

we designed some years back for these clients put us on the design map,' says Kalhan. Having pulled off a dynamic learning environment which allowed imagi-

nation, humour, and fun to remain in the limelight while providing educators much to work with, Santha and Kalhan had earned the trust and respect of these clients with the creativity in their

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celebrated design. 'They're a progressive, forward-looking institution, so we were able to create the coolest, spaces for their students,' says Kalhan.

This time around, the duo

were required to design the office for the Trust. If earlier the design of the learning environment played a big role, this time around, it was required to convey the conservative solidity of the insti-

tution, together with a sense of quiet luxury.

The lounge and lobby are intentionally 'under furnished' to subtly convey an impression that the best luxury in a city like Mumbai is space.





If one can afford to leave a space bare, it's only because there's more elsewhere.

'Three XXL cabins for the trustees measuring 600 sq ft each draw their sensibility from the notion of the Principal's or Vice Chancellor's office,' says Santha. They

convey a sense of authority, but have a humanising element in the bookshelves and colours used. The boardroom has a horseshoe shaped table, while other conference rooms provide space for meetings with the guests, often principals or

LOCATION

PROJECT

Wadala, Mumbai. India

Corporate office of

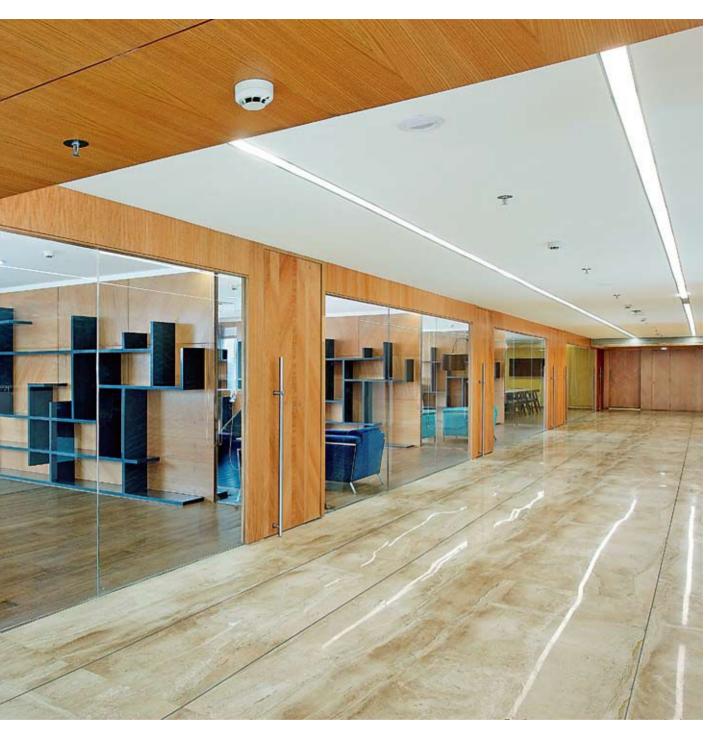
CLIENT

Vidyalankar Dnyanpeeth Trust

PROJECT TEAM

Vidyalankar Dnyanpeeth Trust

Kalhan Mattoo Santha Mattoo Dhiraj Narang Amit Jadav



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trustees of other colleges. A nook is conducive to other, less formal conversations.

Meetings can be rather long, so since there is no facility nearby even for a quick lunch, a chef's counter has been provided in one room, replete with the drama of a teppenyaki grill. Projectors and wifi enable work while the gastronomic offerings take care of hunger pangs.

The design successfully makes the space approachable and dignified at the same time.