

Maharaja

INTRODUCING YACHT ARCHITECTURE



What can be termed as a futuristic design the 150 meters Maharaja is creating waves in the yachting industry. This innovative yacht design by Mumbai based Ashish Gupta is revolutionary to say the least.

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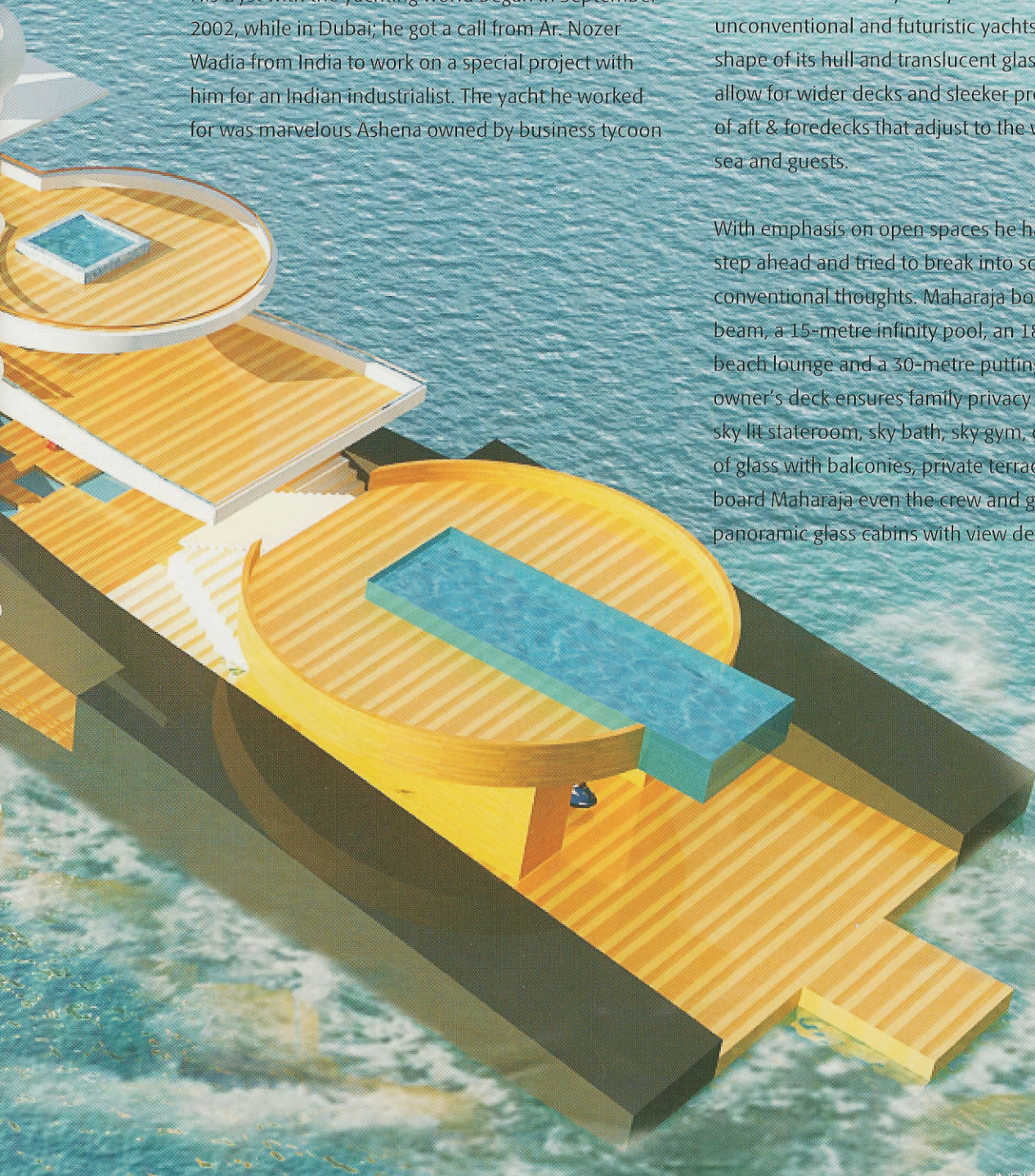
Armed with a degree in architecture from the reputed Raheja Institute of Architecture Mumbai based Ashish Gupta founded Beyond Design in 2001 focussed mainly on lifestyle architecture. For Ashish who has a passion for cars, yacht designing fulfils his passion for Automotive Engineering as well as Lifestyle Architecture.

