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The story behind Nashville's newest restaurant row

Interior-design firm Cecconi Simone Inc. has grown to encompass commercial, hospitality, retail, and residential work both in its Toronto home base and abroad

FROM RETAIL TO RESIDENTIAL— AND BEYOND

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10framehandles.com

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416 588 5900
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WHEN INTERIOR DESIGNERS ANNA SIMONE AND ELAINE CECCONI launched Toronto-based Cecconi Simone Inc. in 1982, their focus was retail spaces. Since then, however, the renowned interior-design firm has gradually expanded into other areas. Today, Cecconi Simone's award-winning interiors, which are defined by a signature modern aesthetic, can be found in residential, commercial, and hospitality spaces throughout North America and abroad. "We like to do work that has a wide reach to keep our firm on the edge of what's happening in every area of design," says Cecconi. "It also tests our creativity and resourcefulness."

Here, Cecconi and Simone share with us three of their firm's most exciting recent projects, two in Toronto and one on the island of Anguilla in the British West Indies.

PROJECT
One Bloor
1 Bloor St. E.
Toronto, ON, Canada M4Y 2W2
onebloor.com

DEVELOPER
Great Gulf Homes
416 449 1340
greatgulfhomes.com

ARCHITECT
Hariri Pontarini Architects
416 929 4901
hariripontarini.com

GENERAL CONTRACTOR
Tucker HiRise
tuckerhirise.com

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
Able Engineering
ableengineering.com

DISPLAY TECHNOLOGY
ACID Integrations
acidintegrations.com

FIREPLACE
EcoSmart Fire
ecosmartfire.com

METALLIC GLASS MOSAIC
Salttilo Imports
salttilo-tiles.com

MILLWORK
Eventscape Inc.
eventscape.net

POURED FLOOR
Stonhard
stonhard.com

MARKETING
LA Ads
laadsmarketing.com

ONE BLOOR PRESENTATION CENTRE

Bloor Street is Toronto's most chic locale, and One Bloor, the 75-story high-rise complex located on the southeast corner of Yonge and Bloor Streets, fits in perfectly, thanks in part to Cecconi Simone's chic interior design.

The firm, hired by developer Great Gulf Homes to design all of the interior spaces, had a lot of work to do. One Bloor comprises 690 condominiums, 100,000 square feet of retail space, and a number of resort-inspired amenities, including a fitness center. It is also developer Great Gulf Homes's flagship condominium complex.

Cecconi Simone started by considering the exterior architecture, which Hariri Pontarini Architects had designed with a simple silhouette sculpted with curves in a modernist style. "The architecture is iconic in that it creates a vocabulary that other high rises in our city haven't with its form and use of materials," says Simone. "And we wanted the exterior and interior architecture to be seamless."

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One of the most inspiring spaces is the presentation center, which serves as an introduction to the entire project. Visitors can obtain information about the project through Acid Integrations' gesturing technology, which allows individuals standing in front of a large interactive virtual wall to access different parts of the tower with a hand movement. "It's as if you were living in the tower itself," says Simone.

Cecconi Simone's goal with the presentation center was to convey a sense of what one would experience in the building. "Its design is evocative of the architecture and interior itself," says Simone. "Organic, fluid and completely harmonious, it, like the rest of the building, conveys the fact that even though you're in an urban landscape, when you come home, you feel a sense of tranquility."

At 2,400 square feet, the presentation center is small for a project of One Bloor's scale, but that was intentional, says Simone. "We were trying to convey intimacy, which is what you'd feel in your home," she explains.



PROJECT
Villa Kishti
Anguilla, BWI

ARCHITECT
Frank Hamilton
416 463 9361

GENERAL CONTRACTOR
Audley Carty
264 235 6440

VILLA KISHTI

The Villa Kishti project, a private vacation home on the island of Anguilla in the British West Indies, came to Cecconi Simone in an unusual manner. "The clients planned to design the interior themselves, but one of their suppliers, a kitchen manufacturer, strongly suggested they contact us," Simone says. The timing was perfect—it was critical that the homeowners

brought Cecconi Simone into the project early on. "We looked through seven sheets of architectural drawings, and no thought had been given to the interior whatsoever," says Simone. "As a result, we were a part of many aspects of the project, including architecture and landscaping as well as interior design."

