

## EXPLORE THE LATEST IN KITCHEN AND BATH DESIGN LuxeHome Boutiques Unveil New Products At LuxeHome Open House

**CHICAGO (September 3, 2009)** —In celebration of October's National Kitchen and Bath Month, the LuxeHome boutiques at The Merchandise Mart will present the latest in kitchen, bath and building products at the LuxeHome Open House on Saturday, October 3, 10am-3pm. LuxeHome, the world's largest collection of luxury boutiques for home building and renovation, is the premier destination for the finest products in the kitchen and bath industry.

LuxeHome's boutiques will unveil new product collections including tile and stone, cabinetry, flooring, wall coverings, plus much more. Be one of the first to see the latest boutique, Porcelanosa, and view thousands of innovative products in their 7,800 square foot showroom in Suite 149. Porcelanosa was founded more than 30 years ago in a small village by the Mediterranean Sea in Castellon, Spain. Since then, they have been providing architectural and design solutions to homeowners and the trade community with unparalleled innovation, quality, and service. The same family who founded the company back in 1970 still runs it today under the same values of work ethics and integrity. Today, Porcelanosa's global presence extends to 70 different countries through more than 400 company owned showrooms, distribution centers and an extensive network of independent distributors and retailers.

Other highlights for the day include a keynote presentation by Nicole Facciuto, interior designer and celebrated HGTV host of *Red, Hot and Green*, guest appearances by design experts and a Traditional Home Editor, educational seminars, cooking demonstrations and gourmet hospitality in over 30 boutiques.

**For more information about LuxeHome or the Open House, please contact Sophia Weiss Lapat, Public Relations Manager for MMPI, at 312.527.7841 or [sweiss@mmart.com](mailto:sweiss@mmart.com).**

Listed below are highlights of the **new products** in tile and stone, cabinetry, wall, vanity, closets and wood products to be unveiled during the LuxeHome Open House on October 3, 2009.

### TILE AND STONE

- **Ann Sacks – Suite 100B**  
**312-923-0919, [www.annsacks.com](http://www.annsacks.com)**  
**Blake Studios Collection**

The three organic designs, Nautilus, Botanical and Dahlia, can be applied vertically or horizontally to create dramatic, show-stopping murals, with an individual beauty that is also striking as a backsplash or fireplace surround. Sculptural and lush, the Blake Studios collection tiles are individually made by hand using the Italian Old World technique of *sgraffito* carving, which means "to scratch." No molds or dyes are used to create the elaborate designs making each tile truly a one-of-a-kind work of art. To achieve its undulating surface, clay is draped over spacers creating a textural effect. Wet clay is then brushed onto white porcelain clay and when almost dry, the artisan carves the design in relief. The 11x11 tiles are meant for indoor installations and offered in an expressive, 18 color palette, including a plain field tile.

#### **Aura**

The large format, handmade glass tile adds new dimension to the ANN SACKS repertoire, and is designed to create dramatic interiors with a rich, variegated palette based upon the colors of nature. Handcrafted in Israel, the glass obtains its deep, multi-hued colorations during the fusing process by becoming an integral part of the glass, sealing in the color to eliminate any fading or change in the depth or range of the color over time. Exclusive to Ann Sacks, Aura is perfect for indoor, vertical applications.

- **Artistic Tile – Suite 105A**  
**312.670.0612, [www.artistictile.com](http://www.artistictile.com)**  
**Château**

Inspired by iconic patterns found in old-world textiles and art, Nancy Epstein, founder, CEO and principal product designer of Artistic Tile, reinterprets four classic motifs using the modern technology of waterjet to create interlocking stone mosaics that resonate with both traditional and contemporary styles for her new collection, Château.

The two botanical patterns, Esprit and Fleur, are fresh designs formed by an artisan's hand and eye, then translated into fanciful petal-like shapes with the craftsmanship of the waterjet technique. And although cut in stone, these beautiful patterns capture the gentle essence of flowers.

The other two patterns, Damask and Danse, are much more baroque than the florals and evocative of the Renaissance period. These traditional designs are made modern with sensual curves and repeating patterns. Damask is bold and striking while Danse is more subdued and free-flowing.

All four patterns are made to order upon request with virtually limitless combinations of natural stones and colorways to select from.

#### **Nicole**

Created exclusively for Artistic Tile by Italian artisan Giovanni Barbieri, Nicole is a new field tile in limestone with an antique finish and hand-chiseled soft edges. It is stocked in grey in four interesting sizes, which combine in random modular patterns in virtually limitless ways for interior walls or floors.

