

PRIVATE AIR

LUXURY HOMES

Volume 6 | Issue 6



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AFTER 50 YEARS

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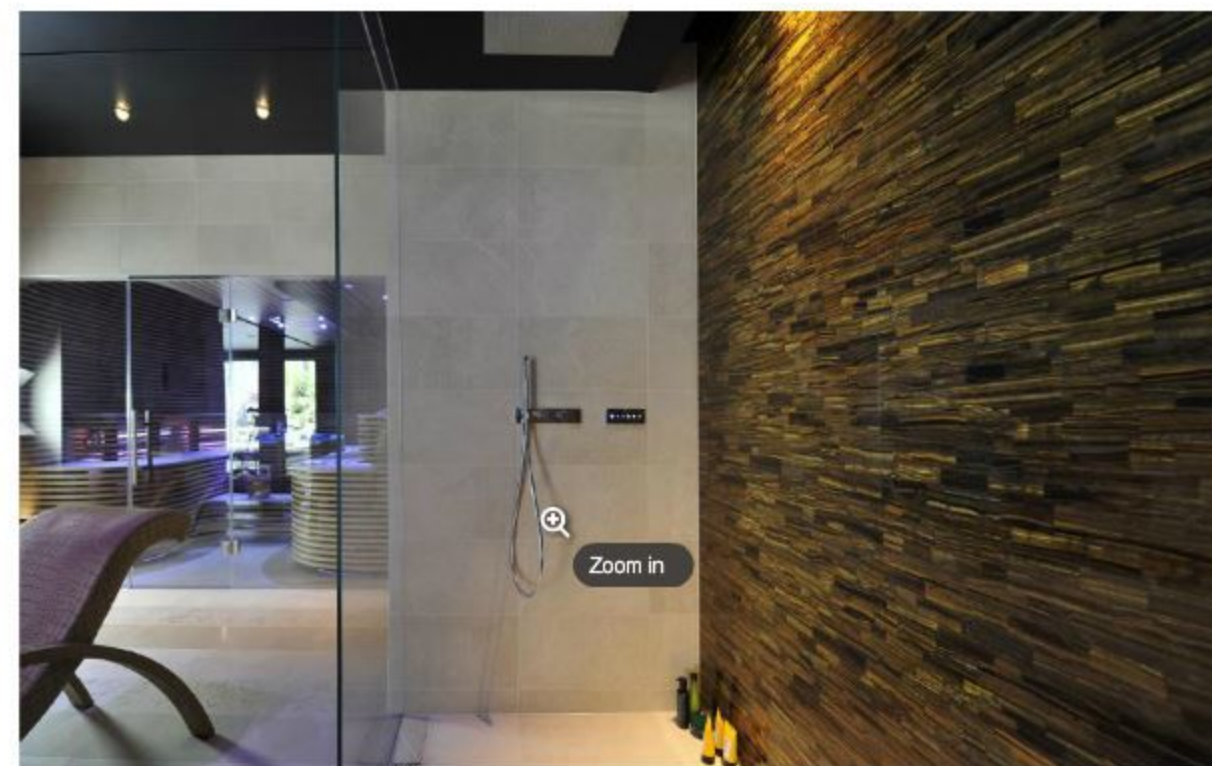
THE HAUTE COUTURE OF MARBLE

Tetyana Kovalenko, has been a leading player in the marble industry since 2000, when she established Elite Stone in Rome. Kovalenko's expertise in marble, onyx, and quartzites has been sort after by those who seek the most exotic masterpieces. Her latest project in an exclusive private estate near London is absolutely fit for a king and queen.

By: Delores Grey



Tetyana Kovalenko has an impeccable reputation for being the specialist for "haute couture" stone. Quality, colour, purity, cut, and the perfect installation is what her company, Elite Stone, is recognized for. Private clients explore her over 50,000 square feet of exclusive space, where they select from the most exclusive slabs of stones from the best quarries in the world. In 2016, Elite Stone introduced ES Atelier, to showcase interior design ideas including a complete impressive collection of living rooms, bathrooms, bedrooms and kitchens.



Kovalenko's clients for this elite project are high net worth individuals who wanted to achieve a tranquil space renovating their entire basement into an elaborate spa complete with indoor heated pool, gymnasium, Jacuzzi, sauna, and Turkish bath overlooking a Zen Garden. And the wish list did not stop there! Elite Stone was also given the task to create a luxurious en suite white bathroom. Each space needed to have distinctive luxurious character – as a "haute couture dress" – one of a kind!

From the moment you enter the basement, you're pleasantly greeted by an amazing classical geometric floor with a pattern of circles and triangles, laid in Elite Stone's Palissandro Classico and Noir St Laurent. Black and gold mosaic tiling line the pool, and tastefully include underwater creatures with incredible gold jelly fish. The effect is completed

with a stretched black fabric ceiling. Mosaic was also used in the bespoke Turkish bath over curved and sculpted seating, giving the space a tactile and flowing effect.

Kovalenko left no stone unturned. The newly-created Zen Garden, which is viewed through a large picture window at the end of the pool, is perfectly infused, as the black effect interacts with the luscious garden. The shower wall is clad in Tigers Eye, a semi-precious stone.

To achieve a contemporary design, using light and reflective surfaces, the white bathroom, features Paonazzo marble on the wall, and Crema Delicato inlaid with Tuscan Oak on the floor. The 'book match' wall is made of individually selected white 'book matched' marble, Calacatta Borghini, whose quarries in Carrara, Italy, are closely associated with



Elite Stone. The vanity unit is made in marble and lined with leather.

Cutting and fitting the marble is a complex process, requiring a team of artisans with varied skills. According to Elite Stone Founder and CEO, Tetyana Kovalenko, "This technique requires a mastery of marble cutting. It involves cutting blocks of natural stone into slabs, using a large saw which works like a bread slicer. Once the slabs are cut, they are laid flat to be polished, then assembled in the same order at the other end of the processing line. Book matched slabs are slabs which were right next to each other, but have been polished on opposite sides. When these slabs are placed side by side, you will see that they are a near mirror image of each other. Veining can be matched up to create an unbroken pattern." →