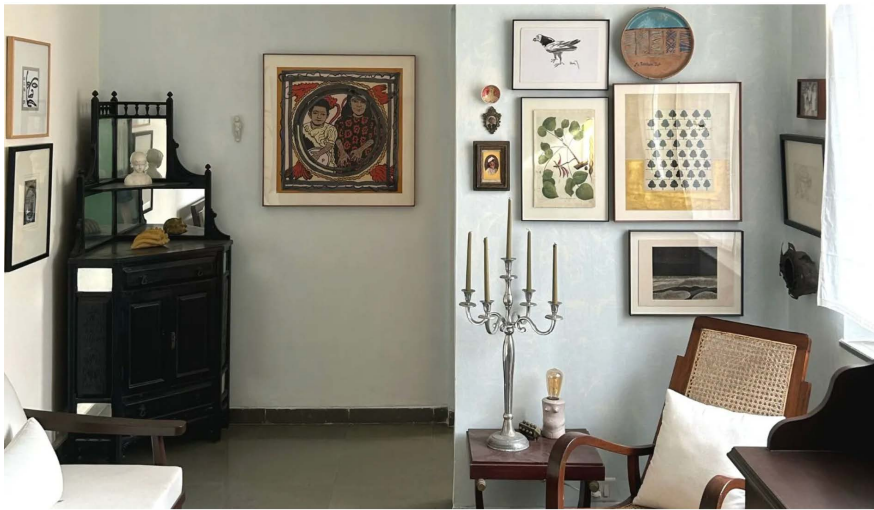


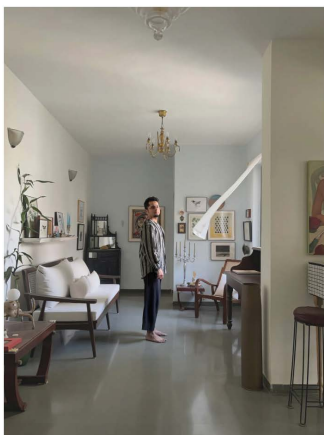
AD Small Spaces: This artist's 800-square-foot Pune home is a charming repository of nostalgia

Gaurav Ogale's Pune home studio is designed as a 'Museum of Memory', layered with custom furniture, art, and curios from around the globe.

By Nuriyah Johar
29 February 2024



For visual artist Gaurav Ogale (@patranimacchi on Instagram), memories are material things. They take the form of glass bottles, Japanese porcelain dolls, and charcoal drawings in his Pune home studio. Point to any object in this 800-square-foot rental, and Ogale will have a story to tell. Nothing is mindlessly 'added-to-cart'; everything is considered and curated with utmost care. "My relationship with spaces has always been very tactile, especially because I have moved many homes and always lived out of boxes," Ogale tells us. "By osmosis, art and memories have travelled with me to all my homes, making space for themselves and settling in with me until it was time to move again. I have no memory of 'designing' a home; objects, art, and textiles organically made space for themselves in my spaces, big and small."

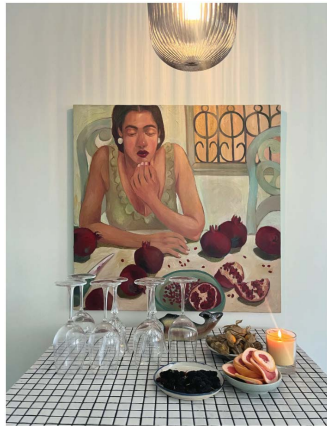


On the ledge are 17th century Botanical illustrations from Venice, untitled works by artists Saubiyi Chasmawala, KG Subramanyan, a 19th century vintage porcelain cat from a limited edition series by Musée Louvre, watercolour work by Shyamli Singhal and ink drawing by Jasjot Singh Hans. Gaurav Ogale



A large mounted traditional woven textile from Istanbul lines the hallway. Overhead, hangs a glass lamp from Taherallys in Bombay. The Octopus lamp is made from industrial waste by Advanced Nature; next to it are two watercolour drawings by T. Venkanna. Gaurav Ogale

After having spent over ten years in Bombay, Ogale made the decision to move back to his sleepy hometown. It was important to him to move into a smaller house blessed with ample sunlight. "As an artist who works primarily on themes of memory, nostalgia, and inheritance, I thrive in intimate spaces which allow me to dream, breathe, lay doing nothing, and sometimes, just be," he says. Fortunately, he found exactly that; an airy, sunlit one-bedroom layered with a timeless [Kota stone](#) floor; the perfect canvas for Ogale to breathe life onto. He wanted to lend his home a dream-like illustrative quality, placing himself among all the artists and their narratives that he has treasured over the years, the countries he's travelled to, and the stories he's collected.