The challenges that arose when building

(continued from previous page)

CORIAN DISTRIBUTOR
Willis Supply
4willis.com

WINDOWS & DOORS
Döpfner
sterling-windows.com

South American Lumber
(Purpleheart exterior doors)
southamericanlumber.com

LIGHTING
EuroLite
eurolite.com

STONE FLOORING AND WALLS
Tru-Stone
tru-stone.net

KITCHEN MILLWORK FABRICATION
Living Art
livingart.ca

APPLIANCES
Gaggenau (brand)
gaggenau.com

Midnorthern Appliance (supplier)
midnorthernappliance.com

WOOD FLOORING
Moncer
moncer.com

SOFAS
Selene Furniture
selenefurniture.com

CUSTOM DINING CHAIRS
Credible Upholstery
credibleupholstery.com

the 15,600-square-foot home were numerous, says Simone. "To start, the architect had only developed the conceptual design for the exterior of the home. From this, we had to prepare extensive working drawings for the exterior lighting and landscaping, as well as for the interior, while still being true to the original, exterior concept. Also, we were challenged by working on an island; getting used to the local tempo and culture, getting materials in and out. Logistical planning and scheduling were crucial." Additionally, the clients needed a space that balanced common areas with private space. "Two elements that were especially important for the clients were privacy—for guests, their sons, and themselves—and places for gathering. Also, sight lines to the water had to be present at all times and from all areas of the home, including bedrooms and bathrooms. One was always to be reminded of the home's magnificent setting," Simone explains. "We designed a common living room, dining room, and kitchen. [We also designed] private villas, each with a private terrace and panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean, for the clients and each of their three sons."

The architecture of Frank Hamilton and interior design of Cecconi Simone complements the volcanic-rock shoreline that fronts the home. Simone says the result is a home that is contemporary in its sensibility, but very much embraces its environment. "It would be difficult to place the home elsewhere because it has become part of its surroundings," she explains. "It's at one with its landscape."



TORONTO PENTHOUSE

When two former clients approached Cecconi Simone with a new project, it was an interior designer's dream. "They had purchased 4,500 square feet of raw penthouse space, completely unfinished, and the only restraint we had was the location of the plumbing," Cecconi gushes. "It was a great opportunity in that it allowed us to start with an open palette."

The penthouse, located in the Yorkville neighborhood of Toronto, took up an entire floor, so it had exceptional city views from every room. To take advantage of that space, and the clients' desire for a non-traditional home, Cecconi Simone suggested an open floor plan, with most areas divided by movable walls. "The flow of the living room is exceptional," says Cecconi. "It features a central fireplace in a large family-living room with a television on one side and an intimate seating area that flows into the dining room on the other side."

The only enclosed room is the master bedroom suite, which consists of a bedroom, his-and-hers dressing rooms that feel like a high-end retail space, and his-and-hers bathrooms with exceptional appointments. "[The master suite] comprises a third of the penthouse, which is unusual, but it met the needs of the clients, who had been living in a more traditional home and wanted a contemporary space."

Though Cecconi Simone often works with Cartier Kitchens, a cabinetry company that shares the firm's modern style, the firm chose cabinets by Paris Kitchens for this home. The designers also used an Elite Tile product that's new to North America throughout much of the penthouse: Len Dilegno, a 2' x 4' veneer,

PROJECT
Penthouse
Toronto, ON, Canada

GENERAL CONTRACTOR
Ziel Construction
ziel.ca

ELECTRICIAN
BR Electric
brelectric.ca

FLOORING
Len Dilegno by Elite Tile
elitetile.com

CORIAN SURFACES
Solid Creations (fabricator)
905 660 3170

Willis Supply (distributor)
4willis.com

STONE FABRICATION
Gem Campbell
gemcampbell.com

METAL SUPPLY AND FABRICATION
Reale Born
realeborm.com

KITCHEN MILLWORK
Paris Kitchens
pariskitchens.com

APPLIANCES
Sub-Zero/Wolf
subzero-wolf.com

MARBLE
Ciot
ciot.com

which gives the home's walnut floors an entirely unique look. "It's like wall paneling, but it's on a horizontal surface [on the floor], so it's very unexpected," Cecconi says. "At the same time, the freshness of the material provides sophistication to the space."

