelling family to connect with nature by being organic in both spirit and content.

