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"We find simple and elegant material and spatial solutions for our clients"



MARTAND KHOSLA Co-founder Romi Khosla Design Studio, Delhi *www.rk-ds.com*

RAY OF SUNSHINE

The Tower House in Maharani Bagh, Delhi, uses brick, steel and exposed concrete (right)

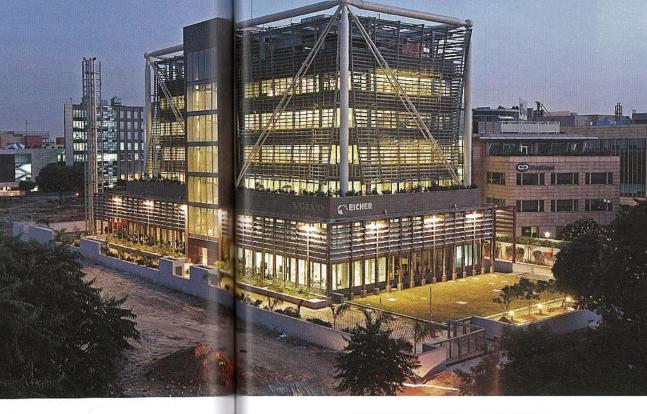
tecture; his father Romi Khosla's first office was a part of their home. It was natural for Martand to enrol into an architecture school, and after a brief working stint in England, he came back to India in 2001 and set up Romi Khosla Design Studio (RKDS), an architectural and interior design firm that specialises in corporate, institutional, and private residential design. "When we started RKDS, we were looking at opportunities in a newly developing India to search for a contemporary Indian aesthetic that places itself squarely within modernism," says Martand.

artand Khosla grew up

surrounded by archi-

Class Apart

Though his father has been a great learning factor, Martand has also been inspired by international architects such as Le Corbusier, Louis Kahn, Peter Zumthor, Renzo Piano, Charles Correa, Geoffrey Bawa, Felix Candela, and Hassan Fathy. "We design with an architectural philosophy that is materially, culturally and climatically entrenched within South Asia," he says. Some of RKDs's works include the headquarters for Volvo-Eicher in Gurgaon, buildings for Jamia University including an art gallery, a cafeteria and a dental college, and a few residential projects. At present, they are designing



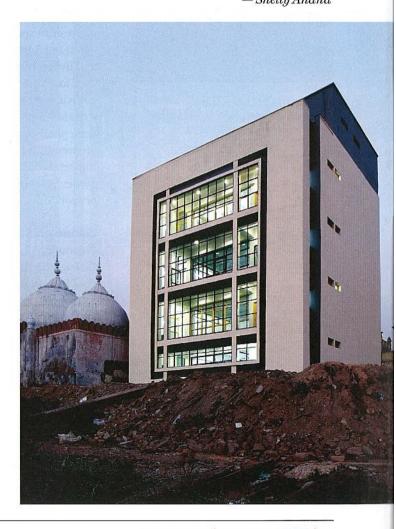


REAL WORK The Volvo-Eicher headquarters in Gurgaon has received a LEED platinum rating for sustainable and green design (above)

HEALTH FIRST A polyclinic for the economically disadvantaged at Lahori Gate in Delhi (right) two high-end residences in India and are simultaneously working on low-cost waste segregation sheds for cooperative in Pune. "We design for clients across the economic spectrum," says Martand.

Design Values

He though learnt a lesson of detachment from his projects a long time ago. "We love them dearly while we design them and construct them, but I have leant to let them go once we have delivered them to the clients." RKDS is now working on designing an embassy complex in Uzbekistan, a rural community research centre in Maharashra, besides others. Each of these projects present different challenges, and Martand is excited about all. — Shelly Anand



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