The entire project went smoothly, with even the home's challenges turning into positives, Cecconi says. "The only way to position the tub at the windows in the wife's bathroom was to build a platform to conceal the plumbing," she explains. "It was originally intended to be functional, but it ended up being a very beautiful design element." ●

A MESSAGE FROM CARTIER KITCHENS INC.

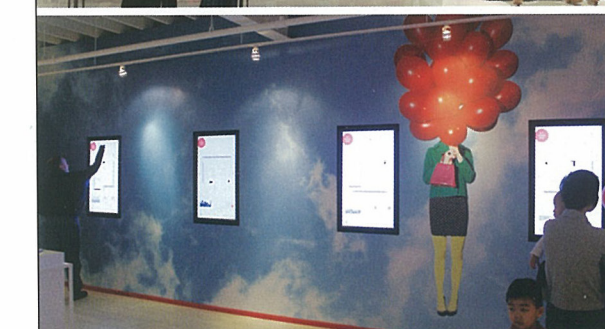
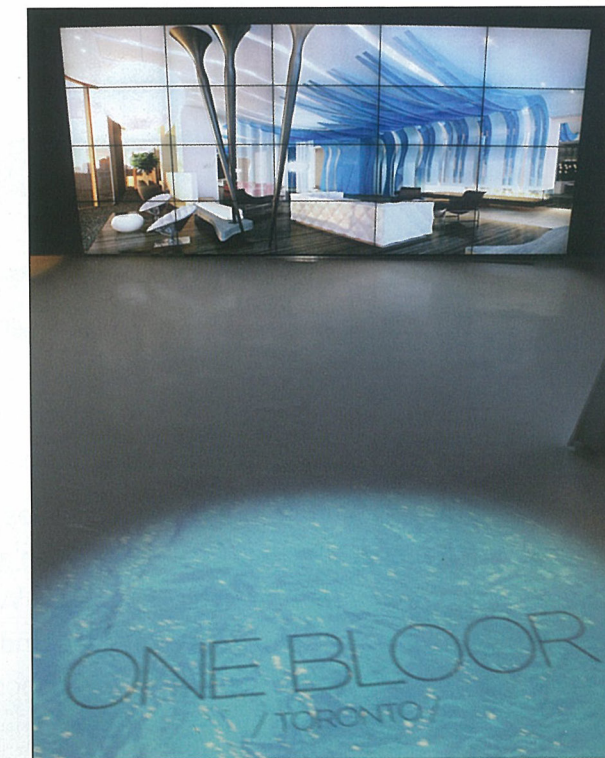
Cartier Kitchens Inc. is very excited to be associated with the Cecconi Simone design team. With more than 30 years of innovative and creative design solutions, Cecconi Simone's eye popping designs with multiunit residential projects throughout North America have firmly entrenched the firm as a leader and trendsetter within the design industry. Congratulations to Elaine, Anna, and the entire team at Cecconi Simone for sharing their knowledge and unique design ideas with all of their associates and partners in the industry.

A MESSAGE FROM WILLIS SUPPLY

Willis Supply is a North American sales and marketing distributor of world-class building materials. Founded in 1967, the company has expanded over the years and now has a professional network that extends across Canada and the Pacific Northwest. In this large market area, Willis is the sole distributor of DuPont™ Corian™ solid-surface, DuPont™ Zodiaq™ quartz-surface, Artisan sink and faucet, and Arpa laminate products.

With a consistent focus on excellent customer service, innovative sales and marketing, distribution, planning, and sourcing, Willis continues to provide its customers with a bundled offering of products and assist in streamlining each client's supplier base. No matter the supply need, Willis' knowledgeable network of professionals is here to assist each customer every step of the way.

For more information on Willis' products and services, visit 4willis.com.



ACID Integrations is a trusted technology based company in the media communications industry. Located in Toronto, Ontario in Canada, the company designs, integrates, customizes and supports multi-touch, gesture recognition, motion interactive surfaces, video wall systems and kiosks. Acid Integrations is known for its countless innovative products, that when integrated, become one of a kind and eye-catching to ensure that the client message comes across strong.

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