

A CHEF'S DELIGHT

STORY SARAH HOY
PHOTOGRAPHY JESSICA DEEKS

The kitchen is the heart of the home, a place where you not only release your inner chef, but also gather with family and friends. OUR HOMES introduces people who can help you with your kitchen dreams.



ARMAND MONTPELLIER AND CARM FALSETO

*Pure Elements of Design
Kitchen & Bathroom Studio*

Why do people visit Pure Elements? We at Pure Elements of Design offer a complete, full suite of coordinated services appropriate to your needs. They include on-site, in-home consultation and measurements and renderings, plus access to cabinet, flooring and counter top manufacturers, as well as integrated planning of plumbing, electrical, engineering, renovation and carpentry specialists. We will even assist you in the selection of paint colours, decorative accessories, plumbing and lighting fixtures. Every detail counts and we work hard to make sure that realizing the final result is as painless as possible.

Describe your style: As designers we keep ourselves pretty neutral to all styles from contemporary to modern and from transitional to traditional. We deal with all sorts of different clients who have different needs. Our preference is contemporary to modern.

As a newer business, how did Pure Elements begin? We have known one another and worked together for over 25 years and have talked about opening our own studio for the last 10 years. Even some of our family members and mutual friends were calling us "Will & Grace" and couldn't wait for us to begin a partnership in the design business. Here we are almost one year open.

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SHARRI FERMOYLE

The Ensuite Bath & Kitchen Showroom

What is the trend for 2015? Kitchen sinks are all about colour – undermount sinks that blend with the new quartz countertops. You can create a striking look with a colourful sink, or instead a very monochromatic look with one of the neutral colours found in the many stones we work with each day.

What makes you unique? We carry Kohler’s enameled cast iron undermount sinks in many colours. Only cast iron Kohler sinks have a luxurious and silky feel. Top it off with a gorgeous quartz and/or granite stone and the kitchen just glistens.

How should people approach a new kitchen design? They should choose the sink first and then build the cabinets. The kitchen layout is important because it’s where everyone gathers. We know people are happier when the footprint of the kitchen design begins with the dream choice of sink, not the sink that they had to settle for.



CARA SCOTT, JENNIFER SAID AND CARLIE HARNISH

Paradise Kitchen and Bath

What is the most popular kitchen trend you see? For the last couple of years we have been seeing countertop thickness getting bigger and bigger, with three-inch waterfall edges or more. Recently clients have been inquiring about thinner tops. It is a more modern look and keeps the kitchen light and airy.

What makes Paradise unique? We’ve been in business for 30 years now and one thing has always stayed the same – project management. We have always been a one-stop shop: you work with us from the beginning and we take care of everything. Once the project starts, our designers are on the job throughout the entire process. We work very closely with the contractors so that the client’s visions are met.

How would you describe your team of designers? Eclectic! We are all different and have had different training in design. As a client you would work with one of us, but in the planning process we generally work together. It is always helpful to have different ideas and ways of thinking in the planning of a kitchen or bathroom. This way the client is getting the best we have to offer.

GUY BIANCHI

MR Kitchens

Describe what people can find at MR Kitchens? MR Kitchens is a one-stop destination for the design, manufacture, and installation of high-quality cabinetry. We have a team of 10 designers and three design centres throughout Ottawa. At each design centre, there are many different displays of design options.

When did MR Kitchens start and why did you decide to open? MR Kitchens opened in 1986 in Vars as a cabinet manufacturer. For our first 20 years we sold 90 per cent of our cabinets through distributors and contractors. The past decade has seen a shift for us from wholesale clients to the retail market in the Ottawa area. We have recently added additional retail space and we now service the majority of our clients through our three design centres in Vars, Orleans, and Nepean. The focus is now on designing, building and installing custom spaces. If it involves cabinetry, we can do it.

Describe what makes you different? We are a design firm that manufactures and installs our own cabinetry specifically for each client’s needs and space. Clients start their project with a dedicated designer who takes care to ensure the space is planned thoughtfully and efficiently. Once the design is complete, the project moves to our 32,000 sq. ft., state-of-the-art, production floor where the manufacturing team takes over to build and perfect each cabinet and accessory to our highest standards. Once our quality control checks are complete, our installation technicians install the final product quickly, efficiently, and to the client’s satisfaction.



MICHEL SÉGUIN, ANNA BAJOREK, ANDRÉE-ANNE MALETTE AND ANNABELLE ROY

Boiserie Sebo Woodwork Inc.

Sebo is growing. Tell us about your extension: We seem to be good at outgrowing our space. We are adding on another 4,600 square feet of manufacturing space, which will allow us to be more efficient than ever. Along with the addition, the front facade of the building will receive a complete facelift to give it a more modern look and feel.

What are people asking for right now? Turnkey projects have become our specialty. People are not just looking for kitchen cabinets and countertops from Sebo anymore; they are looking for the one-stop-shopping experience. We have partnered with great local contractors and suppliers to offer a full renovation service. From trim and paint to a full gut renovation, we do it all.

How would you describe your team of designers? These designers are like family to us. They work one-on-one with their clients throughout the entire design process, and work diligently to ensure that their wish list is completely checked off in the end. As soon as you set foot in our showroom, you’re greeted with a smile and they make you feel right at home. **OH**

