

FORUM

06.2021

STUDIO  
MUNGE

*“At last we get to see each other in the studio. As the world around us adapts to this latest change, we’re so excited about what it’s going to bring to us and our work.*

*This is the long awaited next step in our evolution as a studio and it’s up to all of us to be active participants in defining what the future holds for us and Studio Munge.”*



# *What does **EVOLUTION** mean to you?*

## FLUIDITY

*“Fluidity, a quality of being smooth and continuous during a constant process of elegant change.”*

- Robbane Govender

## RELEASE

*“Release, as in releasing yourself from negativity or things that are not allowing you to be your best self so you can evolve.”*

- Sarah Paschinski

## PROGRESS

*“I like the word Progress, I think society focuses on all the negatives too much, and to be honest, things have never been better. We’re making progress.”*

- Paul Henderson

Future  
Pivot Innovative  
Transformation  
fittest Reconfiguration  
Elevation Sustainability  
Out-of-the-box Transcendence  
Advancement Re-imagine  
Accepting Design Bloom Discovery  
Unfolding Step Wisdom Adaptive  
Boldness Time Morph Earnest  
Freedom Munge Survival  
Vitality Studio Release Essential  
Knowledge Improvement  
Excitement Hope Interconnection  
One-directional  
Forward Diversity  
Inevitable Adaptation  
Fluidity Growth Flexibility  
Discomfort  
Progress



*“I always aim to transport people. I want to create objects and spaces that emanate a Sense of Wonder – experiences that revive imagination and can take adults back to simpler times.”*

Diego Mazariegos, FF&E Designer

An bright and talented designer raised in Guatemala City, Diego recently returned to his native Canada after spending his childhood and teenage years in Central America. Bringing technical expertise and fashion sensibilities to Studio Munge, the FF&E specialist thrives in creating experiential spaces connecting people to familiar and new sensations.

*“I always aim to transport people. I want to create objects and spaces that emanate a Sense of Wonder – experiences that revive imagination and can take adults back to simpler times.”*

Passionate about psychology, architecture and history, Diego is a worldly traveller that

fondly remembers Prague and Granada as poetic cities infused with a deep sense of place and a mystic. A volcano explorer, Diego is also an experienced volleyball player and keen videographer who expresses his multiple talents with confidence and creativity.

Bringing forth innovation and his multidisciplinary skillset, Diego’s passion for the craft and attention to detail is evident in all his work, including the 30,000 sq ft Marx Residence in New York’s very exclusive Nassau County.



*“Accounting is about connecting the dots, providing resources and the tools necessary to support operations and business development. In doing so, there is nothing that inspires me more than connecting with people.”*

## Sonny Obispo, Controller

Bringing twenty years of experience to Studio Munge after working with industry leaders such as Bruce Mau, Diamond Schmitt Architects and Gensler, Sonny is an astute finance controller that brings structure and minimalist philosophies to his environment. Disciplined yet loving, kind and fun, Sonny is also a classically trained pianist and bandmate who references Franz Liszt and the Dalai Lama as great inspirations on his journey to enlightenment.

*“Accounting is about connecting the dots, providing resources and the tools necessary to support operations and business development. In doing so, there is nothing that inspires me more than connecting with people. Whether it be internally or externally with clients and vendors, I thrive in the collaboration process.”*

A world-explorer who recently donated his extensive collection of National Geographics to a school in the Philippines, Sonny recommends exploring caves and flying over Cappadocia in a hot air balloon as a most memorable experience. While Sonny mentions the Islands of Hawaii as another highlight, his favourite destination remains Canada’s Cottage Country, where he spends time with family and friends boating, fishing and practising music. Blessed with a green thumb, our multitalented controller also grows bok choy, eggplant, beans, and tomatoes.

As we welcome Sonny to Studio Munge, we look forward to seeing his expertise help us mature as the garden he tends.



Miss Zimmerman

*Congratulations Carly! What an extraordinary new adventure on your Life Journey. We are by your side every step of the way and cannot wait to meet Miss Zimmerman!*

