

INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY

& Travel

THE FINEST HOMES, TRAVEL AND LIFESTYLE

Vol 23 No 6

Jersey &
Guernsey

TORONTO

Barbados

- Cruises • Jewellery & Watches
- Superyacht Charters • Interiors
- Supercars • Art Exhibitions

Royal Berkshire's
regal residences

Cover image:
Vinhome Golden
River See page 7

View

CAUGHT ON CAMERA

Sophia Loren's
Venetian palazzo setting



**INTERNATIONAL
PROPERTY
AWARDS**
INTERIOR DESIGN



BEST INTERNATIONAL
INTERIOR DESIGN
PRIVATE RESIDENCE
Official Airline



FDM DESIGNS
2015-2016

Established in 1987, Flora Di Menna Designs has garnered international praise for excellence in innovative interior design, winning numerous awards for luxury estate homes, hospitality facilities, presentation centres, corporate offices and condominium developments.



FloraDiMenna
— DESIGNS —



Toronto, Canada

T 905.709.2077

www.fdmdesigns.com





FLORA DI MENNA, a leading interior designer in Ontario, Canada, says, "Contemporary dining style is a window into one's epicurean tastes and insight into their personality, culminating interest and movement of space." She believes that today's home dining and entertainment world is very much inspired by the bounty of different lifestyles coexisting in our society, from formal to casual.

"Gone are the days of a four-walled, enclosed dining room with a table, chairs and pretty framed picture over the buffet," she says. "Straying from this more traditional,

'one size fits all' style, homeowners are now using their dining spaces as a canvas on which to express their own sense of style. Personalisation is the newest chapter of contemporary design, and this certainly applies to where we like to enjoy a home cooked meal."

According to Flora, contemporary doesn't necessarily refer to the concept of furnishing style, but rather to the harmonious arrangements of how spaces relate to the dining activity. "One way of accomplishing this," she explains, "is to blur the boundaries of the space using large, sliding glass doors,

which invite nature's beauty into the dining experience. And believe me, a pristine view of the outdoors makes any dish taste all the better, especially when the scene boasts a beautifully lit poolside garden, sheer waterfalls and fire bowls. In a setting like that, it's impossible to resist indulging in fine wines, champagnes, grappas and cognacs, all encased in a walnut and zebrano wood finish – an accent which only further complements the nature-steeped space.

"As seen in this space, culminating one's collection in a custom designed, climate controlled glass cellar has the potential to arouse discussions with even the most devoted epicurean guests. Large glass doors pivot open into the wine tasting room, where rolling ladders access the double-height storage area finished in stainless steel and white lacquered doors. Calcutta marble countertops are accented with a combination of white glass and marble mosaic backsplash, while more Italian porcelain calcutta slab tiles enhance the floor. Textured bronze mica wallpaper glistens in the play of light that's strategically positioned in the room."

The tasting room also allows continuous views to the two adjacent rooms, and the glass panelled screened wall gives a flawless glimpse into the lounge area exhibiting collections of sculptures and artwork. "Monochromatic in colour scheme," continues Flora, "this space is dramatised with its light and dark shades of white, deep browns and inky blue-blacks. White velvet drapery and silk cotton carpets contrast the rich wenge floor.

"Complementing this simplistic yet elegant scheme is the polished stainless steel and glass table surrounded by lacquered ebony stiletto chairs. And to further spark conversation? The ceiling panel feature, hidden sound speakers and light control technology. All in all, this space comes together in an elegant symphony of atmospheric delights."

Flora Di Menna Designs

t: +1 905 709 2077

e: interiors@fdmdesigns.com

w: www.fdmdesigns.com