

# THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

## EMPEROR'S EMBROIDERY – HANDCRAFTED ART BY TRADITIONAL ZARI – ZARDOZI ARTISTS

This is an exclusive collection of hand embroidered wall hangings and cushion covers on the theme of the **GOLDEN TRIANGLE** – the cities of AGRA, JAIPUR & DELHI.

Inspired by the unique architecture of these three historical cities, designs representing them have been carefully selected & then hand-embroidered with the traditional ari technique to make a unique & meaningful set of heritage design products.

Photographs of the heritage designs of the prominent monuments in these 3 cities were given to the embroidery artisans. Being skilled in free hand drawing as well, the artisans drew out the essential elements of the designs on tracing paper, imprinted the design on fabric and embroidered the designs using various traditional Ari thread embroidery stitches. The skill & individual style of the highly skilled artisans is highlighted through these decorative art products, suitable for museums, luxury homes and as gifts.

These exclusive pieces can now be made to order, for a limited period of time. You can choose from:

### (A) The DELHI Collection - Blues

Delhi, the Indraprastha & the Shahjahanabad of the past, has layers of history. The oldest fort, *Purana Qila* stands atop the fabled Indraprastha of the ancient past. Inside it stands a mosque in ruins, called the *Qila-i-Kuhna Mosque* or the Mosque of the Old Fort, filled with an incredible array of art, represented through Islamic geometry tile work & stone inlay work around the Mihrab.

At Shah Jahan's Red Fort, the iconography of "equality before law" is best captured in the pivotal tile of the Diwan-e-Khas – the "Insaaf-ka-tarazu" or Scales of Justice & in the Diwan-e-Aam with the Greek fable of "Orpheus playing the violin the forest".

The inspiration for the Delhi Collection of Products has been drawn from the heritage designs of the Purana Qila and the Red Fort.

#### 1. Purana Qila Cushion Cover

Code: PQCC01

Size: 16" \* 16"

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Blue Piping, Embroidered with Blue Thread

#### Description:

This cushion cover is inspired by the heritage designs at the Qila-i-Kuhna Mosque or the Mosque of the Old Fort built by Sher Shah Suri in 1540, after defeating Humanyun. Built as a symbol of his royal aspiration, Sher Shah Suri's extensive use of gold and lapis lazuli stone is evident amidst the ruins of the walls around the mihrab even today. This richly embroidered cushion cover uses the Ari embroidery technique to replicate the design of the Lapis Lazuli Inlay tile inside the mosque. Each piece took 30-32 hours to complete.



## 2. Red Fort Scales of Justice Cushion Cover

Code: RFSJCC01

Size: 16”\*16”

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping and Mirror Work

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Blue Piping, Embroidered with Grey Thread

### Description:

This cushion cover is inspired by the heritage designs at the *Diwan-e-Khas* or the Hall of Private Audiences at the Red Fort. A marble stone tile carved with the “Scales of Justice” portraying the message of “Equality in the court of law” has been embroidered on a cushion cover with the Ari embroidery technique. A picture depicts Bahadur Shah II holding court at Diwan-e-Khas below the scales of justice. Each piece took 8-10 hours to complete.



## 3. Red Fort Orpheus Cushion Cover

Code: RFOPCC01

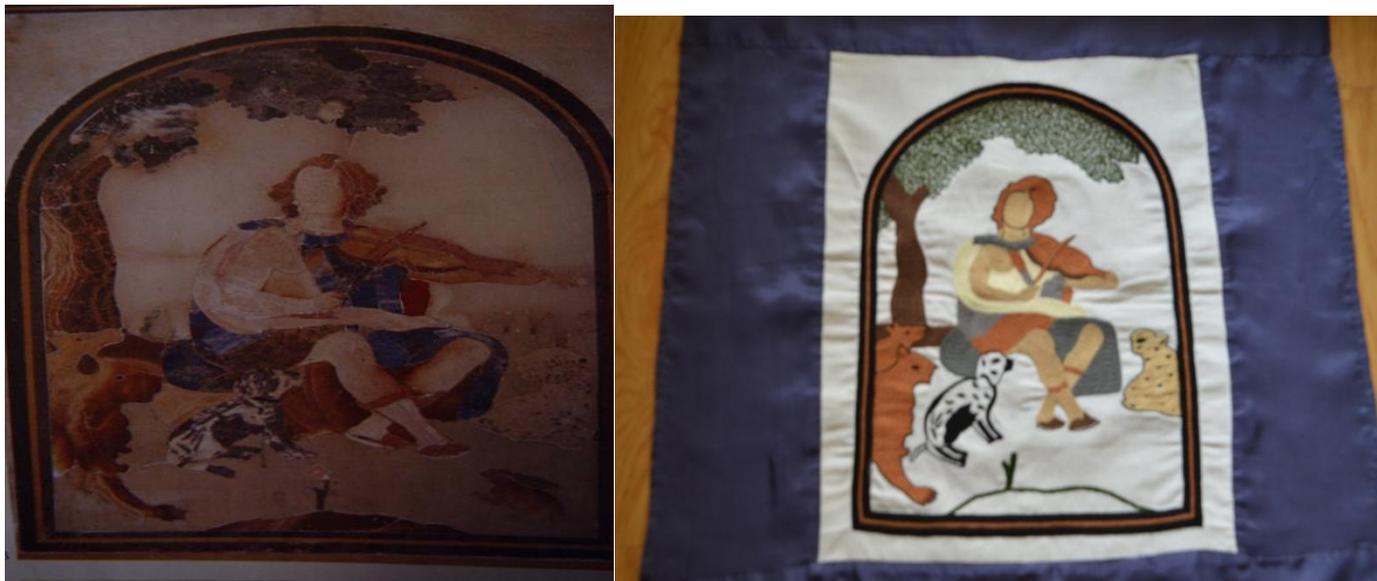
Size: 16”\*16”

