

The Soul Cage Lamp

BRIEF:

Le Sutra Hotel, one of our most important projects, being based on Indian mythology and philosophy demanded all artworks to reflect this unique theme.

We at Dr.Art+Design were thus briefed to create something on similar lines and we underwent a thorough study of various elements that can be represented in the structure of art across all forms along with being in sync with the theme of the hotel. One of which skillfully materialized into the Soul Cage Lamp and interestingly turned out to be the most popular piece of art in the reception area of the hotel.



IDEATION & EXECUTION:

According to Hindu philosophy the soul of a human being is covered with five sheath or five other bodies which are called 'Koshas'. Aim of human existence is to shed the first four sheaths and escape to attain union with super consciousness or attain freedom – 'Moksha' (liberation from birth cycle).

Dr. Art+ Design ideated to simplify this intricate belief through visual forms of art. The idea was of using a cage to represent this philosophy. On the other hand, the creative heads wished to make the representation a circuitous concept. When an art reveals itself step by step it is more intriguing and has long lasting impact on the spectator.



REVEALING THE ARTWORK:

The soul cage lamp is an assemblage of five layers of metal cage. The metal cages are of different size and shapes. But a closer look will reveal that the first sheath has several locks hanging on it. Similarly the third sheath has few several keys hanging from it. The last and the most important sheath also has keys displayed.

The 'locks and keys' on the Soul Cage lamp represent the various stages of this process. This artistic lamp thus represents the process of liberation of the soul or the journey of the soul towards 'Moksha'.

Referring to the philosophy again, we know that the third sheath is the abode of psycho-emotional pattern. Our feelings, stimuli, responses, thoughts and actions spring from this sheath, making this sheath the toughest to crack. Hence, in the artwork it is shown with keys which are nothing but overshadow of senses of mind. One should not let our freedom of karma get enslaved by sense indulgence. If this is realized and practiced then reaching the fifth sheath is a simple process. Hence the right keys for the locks are shown on the fifth sheath in the cage. Inside the innermost sheath is the illuminating soul represented through a lamp.

The cage lamp is created using simplest materials like the cage, locks, keys and lamp. The real genius lies in the wonderful amalgamation of the materials to create the appealing visuals. The mild steel cage polished in ancient grey blends itself with the mild grey lobby of Le Sutra in turn complimenting the overall interiors.