AT WORK WITH
ARJUN MALIK & KAMAL MALIK

We take you to the drawing board of your design favourites, giving a glimpse of what keeps them ticking – tatty postcards, invaluable scribbles, priceless notes and more.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PULKIT SEHGAL
PRODUCED BY ANCHAL KAUSHAL
THE DESIGN FOLLOWS OUR CORE PHILOSOPHY OF ASSIMILATING AND INTERPRETING CONTEXTUAL DATA... MATERIAL, LIGHT, NATURE...
Located in a historic locale of South Mumbai, this studio has been Malik Architects’ headquarters since 1993. The firm moved here from the old office located at Nariman Point. We were looking for a larger space and it was a stroke of good fortune that someone referred us to the landlord of this building. The structure with its antiquity and refreshing surrounding greens made it the perfect choice for us.

**ALL IN THE DETAILS**

The total area of the workspace is approximately 2,800 sq ft with a mezzanine level. The design follows our core philosophy of assimilating and interpreting contextual data pertaining to history, material, light, nature and function. It echoes the evolving experiences through the gradual accumulation of art and objects, both old and contemporary. I joined the practice in 2005, and while a few things have been moved around since then, the blueprint here predates my influence. It’s been an absolute joy to work with dad (Kamal Malik). I have never had to work for him, it’s always with him. No two people can ever see eye to eye, that would imply intellectual stasis. In our case, the old adage “fools argue, wise men discuss” holds true.

**FOSTERING CREATIVITY**

Ours is a democratic, non-hierarchical work ethos. I sit outside in the bay with everyone else and dad’s door is always open. There is a lot of natural light, materials, books and models, all reflecting a deep repository of design, cultural and sociological thinking that we believe is fundamental to our work. There is always ample room for dialogue and discussion. ✶ Arjun Malik