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Blue Piping, Embroidered with Multiple Colors.

### Description:

This cushion cover is inspired by the heritage designs at the *Diwan-e-Aam* or the Hall of Audiences at the Red Fort. Behind the throne, where Shah Jahan and his successors heard the grievances of the public, is an image of Orpheus, the legendary musician, poet and prophet in Greek Mythology. It was believed that Orpheus played music with such magical sweetness that he charmed the animals, birds, and reptiles that gathered around him, subduing their innate hostilities. This theme was one of the most popular amongst the artists living in Northern Europe in the 1500s and 1600s, indicating the hope in the power of arts to conquer, and perhaps resolve, irreconcilable conflict. This beautiful theme has been richly embroidered on a cushion cover with the Ari embroidery technique. Each piece took 30-32 hours to complete.



### 4. Delhi Modern Cushion Cover

Code: DMCC01

Size: 16''\*16''

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Blue Piping, Embroidered with Multiple Colors.

### Description:

This cushion cover is a collage representing the essence of "Poly-temporal" Delhi of today! The Mughal and Pre Mughal sites remain the main tourist attraction and the DTC and auto rickshaws are here to stay. Though Delhi prides itself in being the 1<sup>st</sup> city to get connected by the Metro to enable faster commute, one can still enjoy the sites by slow travel on the back of an elephant and explore Shahjahanabad through the cycle rickshaw! This essential Delhi-ness has been embroidered on a cushion cover with the Ari embroidery technique. Each piece took 15-20 hours to complete.



## (B) The JAIPUR Collection – Pinks

Rajasthan's state capital is a celebration of the desert. Nothing captures the essence of the city more than the Hawa Mahal & the City Palace. The architecture of these palaces is a fusion of elements from the Shilpa Shastras with the Rajput, Mughal and European architectural elements.

Hawa Mahal was built in 1799 during the reign of Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh and the City Palace was built between 1729 and 1732 by Raja Jai Singh II, a keen architectural enthusiast. The inner courtyard of the City Palace provides access to the royal residence and museum at Chandra Mahal, and is adorned with four small gates known as *Ridhi Sidhi Pol*. These gates are decorated with themes representing the four seasons and Hindu gods, evoking good luck for all who enter. The inspiration of the products in the Jaipur collection has been derived from the heritage designs of the Hawa Mahal and the gates of Chandra Mahal.

### **Products:**

#### 1. **Hawa Mahal Cushion Cover**

Code: JHMCC01

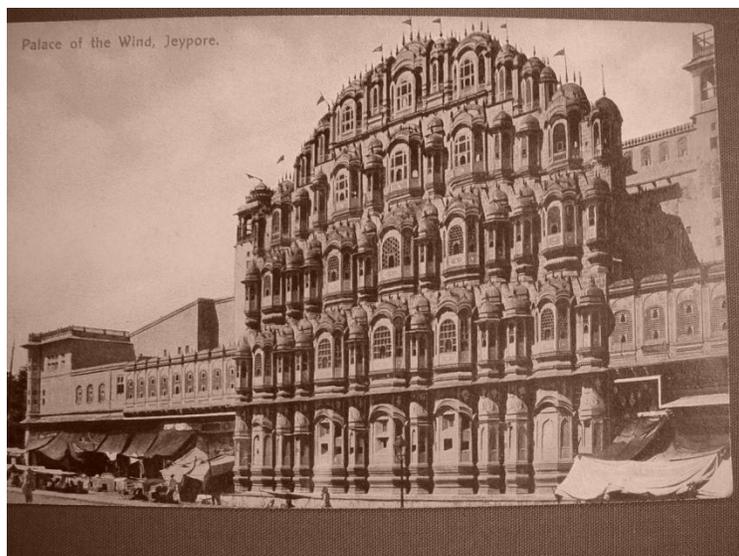
Size: 16" \* 16"

