

AD

The Blue Issue



Portfolio No.3

AD

X

The image shows two handwritten signatures in white ink. The signature on the left is 'Ashish' and the one on the right is 'Kshitij'. Both are written in a cursive, stylized font.

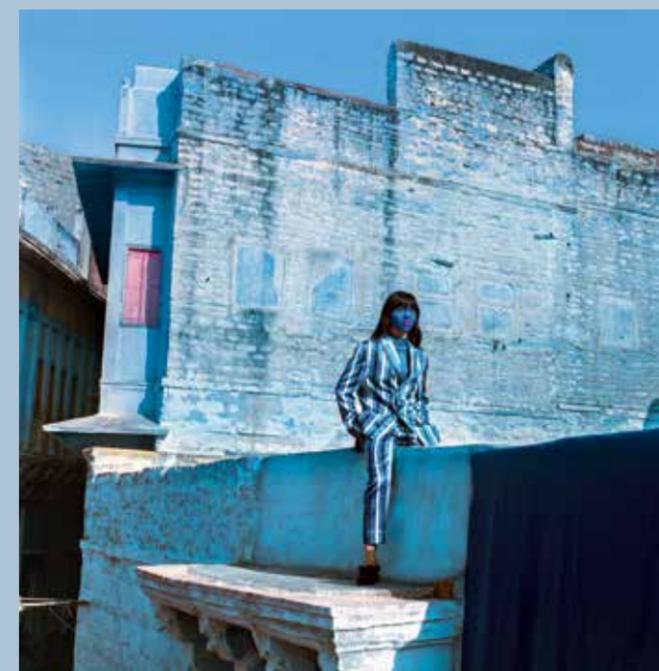
ASHISH SHAH & KSHITIJ KANKARIA

JODHPUR

Blue transitions between its many moods effortlessly as it streaks across form, furniture, fashion, architecture and even a state of mind. Its fluidity inspired us to call on fashion photographer Ashish Shah and stylist Kshitij Kankaria to, essentially, shape the colour blue. "When AD spoke to us, Jodhpur seemed the obvious choice for inspiration," says Kankaria, who also drew on Yves Klein's blue body of work and the dramatic aesthetic of impersonators or *behrupiyas* to style this shoot. Then the stage was set: reams of fabric were draped across the city's terraces, luxurious rugs were rolled out, and the spotlight was firmly on blue. "For me, this is one of the most challenging conditions to shoot in, since I wasn't able to achieve any contrast or separation in my images. I went ahead because I believed in the larger vision," says Shah. For him, the shoot meant an opportunity to go back in time and revisit his childhood love for the colour; for Kankaria, who wanted to feature Indian architecture in his work this year, it meant breaking new ground.



'Gobhi' (LES-193) carpet by Soniya Devi from the Artisan Originals collection, Jaipur Rugs. Dress, Huemn. Blue top, ANKITA.



'Azure' (SJA 3961) fabric (*facing page, left*), Sunbrella. Fabric from the Cotton Classic collection (*facing page, right*), D'Decor. Striped suit, Sahil Aneja. Turtleneck, ANKITA. Shoes, Eka



'Bhaarat' (LE-44) carpet by Sushila Devi from the Artisan Originals collection, Jaipur Rugs. Bodysuit, Sunaina Khera. **Facing page:** 'Delavay Béryl' fabric from the Pompadour collection, The Pure Concept. 'Hexagon Azure' (J204) fabric (*on ground*), Sunbrella. Shirt, SHIFT. Pants, Bodice. Shoes, Eka.



'D2292/5A' fabric from the Samsara collection, Dreams Furnishings. Turtleneck, ANKITA. Jacket, Bodice. Skirt, Dhruv Kapoor. **Facing page:** 'Gobhi' (LES-193) carpet by Soniya Devi from the Artisan Originals collection, Jaipur Rugs. Suit, Rajesh Pratap Singh. Shoes, Eka.

Model: Elizabeth Mech. Hairstylist and Make-up Artist: Cuneyt Ozketen. Assistant Stylist: Nainika Kapoor. Photographer's Assistant: Shubham Lodha. Hospitality: Raas Jodhpur. Production: Daulat Singh.

For details, see Stockists

RAAS JODHPUR

On the right is model Elizabeth Mech in the expansive courtyard at Raas Jodhpur. A mammoth exercise in restoration, the hotel seamlessly bridges the gap between the past and present. An 18th-century haveli located at the base of Mehrangarh Fort, the property was remodelled and designed by Studio Lotus's Ambrish Arora and Praxis's Rajiv Majumdar, together, as the Lotus Praxis Initiative. Using locally available materials and sustainable architectural practices, Arora and Majumdar cleverly retained the essence of the walled city through the use of stone jalis and arches, as well as the blue walls that are so quintessentially Jodhpur.

raasjodhpur.com; 0091-291-2636455

