

## A new motif to Art Deco

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*Tejookaya Park in Matunga. Pic Courtesy/Art Deco Mumbai Trust*

For those who think that Art Deco is a theme restricted to the neighbourhoods of Churchgate and Marine Drive, an upcoming immersive walk hopes to change opinions. Hosted by Art Deco Mumbai on November 13, the experience seeks to bring to people a new perspective of the suburban neighbourhoods of Matunga. “Matunga as a neighbourhood is hugely significant because it is predominantly middle-class and was the first urban planning initiative in the city,” said Atul Kumar, founder, Art Deco Mumbai. Describing the neighbourhood’s Art Deco structures as possessing a distinct vernacular motif and culture, Suhasini Krishnan, who will host the walk, said, “The locality is an interesting amalgamation of various communities that were migrating to work in the city at the time, building their own microcosm.” A key part of the tour will be the Aurora theatre — a familiar haunt for fans of South Indian cinema. “It was a neighbourhood theatre that enabled the middle-class to enjoy good cinema in English and regional languages without having to travel up to town,” Kumar informed us.

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