His tryst with the yachting world began in September 2002, while in Dubai, he got a call from Ar. Nozer Wadia from India to work on a special project with him for an Indian industrialist. The yacht he worked for was marvelous Ashena owned by business tycoon

Gautam Singhanian. Thereafter he got to work on two more prestigious projects Indian Empress and Kalizma. His numerous visits to prestigious boat shows and interaction with superyacht owners bore fruit in form of *Maharaja*.

He insists on calling the 150 meters Maharaja yacht architecture rather than design and the renderings clearly show why. By his own admission he was influenced by Wally and XSMG the two very unconventional and futuristic yachts. The unique shape of its hull and translucent glass superstructure allow for wider decks and sleeker profile with series of aft & foredecks that adjust to the whims of both the sea and guests.

With emphasis on open spaces he has gone one step ahead and tried to break into some more conventional thoughts. Maharaja boats of a 25-metre beam, a 15-metre infinity pool, an 18-metre-wide beach lounge and a 30-metre putting green. The owner's deck ensures family privacy featuring flexible sky lit stateroom, sky bath, sky gym, continuous wall of glass with balconies, private terrace and pool. On board Maharaja even the crew and guests enjoy the panoramic glass cabins with view decks.



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India Boating interacted with Willem Stolk from Stolk Marimecs Holland based Naval Architecture & Engineering firm who have backed this project with regards to its feasibility.

What do you think of the design of the boat?

I think it is a revolutionary concept and an attractive design from the aesthetical point of view. It's also very well thought out in terms of the possibilities for practical use and suitability for the owner. It has been developed around conversations that Ashish Gupta has had with several owners of larger yachts since past two years. The basis idea is not to achieve the maximum number of cabins, but more to create a variety of possibilities for private and, if applicable, also corporate use for the owner.

Do you think it is a viable project?

Yes I do, although it is at a concept and design development stage at this moment and a more detailed development on the design aspects and the naval architecture has to be done preferably in co-operation with an owner directly or the project team of the owner. Also it is really a large yacht at the top echelon. Ashish is already working on smaller yachts based on similar ideas, called the "Grand Sport Series". These vessels will be in the range of 80-90m LOA, suitable for a wider share of the market.

Did you have to make any changes or modifications to the design of the boat for making it seaworthy?

We as naval architects do wish to make some modifications partly based on our experience in yacht and ship building and partly dictated by Class Societies like for instance Lloyd's Register of Shipping and international rules and regulations. The modifications will be in the bow section and the height of the lower side decks has to be reviewed, also the longitudinal strength has to be calculated carefully, because it is a very special setup. The endeavour is to do this as much as possible within the boundaries of the design concept.

Are you planning to build the boat? What kind of response have you received from your clients?

At this moment there is no building slot planned for the yacht at any yard. We have received a very positive response from clients, owners as well as yacht brokers. They have mainly appreciated the exclusive design and styling of the yacht but the extravagancy of the yacht does makes it a special project which will, I think take more time to realize. **IB**

L.O.A.	150 meters (492'-3")
BEAM	25 meters (82')
CRUISING SPEED	25 knots
NAVAL ARCHITECTS	STOLK MARIMECS (Netherlands)
STYLING & INTERIORS	BEYOND DESIGN (India)

WEBSITE: WWW.BEYONDDSIGN.CO.IN