New Project - CURIO Collection by Hilton at 92 Peter

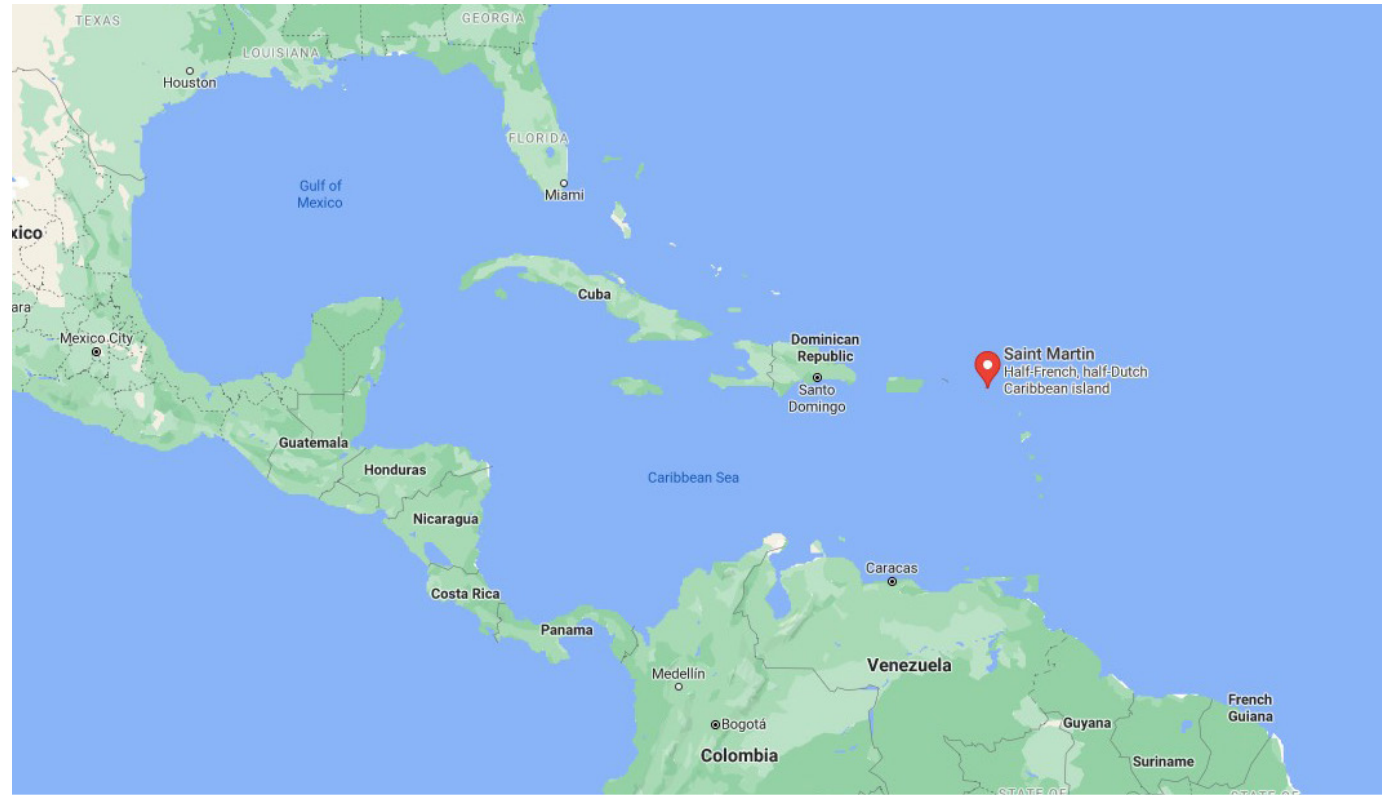


Local Context, David Pecaut Square and Roy Thomson Hall





# New Project - Bisha St Martin



Local Context, Saint Martin Island part of Leeward Islands in the Caribbean Sea.





*Bird's-eye view.*



Front facade & Sense of Arrival. Next Page: Facade ft Reflecting Pools.



Bird's-eye view and Infinity Pool view towards ravine. Next Page: Cantilever Architectural Detail and Terrace View.



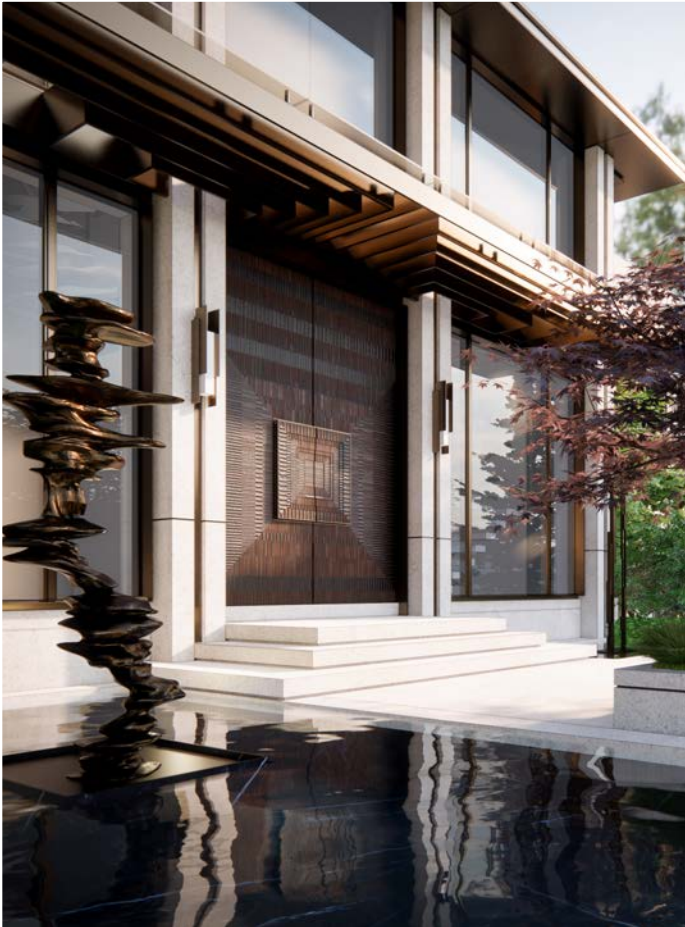
*Rear Facade Elevation ft Terraces, Infinity Pool and Outdoor Fireplace.*

Russell Hill Residence, Forest Hill, Toronto, Canada

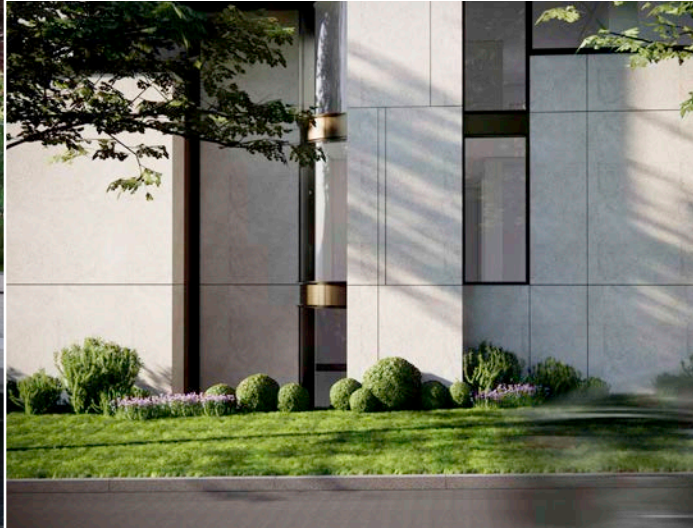


Front facade & Sense of Arrival.

**EXPLORE IN LIBRI**



Clockwise: Arrival ft Custom designed doors and canopy; Side architectural feature; Entry Elevation.





