

ITALIAN MARBLE COMPANY OPENS IN LONDON TO ATTRACT ARCHITECTURAL ELITE



This month they opened their first UK showroom, ELITE STONE GALLERY, at Margaret Street W1, Central London.

Lavish displays over two hundred square metres explore new ways to use marble, onyx and natural stone, to create dazzling effects using light and sculptural carving. Elite Stone technical team have taken ten years to perfect their E-light system of backlit panels.

CEO Tetyana Kovalenko, who graduated in geology and mineralogy, established Elite Stone in 2000, in Rome. She selects the most exquisite marble from Italian quarries, especially in Carrara. She says "Marble is like a diamond: absolutely perfect when the colour is right when it is flawless and perfectly cut. When one of these features is missing, it immediately loses value".

Elite Stone supply and install marble in palaces, mansions and apartments, hotels and villas around

the world, including a 3, 500 square metres backlit wall for the Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg. One of the projects in a private Surrey estate near London has the most elaborate spa imaginable, with mosaic-lined pool, gymnasium, Jacuzzi, sauna and Turkish bath (hammam) looking out over a Zen garden. Elite Stone supplied the stone and technical expertise for this project, working with the development and design company Veyron.

As an extra touch of glamour for customers to take away, Tetyana and her team have designed a range of luxury gift items for the new Elite Stone Gallery including Dolce Vita sunglasses, with Carrara marble frames, paperweights in the form of carved initials, candleholders, and planters.

Tetyana Kovalenko founded her company in Rome in 2000. The company relocated to Verona in 2013. Two vast buildings in the Valpolicella area just outside the City, Slab Division, and Atelier, display racks of marble for private and corporate

clients. There is an array of opulent room settings featuring the E-light system where panels of marble and onyx are backlit to show the beauty of natural stone. This is an innovation which has taken the Elite Stone technical team ten years to perfect.

Tetyana discovered her passion for stone while working for a company producing equipment for quarries. She says "I was determined to become a true professional. I took a graduate course in geology and mineralogy, in order to understand every aspect of natural ornamental stone, both chemical and physical. During my studies, my fascination with marble and onyx, as well as quartzite, grew stronger than ever". "I am devoted to luxury and beautiful things, inspired by changing trends in fashion and interior design. Outside our buildings in Verona, we have installed a profile of Michelangelo's David, carved in Carrara marble. We are associated with the Borghini quarry in Carrara, renowned for its white and blue-grey marble for centuries".

www.elitestonegallery.co.uk