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Pink Piping, Embroidered with Pink and other colours

### **Description:**

This cushion cover is inspired by the red and pink sandstone Hawa Mahal or Palace of Winds of Jaipur. The exterior high screen wall akin to a honeycomb of a beehive was believed to be modeled in the shape of Lord Krishna's crown. The artistic interpretation of the Hawa Mahal on the cushion cover has been entirely hand embroidered using the Ari technique. Each piece took 12-15 hours to complete.



## 2. City Palace Peacock Gate Cushion Cover

Code: JCPPGCC 01

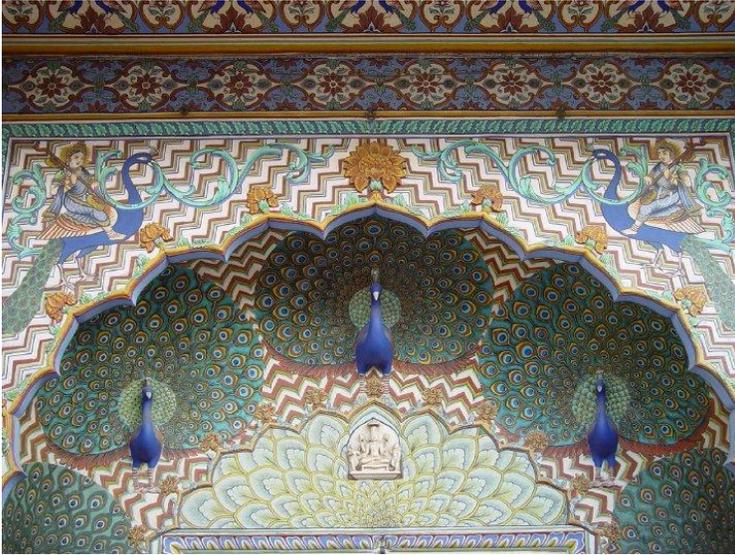
Size: 16”\*16”

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Pink Piping, Embroidered with mixed colours

### Description:

The Peacock Gate is located on the Northeast of the City Palace courtyard. With motifs of peacocks on the doorway, the gate represents autumn and is dedicated Lord Vishnu. The artistic interpretation of the Peacock gate on the cushion cover has been entirely hand embroidered using the Ari technique. Each piece took 20-25 hours to complete.



## 3. City Palace Lotus Gate Cushion Cover

Code: JCPLGCC 01

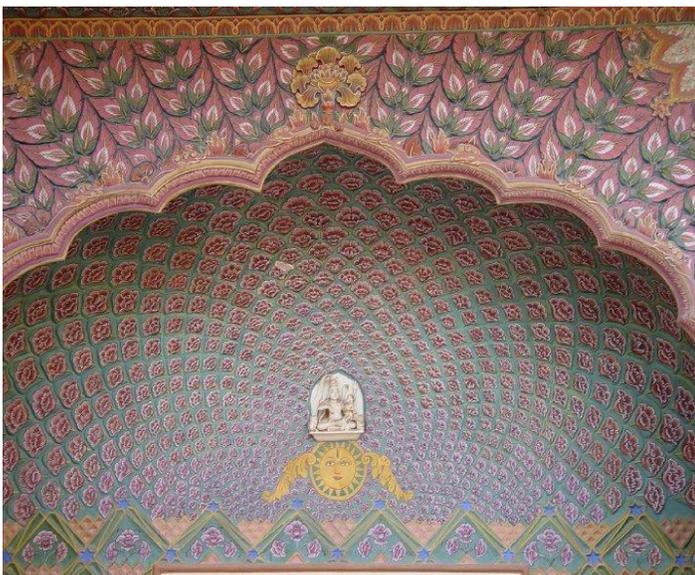
Size: 16”\*16”

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Pink Piping, Embroidered with mixed colours

### Description:

The Lotus Gate is located on the South West of the City Palace courtyard. With a continual lotus petal pattern and the face of Surya, the gate represents the summer season, and is dedicated to Lord Shiva and his consort Parvati. The artistic interpretation of the Lotus gate on the cushion cover has been entirely hand embroidered using the Ari technique. Each piece took 20-25 hours to complete.