*Side Facade featuring Main House and Pavilion.*

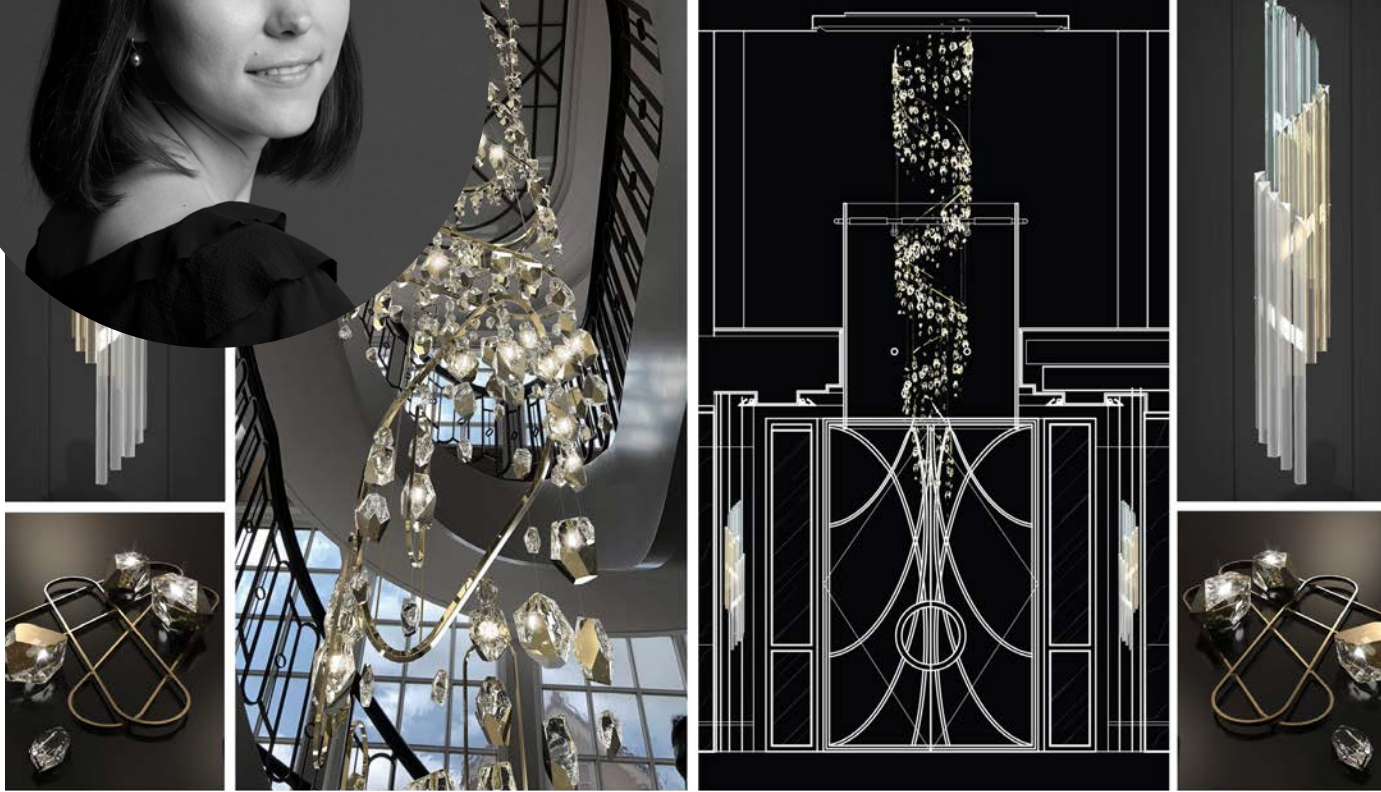


Side Facade architectural details.

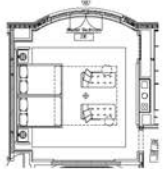




Marx Residence, Nassau County, NY, USA



MASTER BEDROOM FF&E CONCEPT



LOWER LEVEL | BALLROOM CARPET



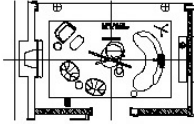
Customize silk and wool carpet to have relief the three flowers are mentioned by name in the Hebrew Bible.



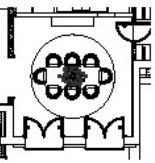
EXPLORE IN LIBRI

Edgehill Residence, Toronto, CA

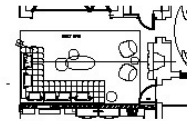
THE GREAT ROOM | FF&E DESIGN CONCEPT



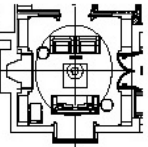
THE DINING ROOM | FF&E DESIGN CONCEPT



THE FAMILY ROOM | FF&E DESIGN CONCEPT



THE LIBRARY | FF&E DESIGN CONCEPT



EXPLORE IN LIBRI

# Photoshop Masterclass



The screenshot displays the Adobe Photoshop workspace. The central canvas shows a 3D architectural rendering of a living room with a curved sofa, coffee table, and ornate ceiling. The top menu bar includes 'Filter', '3D', 'View', 'Plugins', 'Window', and 'Help'. The top toolbar shows various tools, and the top status bar indicates '3D Mode'. The top panel shows the 'Properties' panel with 'Levels' adjustments. The right panel shows the 'Layers' panel with a list of layers including 'AW 3', 'AW 4', 'CARPET', 'Levels 4 copy', 'Hue/Saturation 5', 'Levels 4', 'FLOOR', 'Layer 5', 'Layer 6', 'Hue/Saturation 4', 'Hue/Saturation 4 copy', 'Levels 3 copy', 'Levels 3', and 'Layer 4'. The bottom status bar shows '33.33%' zoom and '48.972 in x 33.861 in (72 ppi)' dimensions.

**EMAIL NOEMIE**



Pendry Tampa, Tampa, FL, USA



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Royal Garden at Diaoyutai, Qingdao, China



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DRIFT at Muir, Halifax, CA



Concept rendering ft Spalla Bar Stool



Ceiling installation Progress





## Halifax's Muir Hotel is more than just something new on the harbour

BETH HITCHCOCK  
SPECIAL TO THE GLOBE AND MAIL  
PUBLISHED 6 HOURS AGO

0 COMMENTS SHARE A+ TEXT SIZE BOOKMARK



The three wharf buildings of Queen's Marque jut out into the harbour like majestic, seaworthy vessels, and are the work of acclaimed Nova Scotia architect Brian MacKay-Lyons – the natural choice for the job. HANDOUT

When is a hotel more than just a place to sleep? Touring the site of Halifax's Muir, which opens in late fall, a few answers are as clear as the view of the iconic Angus L. Macdonald suspension bridge: When it occupies part of a historic, two-hectare waterfront address; when it's the first luxury hotel in a city not known for refined lodging; and when it launches in the midst of a global pandemic.

If that weren't pressure enough, Scott Armour McCrea, president of the Armour Group, the real estate development and construction company transforming the site, cites no less than "Fogo Island meets Ritz-Carlton" as his goal for the \$200-million mixed-use development, known as Queen's Marque. "I'm trying to create a Canadian landmark, to be honest with you," he says.

