

# FROM THE GROUND UP

If you can dream it, they can help build it, from breaking ground to adding beauty with the details.

**LUISA  
MARINGOLA &  
MARISA LUPO**  
*Lumar Interiors*

**What is your specialty?** We design and furnish spaces in a classic and timeless style that clients will enjoy for many years. We listen to our clients' needs, wants and ideas and incorporate them into the space.

**What goes into good design?** Detail, detail, detail. Detail is to design as location is to real estate. The elements of good design are important: balance, rhythm, scale and proportion, space, shape, texture, pattern and colour; all these things are integral when designing a space. All these elements affect the overall feel of the space.

**Every room should have:** Wow factor, something that makes the homeowner smile when they walk into the space. An element of surprise such as a splash of colour on a toss cushion, a large-scale animal print on an ottoman or a dramatic piece of art. Something unique. Something reflective of the homeowner's personality.



**TONY GATTI  
& JOE GATTI**  
*The Gatti Group Corp.*

**What does The Gatti Group offer?** We are a full service custom builder and renovator celebrating our 10th year in business. Our work includes custom bathroom and kitchen renovations, additions and new builds. Our team of professionals will guide you through your project from initial design to execution.

**Why renovate?** Our clients renovate for many reasons. More space, improved efficiency or updating old rooms. In today's real estate market, people are finding it makes more sense, all things considered, to stay and upgrade their current home to their liking instead of trying to find what they want in the real estate market.

**What should clients consider when starting a renovation?** Clients should always hire a professional contractor or tradesman when undertaking any renovation work, large or small. A professional will only work with a signed contract, carry all the necessary licences, insurances and will stand by their work.



*Continued on page 68*





**RAFAEL LAO  
FERNANDEZ**  
*Cosentino*

**Tell us about your company:**

A global, family-owned Spanish company, Cosentino manufactures and distributes quality, innovative surfaces for homes and public spaces. We offer pioneering brands like Silestone quartz, Dekton Ultracompact and Sensa Protected Natural Stone. Our 10,000 sq. ft. Toronto showroom features products for a variety of applications, from countertops to flooring.

**What's new?** Beautiful new colours from our Silestone quartz line resemble exotic natural stone, with the well-known advantages of quality quartz surfaces. Our Dekton Ultracompact line is an inorganic material with no resins that can be applied on the interior or exterior of the home, available in over 45 tones.

**Advice to clients?** Choose a surface that fits your lifestyle and needs. If the kitchen is where you spend most of your time cooking, dining and entertaining, choose a durable work surface in a timeless shade. If you feel overwhelmed by the choices, hire a designer to help bring your vision to life and offer more value to your home.

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**What does Muti Kitchen & Bath offer?** We offer the design, supply and installation of modern and transitional custom cabinetry. Our innovative products are designed to focus on smart and sensible living. Our retail division offers an extensive collection of vanities, mirrors, tubs, lighting, tiles and plumbing fixtures. At Muti clients have access to current, modern design ideas and products for all their living spaces.

**How does your company work with clients?** We invite homeowners and members of the trade industry to visit one of our two showrooms for a full-service customer experience. Designers and sales associates are on hand to discuss plans and evaluate each project's needs.

**What advice do you have for clients that are starting a home project?** We recommend that clients be consistent with their concepts, focus on the people who live in the space and be prepared to make many decisions.

*Continued on page 72*



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*HSK Design*

**What does HSK Design offer?**

We are an architectural design firm specializing in home and landscape design. We undertake projects from the initial design phase, from arranging permits and connecting with contractors to preparing for final construction. We look for inspiration everywhere, questioning how we can do things differently to offer our clients a smooth design process with a unique, fresh result.

**How do you work with clients to achieve their vision?**

We try to find ways to merge functionality with beautiful aesthetics. It's not just about architectural design, it's about finding a cohesive solution. The client-architect relationship is built around an initial consultation, followed by a design proposal with 3D renderings, and lastly supervising the project to ensure the client's vision maintains its integrity throughout the construction process.

**Tell us about a project you are working on right now:**

We are working on multiple projects ranging from interior alterations to custom homes across the GTA and beyond. Currently, aside from custom homes, one of our most popular requests is triplexes.

*Continued on page 74*

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**CHRISTIANE ALLEN LEVESQUE & BRUNO LEVESQUE**  
*Let It Rain Roofing*

**Tell us about your company:**

A full service roofing and renovation company, we do all types of roofing, ventilation upgrades, insulation, eavestroughs, skylights, roof repairs and custom sheet metal work. Our home renovation division does fences, decks, aluminum railings, carpentry, sheds, pergolas, painting, bathroom renovations, flooring, tiling, exhaust vents and more.

**What makes your company unique?**

We've been around for 29 years, which is awesome considering most roofing companies go bankrupt within two years. We have a solid reputation for our knowledge, quality of work, service and the best warranty in the business. We are a select shingle master with CertainTeed, and only two per cent of roofers qualify for this service credential. We are certified skylight installers with Velux Canada and members of Renomark.

**Advice to customers?**

Homeowners should ensure the contractor they hire is certified with a manufacturer, has insurance, WSIB and an actual place of business. Beware of low prices and cash deals. A cash job means no shingle warranty from the manufacturer or contractor. If you think professional is expensive, wait until you try an amateur. **OH**

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