#### **Tropique**

Just as the pearl is the queen of gems, Artistic Tile's new Tropique collection is the jewel of tile. Much like she did for her South Sea Pearl collection, Epstein once again brings her love of jewelry into the tile design process to create a line of decorative inserts and liners made from authentic mother of pearl. These specialty pieces are hand-made in Southeast Asia and pair beautifully with ceramic and natural stone, among other materials.

The Tropique collection consists of 3cm loose mosaic pieces and three liners: flat bar liner, dimensional liner, and an end liner. The 3cm loose mosaic pieces were specifically designed to integrate easily with 3cm mosaics in other Artistic Tile collections, while the liners provide the perfect decorative frame. The dimensional liner is especially noteworthy as it isn't commonly found in mother of pearl. Installed on the wall or floor, Tropique is simply elegant.

There are five colorways to select from: White Mother of Pearl, Black Mother of Pearl, Troca, Brown Lip, and Brown Young Pen.

- **Chicago Tile Institute – Suite 163**  
**312- 467-1640, [www.chicagotileinstitute.com](http://www.chicagotileinstitute.com)**  
Mid-America Tile® is introducing its exciting and EXCLUSIVE leather wall tile from **Studioart®**. Customers will also get a close-up look at **Legend**, the first digital ink-jet slate-look porcelain from Florida Tile®. These great new products along with the latest offerings from such top names as Atlas Concorde and Questech make Chicago Tile Institute and Mid-America Tile a must stop for Open House visitors.
- **Hastings Tile & Bath – Suite 120**  
**312-527-0565, [www.hastingstilebath.com](http://www.hastingstilebath.com)**  
**MaTouche-Croco Series**

The Matouche Croco series features durable porcelain tiles that mimic patterns and textures found in nature. They are available in 24"x24" Ivoire (Ivory), Tabac (Brown), Charbon (Black) and Mou (Gold).

- **Porcelanosa – Suite 146**  
**312.204.6220, [www.porcelanosa-usa.com](http://www.porcelanosa-usa.com)**  
**Eidos Oceano**

This unique tile creates the illusion of mosaic with multi-hued squares. The 8x12 wall tile is available in oceano (blue), graffito (gray), and ambar (amber brown).

#### **Yakarta**

One of Porcelanosa's most popular tiles; Yakarta mimics the look of a natural wall covering. It's slightly satin finish helps to create a soft atmosphere in your home. It is a large format rectified tile, which means that the small grout joints create a seamless finish. Yakarta is the perfect choice for a natural look with the ease and durability of tile.

## **CABINETRY**

- **Chicago Kitchen Design Group – Suite 127**  
**312-245-0100, [www.ckdgroup.com](http://www.ckdgroup.com)**  
**Bamboo** cabinetry is a beautiful, practical, eco-friendly, and increasingly sustainable wood offered in the Symphony line of cabinetry. The line is available in its natural color or with an amber tone. The look is clean and sleek with a beautiful grain pattern.
- **Christopher Peacock – Suite 148**  
**312-321-9500, [www.peacockcabinetry.com](http://www.peacockcabinetry.com)**  
Peacock introduces his **Contemporary Collection** of fitted and free-standing furniture. The Collection includes beautiful new contemporary hardware designed by Mr. Peacock, many new choices of interiors of cabinetry for clients to choose from as well as new wood, stain and paint choices to compliment the new Collection. The new Collection can be seen in several Christopher Peacock Home showrooms in kitchen, dressing room and bath displays.

Introducing the **MOTRA™** Collection of cabinetry; it's high quality, well-designed and affordable. Under the MOTRA™ label will be a modern line and a traditional line.

- **de Giulio kitchen design – Suite 121**  
**312-494-9200, [www.degiulio.org](http://www.degiulio.org)**  
Visit de Giulio kitchen design and see how classic kitchen interior design has been reinterpreted with the internationally-acclaimed **BeauxArts** collection. New BeauxArts Display featuring Amaranth Green cabinetry by SieMatic.
- **Ernestomeda Chicago – Suite 128**  
**312-329-0229, [www.ernestomedachicago.com](http://www.ernestomedachicago.com)**  
Ernestomeda is please to introduce "**Elektra Vetro**". This evolution of the best selling line Elektra is now available in Glass and is paired with a stunning island in walnut and stainless steel.
- **Poggenpohl U.S. – Suite 138**  
**312-755-9023, [www.poggenpohl-usa.com](http://www.poggenpohl-usa.com)**  
Poggenpohl will showcase its new mineral inspired cabinetry finishes including **Cubanit, Oxid, Curit, and Flourid**, which provide an iridescent shine, as well as the new Holm Oak wood veneer and a Sand Pine wood décor finish.
- **Smartrooms, Inc– Suite 119**  
**312.644.4446, [www.smartrooms.com](http://www.smartrooms.com)**

Smartrooms is a Wood-Mode Fine Custom Cabinetry showroom, which also features Wood-Mode's semi-custom line of cabinetry, Brookhaven. Wood-Mode, a family-owned business with a rich, 67 year history of producing furniture quality cabinetry, is our nation's largest custom cabinet manufacturer. Certified "Green," by the Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association, Wood-Mode caps its already rich history with an abiding respect for the environment.