**East Coast tourism operators brace for slow season, again**

**As Canadian destinations reopen, many are looking to LGBTQ travellers as the first group they welcome**

Although humility runs in the blood of born-and-bred Maritimers, McCrea's bold aspirations capture a new confidence rising up from the east. You can see it in Muir's proud tagline, "Born of this Place," and recent national news headlines about Halifax's desirability, both as a refuge from COVID and an affordable place to live, with nearly deserted beaches a mere 20 minutes from downtown. With all the buzz, it's no wonder both Condé Nast Traveler and CNN Travel included Nova Scotia as one of the top 21 places to go in 2021, name-checking Muir as one of the main draws.

The three wharf buildings of Queen's Marque jut out into the harbour like majestic, seaworthy vessels, and are the work of acclaimed Nova Scotia architect Brian MacKay-Lyons – the natural choice for the job. "We have one of the most important architects in the country living here, and yet he'd never had a commission of this scale in the province," McCrea says. "It would have seemed almost wrong not to use him."

The development, which includes stores, restaurants and a residence, was designed to be noticed and be used, much like the central piazzas of European cities. Muir, which means "sea" in Gaelic, is the jewel in Queen's Marque's glittering, salt-kissed crown.

Affiliated with Marriott's Autograph Collection, Muir is independent in style and spirit. From the time you walk past the hotel's Range Rover parked out front and enter the lobby, which at the time of writing is still a construction zone, it's easy to grasp that while the materials speak to a local vernacular – from salt-and-pepper granite to Tatamagouche sandstone and Muntz, a marine metal – their elevated application is part of a new design language. "People's perceptions of the Maritimes are hackneyed, but there's a modern aesthetic emerging and we can put an exclamation point on that here," McCrea says.



The development, which includes stores, restaurants and a residence, was designed to be noticed and be used, much like the central piazzas of European cities. HANDOUT

Enter Alessandro Munge of Toronto's award-winning Studio Munge. With projects such as Nobu Toronto and Brooklyn's the William Vale hotel to his name, Munge knows luxury hospitality like few others. That said, Halifax is different, less studied and sleek. Did Munge feel the pressure of being hired as a "from away" firm? "I don't usually chase clients, but I really, really wanted this," he says. "With bigger city projects, you're one of many, and you risk blending in. Muir offered the chance to push the envelope and affect the region in a positive way. For us, the key was not coming in with a humble approach that's on point with those who live there."



Instead of a traditional desk, there's a walnut table with exposed joinery tucked alongside a modular sectional. HANDOUT

Muir's 109 rooms, all but four of which have water views, call to mind staterooms on a private yacht. Walls are curved and wrapped in weathered V-groove white oak. Both the bar and bathroom mirror feature a backlit, porthole-shaped mirror. Although the shipbuilding narrative can't be avoided, its references are whisper-discreet. "Yes, we're on the ocean, but we stayed away from the thematic," Munge says with a laugh. "There are no light fixtures made of rope, no big anchor in the lobby – this isn't Vegas!"

Like beach glass or driftwood softened by waves, everything in the room begs to be touched, from the gleaming walnut arm of a Stickley-inspired chair to the leather-clad bedside tables. "If your hands wander over every surface, that's a sign of success for me," Munge says. "I want people to relax and rub the arm of the chaise or feel the raked texture of the oak floors underfoot."

Instead of a traditional desk, there's a walnut table with exposed joinery tucked alongside a modular sectional. "It's more of a kitchen table than a desk," McCrea tells me, unable to resist an East Coast kitchen party joke. Overhead, a ceiling fixture mimics the silhouette of a traditional gas lantern with a leather-handled twist. On the wall of each room is a painting of Nova Scotia, and no two are alike. On the bed, a considered decision was made to avoid the usual white top sheet and go with fog grey.



Both the bar and bathroom mirror feature a backlit, porthole-shaped mirror. HANDOUT



Studio Munge even designed a Muir Tartan throw for the foot of the bed. "We deconstructed a Scottish tartan and there's a softness and almost tenderness to the palette – no punches of colour. It's our way of representing Nova Scotia's landscape." If that all sounds appealing, you can bring it home for a price; some of the furniture pieces and textiles are for sale, allowing visitors to extend their coastal experience.

Step out of the private space and back into the public and you'll find an art gallery (part of Queen's Marque's \$7-million collection), wellness centre with halotherapy salt room and even a guests- and members-only speakeasy serving premium historic cocktails. McCrea says the speakeasy might be called BKS, but declines to spell out the acronym. "I'll never tell," he says, raising an eyebrow. "It's a secret."

As for Muir, the word's out. Come fall, this new waterfront retreat will be a welcoming post-COVID home away from home – and much more than just a place to sleep.

Keep up to date with the weekly Sightseer newsletter. [Sign up today.](#)

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# Fholio Update

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Claybrook<br/>H47221A<br/>Luna Centered Single Vanity<br/>Obsidian (OB)</p>         | <p>Claybrook<br/>H47221A<br/>Luna Centered Single Vanity<br/>Taupe (TA)</p>                  | <p>K-14408-4<br/>Purist Widespread Bathroom Sink<br/>Faucet<br/>2MB Vibrant Brushed Moderne<br/>Brass</p> |
| <p>K-6299<br/>Voil Wall-Hung Compact Elongated<br/>Dual-Flush Toilet<br/>White (O)</p> | <p>K-73168-4<br/>Composed Tall Single-Handle Toilet<br/>Sink Faucet<br/>Matte Black (BL)</p> | <p>K-73060-4<br/>Composed Widespread Bathroom<br/>Sink Faucet<br/>Matte Black (BL)</p>                    |
| <p>K-7505<br/>Purist Pull-Out Kitchen Sink<br/>Faucet<br/>Matte Black (BL)</p>         | <p>K-7505<br/>Purist Pull-Out Kitchen Sink<br/>Faucet<br/>Matte Black (BL)</p>               | <p>K-7505<br/>Purist Pull-Out Kitchen Sink<br/>Faucet<br/>Matte Black (BL)</p>                            |

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|                                                                         |                                                                |                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Table lamp<br/>Flos<br/>F10370059<br/>Bon Jour Unplugged</p>         | <p>Floor lamp<br/>Equo LED Task Floor Lamp</p>                 | <p>Floor lamp<br/>Fior<br/>F0300000<br/>Arco Floor Lamp</p>                |
| <p>Floor Lamp<br/>Gubi<br/>10014434<br/>Multi-Light Floor Lamp</p>      | <p>Table lamp<br/>Caste<br/>Ennis Table Lamp</p>               | <p>Floor lamp<br/>100090064<br/>Superlooh Floor Lamp</p>                   |
| <p>Table lamp<br/>Ethimo<br/>SKLAMITI<br/>Shake Floor Lamp<br/>Teak</p> | <p>Table lamp<br/>Porta Romana<br/>GL872<br/>Cardinal Lamp</p> | <p>Table lamp<br/>Ethimo<br/>SKLAMITI<br/>Shake XL Floor Lamp<br/>Teak</p> |

