

# AAD

## SELF PORTRAITS

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IWAN BAAN

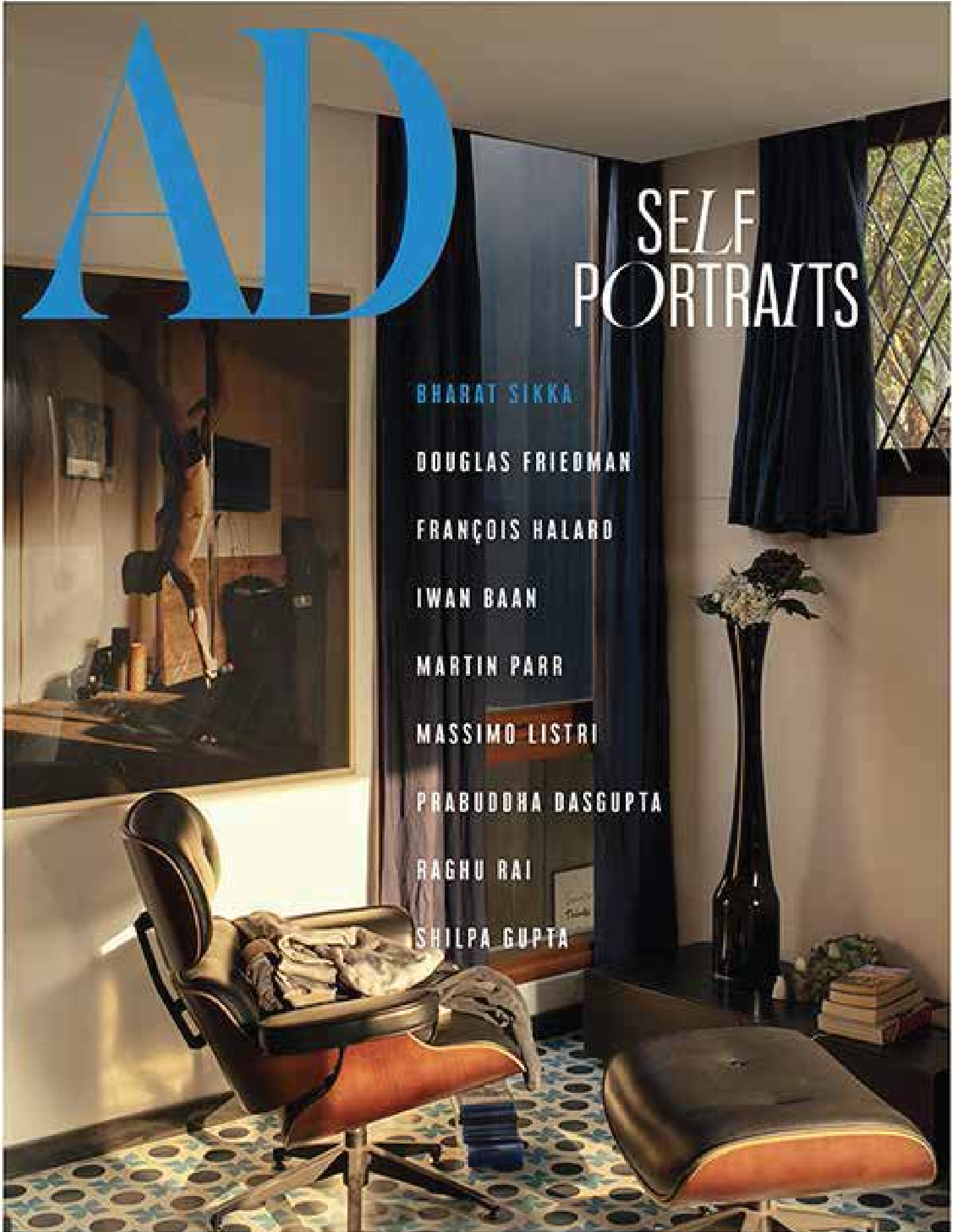
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# These sculptural vases from Cyprus can transform your outdoors into an art gallery

*YO2's new collection of planters are available in eight different designs and are made with scrap cast iron*

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Nolan Lewis

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YO2-planters-cyprus-gar

*The collaboration has produced two new suites, 'Veranda' and 'Nautic'*

Cyprus-based design studio YO2 is doing innovative things with the humongous amounts of scrap cast iron the small country produces. The studio has been recycling waste metal into gigantic planters that feature animal forms, Roman sculptures and human anatomical parts with flawless



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## Glam up

Oversized, large-scale, unusual planters are the next big thing in gardening trends. Terracotta planters have monopolised home gardens for far too long and creating a connection between gardening and the arts (by having exotic plants emerging out of statues and sculptures) has been fundamental to landscape design even in a historical context. “Due to their sheer size, entrances of big buildings, gardens and hotel lobbies are most suitable settings for our planters,” says Pericles Liatsos, the design lead at the firm.

YO2 planters are available eight different designs—‘Run the Show’ has a muscular, human hand taut in tension; ‘Gluttonous’ has a now extinct sabretoothed lion on the prowl; ‘Up to Code’ is a museum-worthy Roman woman’s torso and ‘LaLaLa’ is a trumpet whose mouthpiece can be used to display your favourite flowers! The other designs are more contemporary and abstract in reference.

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## Proving its Metal

The beauty of cast iron as a material is that it can withstand myriad elements, so leaving it by the doorstep won't bother you, no matter how precious the planter seems. Quick and easy cleaning using just soap and water is about all that is required, season after season. The style of craftsmanship and coatings also imbue these planters with anti-vandalism and anti-theft properties, allowing them to make for a flamboyant display in any corner of a garden. "YO2 Planters can be customised into many colours and we ship worldwide. In India, our designs are available at Rangoli in Hyderabad's Banjara Hills, Wall Decor and U Design Concepts in New Delhi," Liatsos says.

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