- **Studio Snaidero – Suite 140**

**312-644-6662, [www.snaiderochicago.com](http://www.snaiderochicago.com)**

**KUBE**, the new kitchen cabinetry line designed by Giovanni Offredi for Italian manufacturer Snaidero, has a clear-cut "architecture" of dynamic and smooth contemporary forms. Kube is a system that offers outstanding practicality and layout versatility. Its streamlined design is built around the interplay of volume and space. The contrasts of shapes, materials and colors define clearly distinct functional areas which coexist harmoniously. The analytical design of Kube results into a timeless kitchen conceived to respond to the need for increased functionality that is typical of today's lifestyle. Kube is the expression of the new concept of luxury, which is not about ostentation; rather, it is about using design for function and as a mirror of the homeowner's personality.

- **Valcucine Chicago – Suite 106**

**312.755.0356, [www.domshowrooms.com](http://www.domshowrooms.com)**

Valcucine has perfected a technique that makes it possible to reproduce drawings and paintings on the glass fronts of its cabinets. Unrestrained in its creativity, Valcucine breaks down the barriers of lines and volumes giving vitality and expressive power to the surfaces of its latest and most exclusive kitchen: **Artematica Vitrum**. Artematica Arte expresses Gabrielle Centazzo's passion for glass—one of the most fascinating natural materials.

Transparently elegant, harder than steel, extremely resistant to humidity, glass surfaces are more scratch safe than varnishes. Valcucine presented Artematica, its first one-piece dematerialized panel, in 1988. The cabinet fronts are 5 mm thick tempered glass, the worktops 10 mm thick. Artematica Arte—like all Artematica models—has a patented aluminum frame that reduces cabinet weight by 50%, extending the life of hinges and joints, and the life of the overall kitchen. Corners are attractively (and safely) curved.

## WALLS

- **Farrow & Ball – Suite 105B**

**312-222-9620, [www.farrow-ball.com](http://www.farrow-ball.com)**

The **Estate® Eggshell** is a unique high performance paint finish which offers an environmentally-friendly alternative to traditional oil-based eggshell paints. Using a highly innovative formulation, it retains the flow, appearance and performance of traditional oil-based eggshell paint, yet it has minimum impact on the environment, with an amazingly low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) content of just 5 grammes per litre, which is 98% lower even than the new EU regulatory maximum level. Extremely durable and ideal for use on all interior woodwork and metal including radiators, Estate® Eggshell is an excellent, low-sheen complement to Farrow & Ball Estate® Emulsion and Modern Emulsion, giving the unmistakably elegant Farrow & Ball look.

Available in all Farrow & Ball colors and in tin sizes.

## VANITY

- **Ann Sacks – Suite 100-B**

**312-923-0919, [www.annsacks.com](http://www.annsacks.com)**

**Davlin Glass:** Renowned Boston artisan, Tony Davlin, created the Davlin Glass collection to

complement his ANN SACKS T. Davlin glass tile program. The collection is comprised of a tray and soap dish, which achieves its luster by pressing 24 karat rose-colored gold leaf between two pieces of art glass, and waste basket, vase, and cup, hand-blown from crystal clear glass fused with 24 karat rose-colored gold leaf. ANN SACKS also offers Davlin Glass in gold, bronze, silver and platinum leaf by special order.

Crafted in San Francisco, **Heath** for Ann Sacks is made from richly figured birdseye maple and a choice of either Ivory or Black ceramic. The collection features a tray, tissue cover, waste basket, soap dish, two canisters, toothbrush holder, and drinking cup.

- **Chicago Kitchen Design Group – Suite 127**  
**312-245-0100, [www.ckdgroup.com](http://www.ckdgroup.com)**

We will be showcasing a variety of pendants, spotlights and monorail systems by LBL Lighting.

**Celeste Pendant**

The Celeste Swarovski star shaped crystal can be hung at various lengths to create a spectacular display of elaborate patterns on nearby surfaces. Optional colored LEDs are available in blue, green, yellow and red.

- **Hastings Tile & Bath – Suite 120**  
**312-527-0565, [www.hastingstilebath.com](http://www.hastingstilebath.com)**

**Vola Showerhead**

The timeless minimalist designs of renowned Danish architect and designer Arne Jacobsen live on in the Vola faucet line. Jacobsen's award- winning design combined with Vola's innovative engineering yielded a faucet design which has garnered international recognition highlighted by it's being exhibited in New York's Museum of Modern Art. Vola has a unique selection of showerheads and body sprays which follow the timeless Vola design. Click on info for more details.