Library update ft new products ready for specification

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Images

|                                                                              |                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Bar stools<br/>Munge Collection<br/>SPALA-STL-05<br/>Spalla Bar Stool</p> | <p>Armchair<br/>Platner Easy Chair</p>                | <p>Armchair<br/>Gubi<br/>Pacha Swivel Lounge Chair</p>                                                                                                                      |
| <p>Dining chair<br/>Carl Hansen<br/>100172142<br/>Wishbone Chair</p>         | <p>Armchair<br/>Gubi<br/>Cassina<br/>LC3 Poltrona</p> | <p>Sofa<br/>Minotti<br/>1x ELEMENT CM 112x112 - BACK<br/>REST CM 84 1x ELEMENT CM 140x112 -<br/>BACKREST CM 140 1x<br/>ELEMENT CM 168x112 -<br/>Lawrence Clan Sectional</p> |

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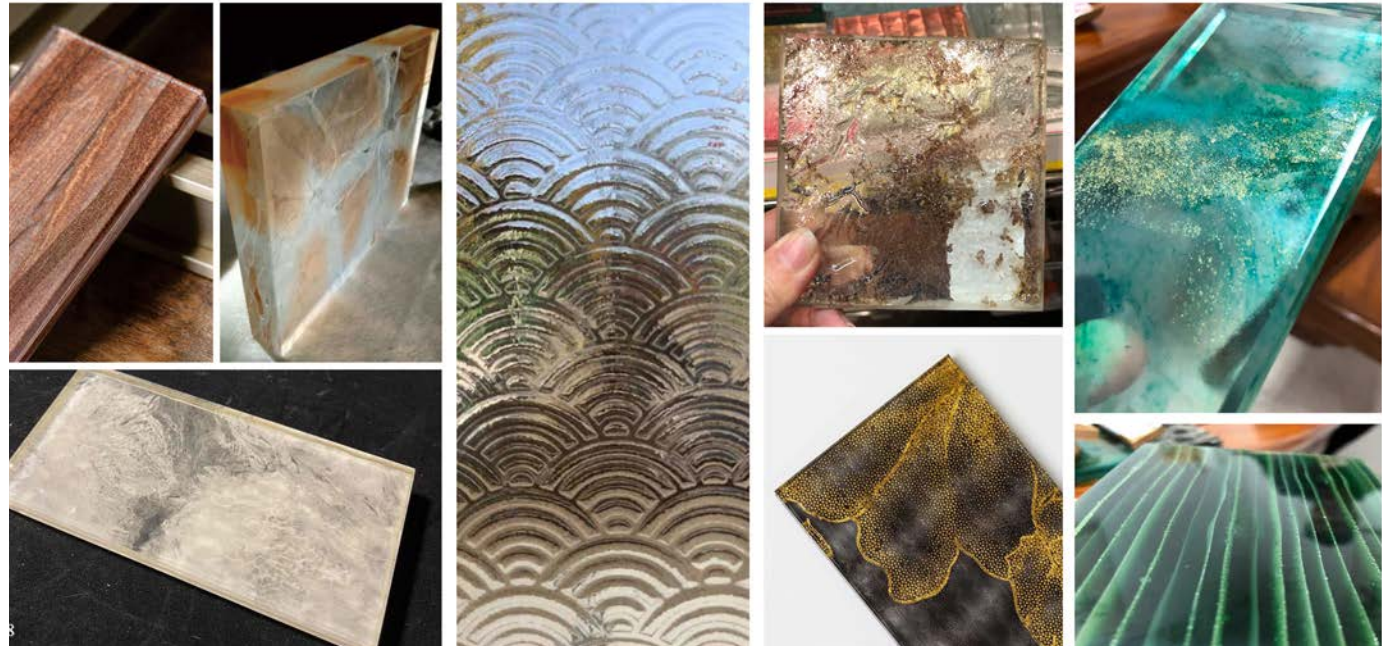
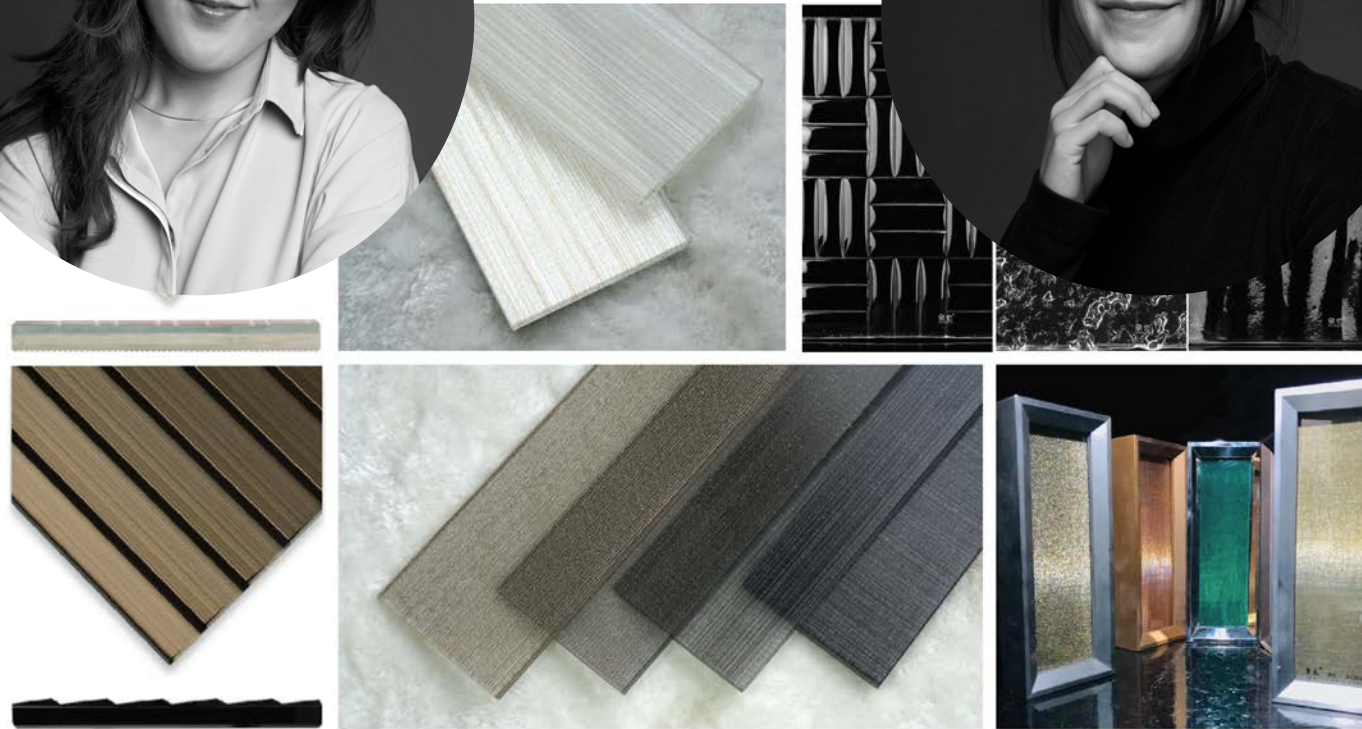
(Sub)division: q ▾ Hardware q ▾ Search... q ▾ **Advanced Search ▾**