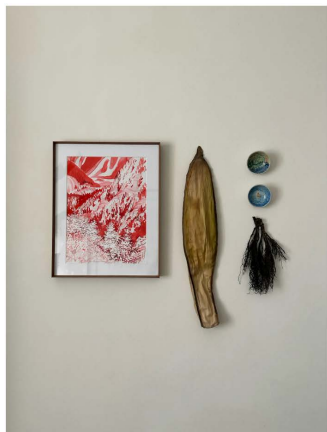
The table is made from a recycled old shelf and then embellished with mosaic tiles artist Shibani Dhawalikar and Anumita Jain. The painting on the wall 'Crimson Drops' is by a young artist Aksh Garg. Gaurav Ogale



Two ink drawings by the master Jogen Chowdhury, a conch made from industrial waste by Advanced Nature, and a marble bust from a vintage market in Berlin. On the right is an artwork on silk by artist Moshtari Hilal. Gaurav Ogale

Most of the furniture pieces in the house are the very embodiment of nostalgia. Eschewing all that is mass-produced and prefabricated, the visual artist got his furniture locally made, based on illustrations in his journal. "I wanted it to be a constant reminder of my precious childhood in my grandparents' home, which was amidst a lot of wilderness. There was wooden furniture, tall beds, with canopy frames, Art Deco cabinets, and bouncy wooden chairs," he says. Interestingly, the only piece of furniture in the home that hasn't been customised is a mirrored dressing table, an heirloom close to a century old, that has been in Ogale's family for over four generations.

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Ink drawing 'Bad Gastein III' by Christoph Niemann, alongside found objects mounted on the wall, and two little porcelain bowls painted by Ogale. Gaurav Ogale



The little porcelain objects are from flea markets in Bombay, Berlin and France, alongside The Zakir Hussain Maquette by Dayanita Singh. Gaurav Ogale

The leitmotif of memory is carried forward through the art in the home, all of which has been painstakingly curated by Ogale through the years. Drawings by artists like Krishen Khanna, Arpita Singh, Jogen Chowdhury, Buddhadev Mukherjee, and [T. Venkanna](#) exist alongside Venetian botanicals painted in the 17th century and works of contemporary artists like [Arshi Ahmadzai](#), Saubiya Chasmawala, and Faiza Hasan, to name a few. Decorative objects and whimsical curios dot the home, ranging from a cherub picked up from a Berlin flea market to an eclectic octopus lamp made by Advanced Nature from industrial waste.





The artwork on the green partition is by Buddhadev Mukherjee. Gaurav Ogale



Brass lamp from Chor Bazaar, Studio Box by Dayanita Singh, and the art on the table is part of Ogale's recent series of gouache on wood. Gaurav Ogale



Bed designed by Ogale, soft furnishings from Ekam. On the wall is a very special silk scarf edition by Hermes called 'Colour Masala' in collaboration with NS Harsha back in 2008. Gaurav Ogale



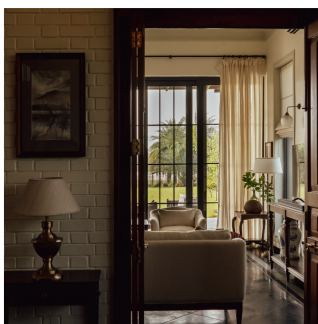
The wall to the right has a drawing by the master Krishen Khanna, the iron fish from Marrakech and above that is a magical charcoal and gold drawing by a dear friend and artist Faiza Hasan. The curtain has Ogale's favourite urdu word 'sabr' embroidered. Gaurav Ogale

Beyond the inimitable visual nature of this serene Pune home, what truly makes it special is the sense of hope it instils; the idea that 'home' can transcend four walls to include so much more. In a rental apartment, which is by nature, transient, Ogale has created a home seemingly suspended in time. One non-negotiable in curating a space like this, however, is patience. "There's always very peculiar music that plays in the house; every corner has its own playlist. For instance, I find myself listening to 'Raag Yaman' staring at the curtain that has one of my favourite Urdu words - 'sabr' embroidered on it," he concludes.

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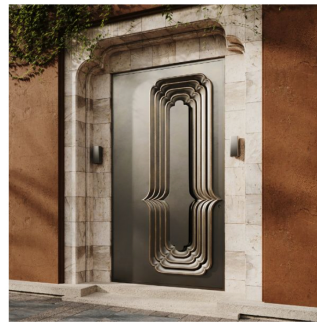


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