

## Divyam Mehta's 'Gardener' Cultivates the Philosophy of Shibori and the Beauty of Transformation

Published on 29 Oct 2025 | By IFI Correspondent



We all love wearing artisanal clothes, but the joy doubles when someone shares the story behind them. There's something deeply special about knowing that the fabric draped around us has passed through skilled, human hands — each fold and dye mark reflecting an artist's hard work, emotion, and vision. It's a process that goes beyond fashion — a meditation in creativity, storytelling, and transformation for both maker and wearer.

Designer **Divyam Mehta**, known for his poetic approach to textiles, returns with his latest collection — **Gardener**. This time, he revisits the ancient technique of **shibori**, not merely as a process, but as a **philosophy of patience and renewal**.

## A Meditation on Craft and Growth

"Through *Gardener*, I wanted to look at shibori as a form of renewal," shares Divyam. "It's inspired by the act of tending to soil, craft, and self — unfolding like a meditation on transformation."

In this collection, fabric becomes something alive — capable of teaching through its own reactions to dye and bind. Each piece mirrors the organic unpredictability of nature, where imperfections bloom into beauty.

The edit works primarily with hand-dyed cottons, denims, and softly quilted fabrics, chosen for their tactile honesty and quiet elegance. The colour palette takes its cue from nature's rhythm — olive green, plum, whiskey, blue, and coal.

"What's unique," Divyam notes, "is that *Gardener* doesn't rely on prints or embroidery. It builds its identity through texture and technique." Here, shibori becomes both **canvas and brushstroke**, forming spontaneous botanical imprints that embody growth, rebellion, and movement.

## Crafted by Hands that Know the Earth

The collection was brought to life by **artisans from Rajasthan and Gujarat**, whose mastery in shibori and resist-dyeing infuses depth and authenticity into every thread. It's a celebration of craft communities and their enduring connection with the handmade.

Silhouette-wise, *Gardener* strikes a balance between **structure** and **ease** — think **sprouting-sleeve tops**, **softly quilted jackets**, **draped lungi trousers**, **resist-dyed odnis**, **ganjis**, **and denims**. Each piece carries **a fluid**, **gender-inclusive sensibility**, inviting wearers to move freely and feel grounded.

## **Fashion Rooted in Mindfulness**

For Divyam, *Gardener* is more than a fashion collection — it's a reminder to slow down, nurture, and reconnect. "It's about patience, time, and transformation," he says. "In a fast-paced world, it asks us to find beauty in the handmade — to honour the human touch."

With *Gardener*, Divyam Mehta once again proves that true luxury lies not in embellishment, but in **authenticity, texture**, and the quiet poetry of craft.

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