Images

|                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                       |                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Door Viewer UL Listed<br/>US19 - Paint Black</p>                                                             | <p>H8060BTSN<br/>CRL Oil Dynamic One Way Swinging<br/>Wall Mount Hinge<br/>Satin Nickel Finish</p>    | <p>IM Finish with Black Reader</p>                                              |
| <p>Narrow Modern Rectangular Pocket<br/>Door Mortise Lock<br/>Passage Function<br/>Flat Black Finish (US19)</p> | <p>Kohler<br/>Composed - K-73147<br/>Pivoting Toilet Paper Holder<br/>BN - Vibrant Brushed Nickel</p> | <p>Easydrainusa<br/>C-Box<br/>Container C-Box<br/>Creme</p>                     |
| <p>Seville Collection - 1887518<br/>Single Shower Door Handle<br/>Brushed Nickel (81)</p>                       | <p>Kohler<br/>Composed - K-73145<br/>Towel Arm<br/>BN - Vibrant Brushed Nickel</p>                    | <p>Kohler<br/>Kumin - K-97897<br/>Robe Hook<br/>BN - Vibrant Brushed Nickel</p> |
| <p>Seville Collection - 1887503<br/>Shower Door Knob<br/>Brushed Nickel (81)</p>                                | <p>Slido Classic 50-1 120-1</p>                                                                       |                                                                                 |



### China Sourcing



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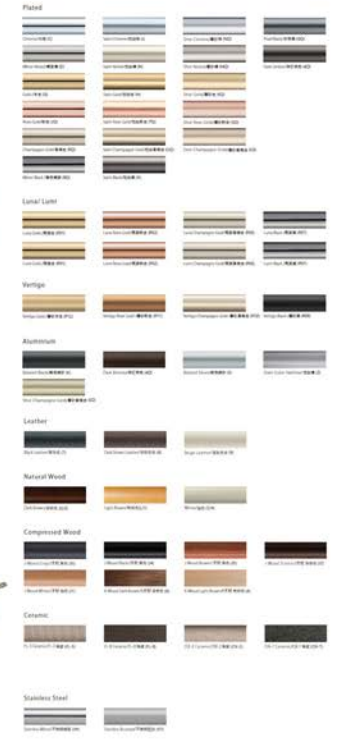
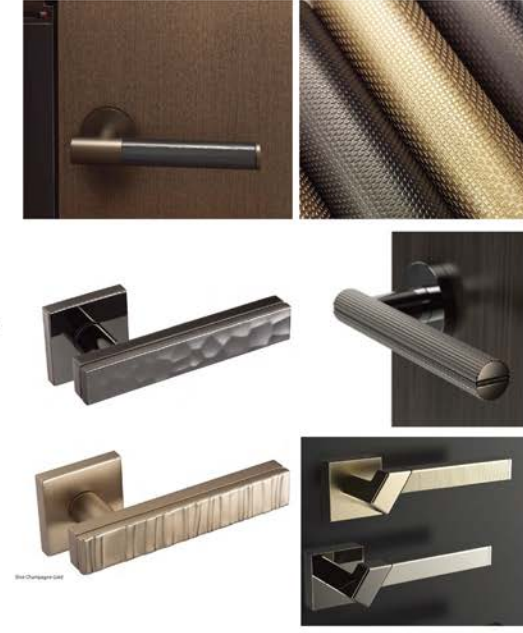
## HARDWARE | KAWAJUN

North American contact: refer to SM Libri  
China Contact: Ding, Juan  
Wechat: sunnyteiken  
Website: <http://kawajun.com.cn>

Project collaborating: Qingdao MGM Hotel, China  
Accessible in North America: Yes

### KAWAJUN

- Door-Pull Handle
- Lever Handle
- Push-Pull Handle
- Swing-Door Lock
- Sliding Door
- Door Accessories
- Bathroom Accessories
- Room Accessories
- Kitchen Series
- Furniture Knob
- Amenities
- Finishes



