

# ELLE DECOR

ID Symposium!  
MEET THE  
STALWARTS

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2019. ₹150

*Ripple With Love*  
ALEJANDRO ARAVENA  
GIORGIO ARMANI  
GURJIT & KOMAL  
MATHAROO  
TARUN TAHILIANI  
YOKO SHIMIZU

*Trending Now!*  
FLORAL PRINTS  
INLAY NOW  
MUSTARD PINK  
TACTILE &  
SENSORY

## INDIA INSPIRED

QUINTESSENTIAL MOTIFS & PHOTO ESSAY, ARTISANAL FINDS,  
EXPERIMENTS WITH MATERIALS AND STREET EATS



### DID YOU KNOW ?

Although the word 'jali' has its roots in Urdu, the carving of apertures in repetitive patterns dates as far back as the eighth century, as seen in the architecture of the Kailasa temple at Ellora, Maharashtra, and the Pattadakal temple complex in Karnataka.



### PAUL MATHIEU Designer



Of the many inspirations I have found in India, carved stone jali screens are particularly special to me and remain a strong influence. Christ's tomb at Fatehpur Sikri, Japan's Palace of the Winds — the beauty and intelligence embodied in these masterworks of light and air inspire me. Channelling ferocious motifs like ogee and quatrefoil, or echoing the simple elegance of danmak, wood block prints, all is a lesson in eternal style. The carved stone of jali moves the air, so it is more than an aesthetic observation to say that they "breathe" while emitting light. In their motifs, they offer a glimpse of divine harmony and infinite potential.

In the repetition of natural and geometric patterns. In this fusion of art and craft, my imagination takes flight. The play of shadows, the recurring shapes appearing on either side of the screens, the patterns on faces and figures passing by, and the moving shadows, which mark the passage of the sun — all continue to make an indelible impression. These notes inspire me — expressed through a single attribute like the wall of illuminated cases inside the Gyan Museum or in pieces from my Contour collection for Luxury Living. At other times, it is more direct, as with the restoration of my Udaipur home.