#### 4. City Palace Green Gate Cushion Cover

Code: JCPGGCC 01

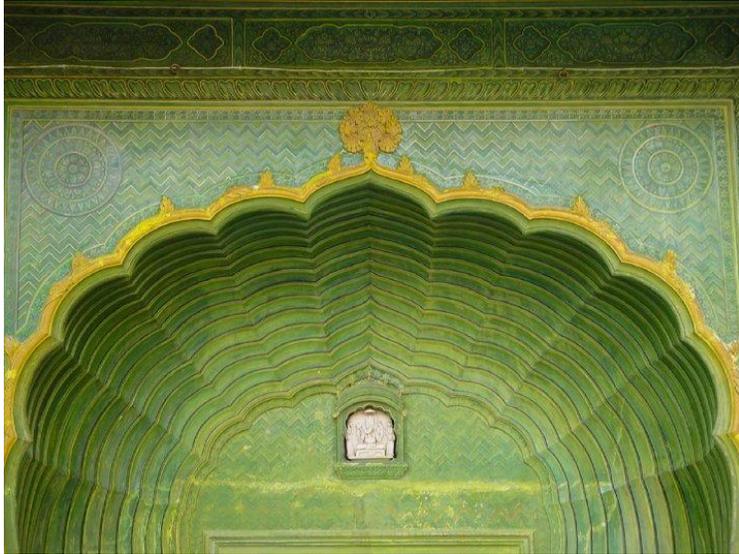
Size: 16”\*16”

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Pink Piping, Embroidered with mixed colours

##### Description:

The Green Gate, also called the “Leheriya” or waves gate is located on the North West of the City Palace courtyard. The green wavy pattern is representative of spring and the gate is dedicated to Lord Ganesha. The artistic interpretation of the Green gate on the cushion cover has been entirely hand embroidered using the Ari technique. Each piece took 20-25 hours to complete.



### **(C) The AGRA Collection - Reds**

There is more to the Taj Mahal than symmetry & white marble. Subtle designs line both its exterior & interiors. The same can be said about Itmad-ud-Daula, the tomb of the parents of Mughal Empress Nur Jahan. Intricate geometric & floral patterns in stone inlays, largely in muted colours cover both these monuments lavishly. The products in the Agra Collection have been inspired by the heritage designs of the Taj Mahal and the Itmad-ud-Daula.

##### Products:

#### 1. Taj White Bouquet Cushion Cover

Code: TWBCC 01

Size: 16”\*16”

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Maroon Piping, Embroidered with mixed colours

##### Description:

This exquisite cushion cover is inspired by the marble stone carving and the Italian Pietra Dura or the *Parchin Kari* stone inlay work from the corridors of the Taj Mahal. The Bouquet design and the floral inlay patterns with precious and semi precious stones have been artistically interpreted on this heavily embroidered cushion cover using the Ari technique. Each piece took 20-25 hours to complete.



## 2. Taj Red Inlay Cushion Cover

Code: TRICC 01

Size: 16''\*16''

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Maroon Piping, Embroidered with Red, Green and Yellow Threads

### Description:

This elegant cushion cover captures the essence of the Taj – replicating the red stone inlay work called *Pietra Dura* or the *Parchin Kari* that adorns the exterior walls of the Taj Mahal. Using the Ari technique, the floral pattern set with precious and semi precious stones on the taj has been embroidered along the border of this cushion cover. Each piece took 15-20 hours to complete.



### 3. Taj Mahal Outline Cushion Cover

Code: TMOCC 01

Size: 16''\*16''

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Maroon Piping, Embroidered with Grey Thread

#### Description:

Rabindranath Tagore described the Taj Mahal as “ a teardrop on the cheek of time”. This elegant cushion cover is embroidered with the outline of the Taj Mahal in perfect symmetry. Embroidered using the Ari technique with grey thread, this design captures the beauty of the Taj best viewed on a full moon night. Each piece took 15-20 hours to complete.



### 4. Itmad-ud-Daula Cushion Cover

Code: IUDCC 01

Size: 16''\*16''

Material: 100% Cotton Casement Fabric with Silk Piping

Colour: White Cushion Cover with Maroon Piping, Embroidered with multiple colours

#### Description:

Itmad – ud- Daula was built between 1622-6 by Nur Jahan as a tomb for her parents. This was the first Mughal structure to be built completely from marble, making extensive use of Pietra Dura, as against the earlier structures which used red sandstone. Probably an inspiration for building the Taj Mahal, this structure looks exquisite with the light filtering in through the jaalis, on the delicate inlay work. This intricate geometric pattern has artistically been embroidered on the cushion cover using the traditional ari embroidery technique. Each cushion took 25-30 hours to complete.

