



[CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT] Aarti Aggarwal; Pristine Lotus side-table from Utsav collection; Ketch bench from Yours Truly collection.



At Home With

AARTI AGGARWAL

Founder & Designer, **Knock On Wood**. With stores in New Delhi and Chandigarh, she focuses on customised and bespoke hardwood furniture.

My Journey

I GREW UP IN KARNAL, HARYANA and we had a carpenter in our backyard. It was then, at such an early age, that I realised my love affair with wood and the craftsmanship. I completed my graduation from Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi University, and went on to study Design in England at Central Saint Martin, University of Arts, London; followed by a course on chair design at The Danish Skole of Design, Copenhagen. Once I returned to India, I began to create kids furniture. But, I feel, it was too early for the Indian market to accept kids furniture as a separate genre. Therefore, I graduated to creating furniture for the home. After a few years of practicing multiple styles, I found my niche with the House of Design. Later, we renamed the brand to Knock On Wood and started producing solid wood furniture, with a heavy dose of Indian sensibility and functionality. There has been no looking back since then. And we hope to create newer designs that are sustainable and beautiful at the same time.

My Inspiration

IT'S NOT HARD TO FIND INSPIRATION, the shape of a tree, a shadow on the floor, a conversation I hear, or something I read, anything can inspire me. It's just about being open to the cues that are being thrown at me by life constantly. A good cup of coffee, some super-dark chocolate, conversation with a friend, a good book - all of these are great pickups for me.

ADDRESS: The Knock On Wood Design Studio, 1A Link Road, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi 14.

WEBSITE: www.knockonwood.in

My Life

WHAT ARE YOU CURRENTLY WORKING ON?

Our new export range in solid wood and mix media.

A BOOK THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO READ AGAIN?

How To Kill A Mockingbird

YOUR FAVOURITE GENRE OF MUSIC AND ARTIST?

Pop. I am a die-hard fan of the 80's and 90's. Also, country music, Lobo & Kenny Rogers.

THE DESIGN PIECE FROM YOUR COLLECTION THAT YOU LOVE?

Allies, Ketch, Pristine Lotus and the Butler.

SOME INTERESTING COMPLIMENTS YOU RECEIVED FOR YOUR WORK?

The latest we have heard: 'It's poetry in wood!'

WHAT PLACE DO YOU CONSIDER A DESIGN MASTERPIECE?

Stockholm - the entire city seems to be celebrating design.

DESCRIBE YOURSELF IN A HASHTAG.

#experimental

IF YOU WERE TO WRITE YOUR AUTOBIOGRAPHY, WHAT WOULD THE TITLE BE?

For the Love of Wood.

IF YOU COULD TRADE YOUR LIFE WITH ANY HISTORICAL PERSONALITY, WHO WOULD IT BE?

Chanakya or Charlie Chaplin.

IF YOU COULD BE FAMOUS FOR A DAY, WHO WOULD YOU BE AND WHY?

Queen Victoria. I would like to know what's it like to be a queen.

WHAT WOULD YOU RATE 10 / 10?

Water Lilies by Vincent Van Gogh.

A MOVIE, YOU WISH YOU HAD PLAYED THE LEAD ROLE.

English Vinglish or Harry Potter.



Bedside cabinet 'Mistress' and tables 'Allies In Style' from Yours Truly collection.

WORDS GARIMA SHARMA