## WOOD | PARCHETTIFICIO TOSCANO WOOD FLOORING

Project collaborating: N/A  
Accessible in North America: Yes

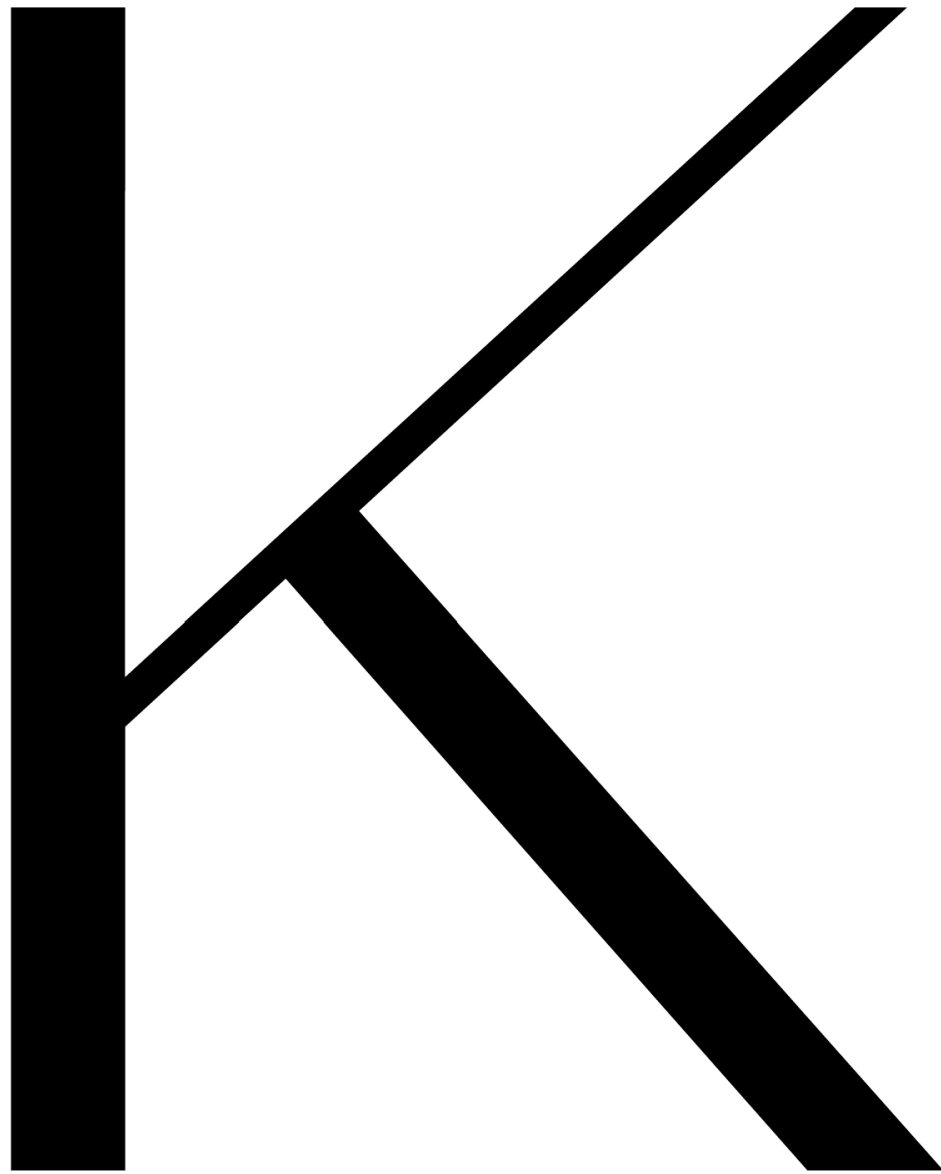
- "Without art, it would only be a floor."*
- 100% Italian made, with high class craftsmanship; from drawing, design, manufacturing, to packing.
  - Wide range of timber with varied pattern, color, and finishes available.
  - Product range from interior flooring, decking, wood wall, stairs, etc.
  - Great selections of dimension and thickness.

Web: <http://www.parchettificiotoscano.it>





KYUR Identity

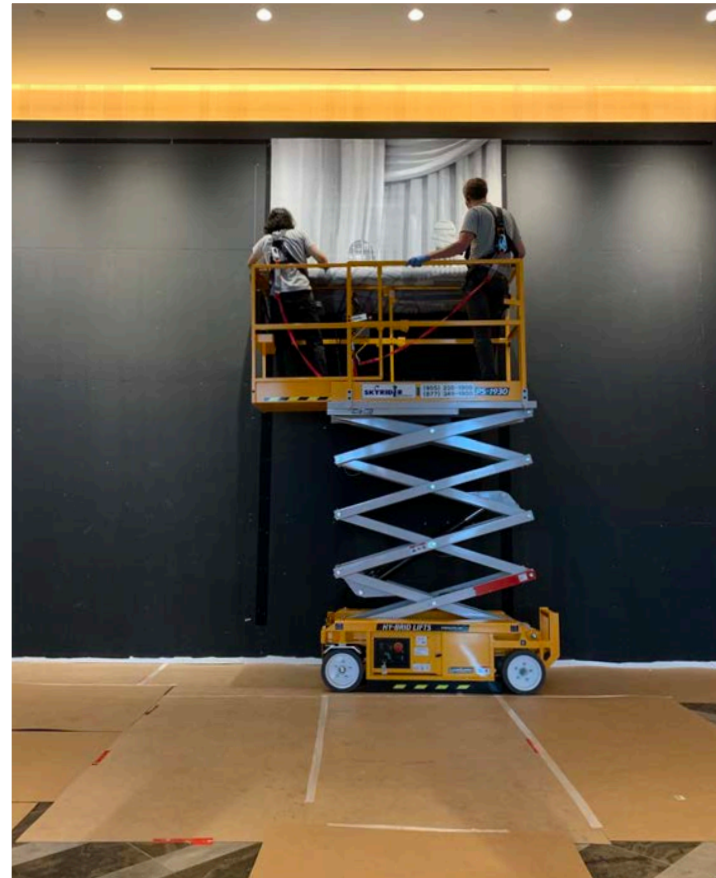


KYUR

[www.kyur.ca](http://www.kyur.ca)

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# Park Hyatt Content Production



Behind the scenes art installation documentation

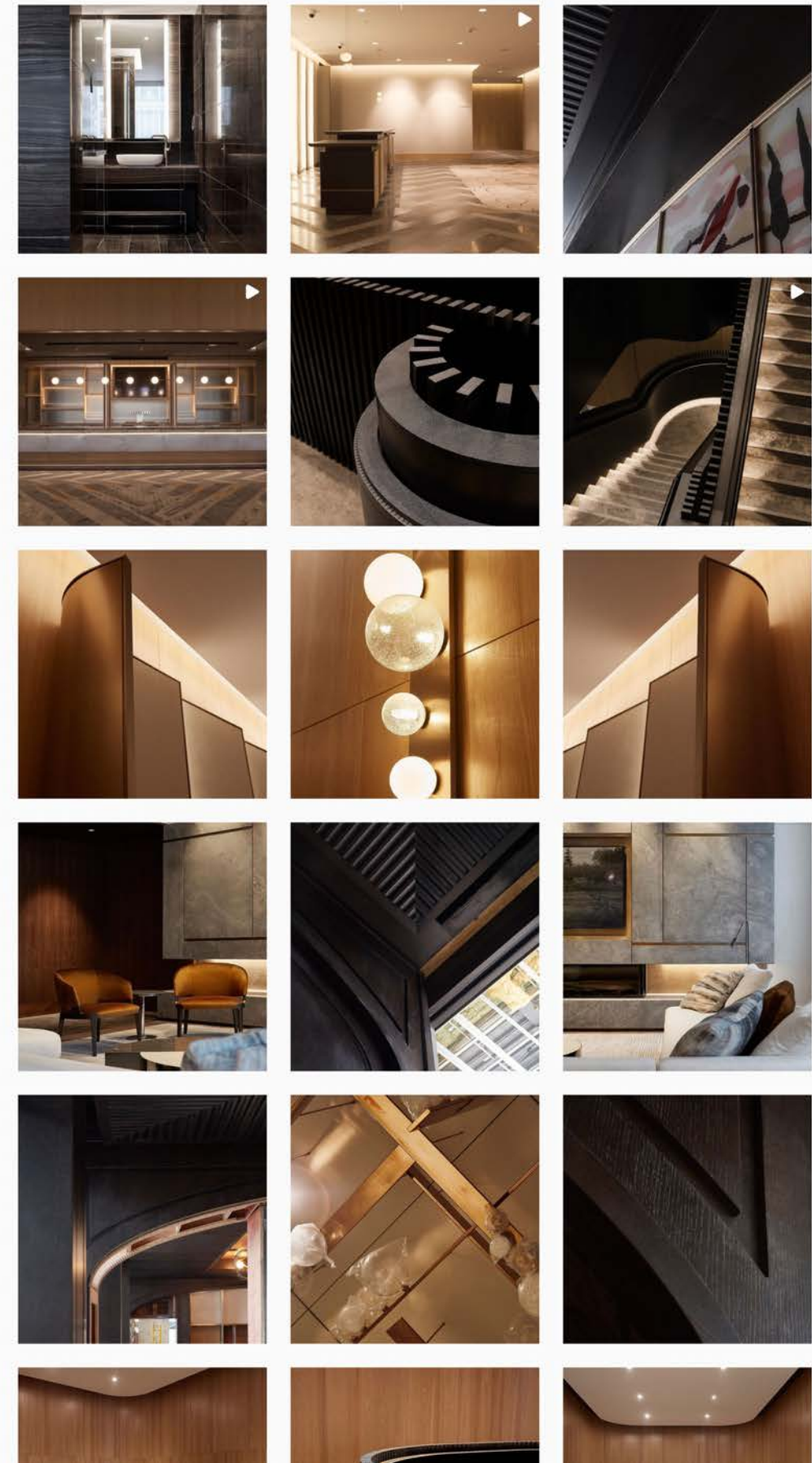


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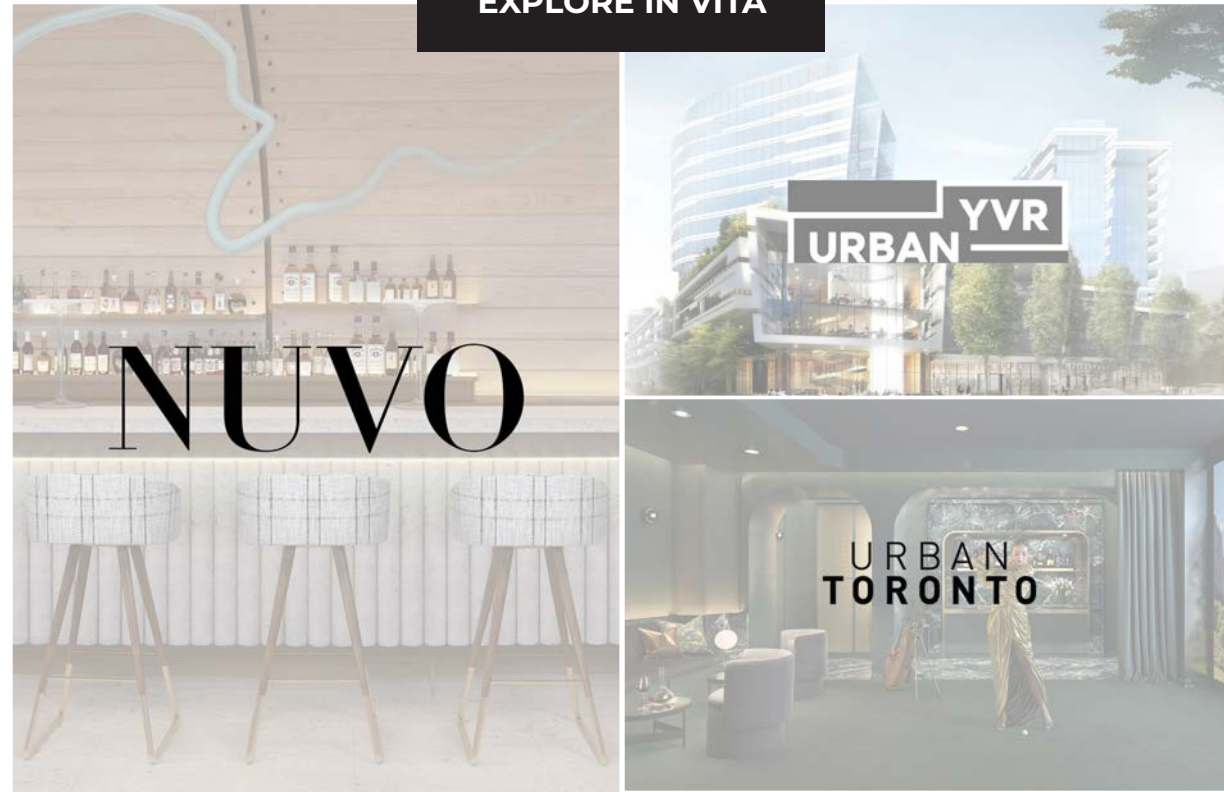
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Press Highlight & Awards Celebrations



EXPLORE IN VITA



Social Committee



*Join us today, tomorrow, anytime. Contribute your creativity and enthusiasm to help us reimagine our social and cultural calendar. Together let's curate the year with memorable events making our design collective a connected community!*





*“EVOLUTION is INEVITABLE.*

*It is deeply ingrained in our studio’s DNA so let’s keep embracing change as a beautiful moment of transformation, an endless opportunity for growth.*

*Let’s keep expanding our horizons and challenge each other to be more proactive and collaborative. Let’s be more creative, innovative, and relevant.*

*Remember that each and everyone of you must be an active participant in the future of our studio. You can change our future by contributing your expertise, your artistry and good spirit.*

*Let’s DESIGN our EVOLUTION and let’s HAVE FUN doing it!”*