- **Porcelanosa – Suite 149**  
**312.204.6220, [www.porcelanosa-usa.com](http://www.porcelanosa-usa.com)**

The **Giro Vanity's** rounded edges and modern look are perfect for the contemporary bathroom. It's wall mounted with ample storage and soft closing drawers. Giro comes in a variety of finishes including Blanco, solid white and solid nogal with a Nogal, or Walnut wood cabinet underneath to utilize space. Matching wall mounted cabinets and shelves help to complete the look. As with all Porcelanosa vanities, the Giro features durable hinges.

- **ShowHouse by Moen – Suite 163**  
**800-289-6636, [www.showhouse.moen.com](http://www.showhouse.moen.com)**

**Woodmere**

As the first truly traditional pulldown kitchen faucet in the ShowHouse kitchen suite, Woodmere has a high-arc spout and beautiful S-shaped handle. Woodmere is now slim and elegant, standing tall and ready to make a bold statement in any upscale kitchen environment. The ADA-compliant Woodmere faucet offers superior functionality for a variety of kitchen tasks. The pulldown wand features three functions (pause/spray/stream) with a unique patented pause button, which enables consumers to conveniently pause the water flow from the wand without turning off the water source. It's like having a second "on-off" button in your hand – and convenience at your fingertips.

Another unique feature of the Woodmere faucet is its reversible side-mount handle, which can be mounted on either the right or the left side of the faucet, allowing the consumer to customize the faucet for his or her needs.

**Fina™**

The Fina single-handle lavatory faucet from ShowHouse® by Moen® features soft modern style cues, the beautifully designed faucet also features a flow-optimized aerator for water savings. Highlights of the Fina faucet include its high-arc, marquise-shaped spout, lever handles and contemporary-shaped base. The faucet also features a beautiful, sheeting water presentation that complements its modern styling. And while the faucet itself is remarkably designed, it's the story inside the faucet that is equally as important.

Each faucet in the Fina collection has been certified to meet WaterSense® criteria, meaning the fixtures meet the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) guidelines as an environmentally responsible and efficient product. Each new faucet features a flow-optimized aerator that allows water to flow at 1.5 gallons per minute (gpm), versus traditional aerators that flow at 2.2 gpm. This new aerator provides consumers the sensational water experience they are accustomed to, while reducing water usage by up to 32 percent.

- **Remains Lighting – Suite 103**

**312-527-1300, [www.remains.com](http://www.remains.com)**

The **Sorenson Flushmount** references a form of historical factory lighting where the glass was netted for safety. Closely related to the versatile Sorenson suite of lanterns and pendants in the Remains Lighting Permanent Collection, the mouth-blown half globe is wrapped in a hand-woven wire fabric, and is offered in either thick milk-white or clear glass. The solid brass body is available in any of the 15 Remains Lighting signature finishes.

In keeping with Remains Lighting's long-standing commitment to sustainability and good environmental practice, the company sources local and recycled raw materials wherever possible, and uses a "closed loop" plating system in the manufacturing of its products.

## CLOSETS

- **Neff of Chicago, Inc. – Suite 144**

**312-467-9585, [www.neffkitchens.com](http://www.neffkitchens.com)**

The new **Valet Polo Collection** closet offers modular design and tons of cool features, including wooden hangers with stitched leather; leather-faced toe kicks and ceiling scribes; chrome spiral hangers to hold up to 60 garments for corner storage; and roll-out, leather-trimmed shirt shelves with softly curved glass fronts.

## WOOD

- **Paris Ceramics – Suite 146**

**312-467-9830, [www.parisceramics.com](http://www.parisceramics.com)**

Paris Ceramics USA, premier supplier of an extensive collection of ancient and modern stone and terracotta flooring and custom architectural and decorative stone, mosaics and tile, will be launching an exquisite and exclusive line of Italian engineered wood flooring this Fall 2009. The line will include over 70 varieties due to the range of wood, finish, stain and pattern selections and will include rovere (French oak), afrormosia, teak, doussie, iroko, and wenge woods in finishes from contemporary to rustic, stains from mocha to silver, and patterns from herringbone or chevron to parquet. As Paris Ceramics remains committed to bringing its dual aesthetic of ancient and modern design to the luxury residential and hospitality industries and continuing to develop eco-friendly products, the line offers an outstanding range of design selections that meet the highest level of environmental standards. And as the entire collection is of engineered wood, Paris Ceramics will add to its collection a wood flooring option which is suitable in conjunction with or next to stone installations and provides ease of installation.

- **Porcelanosa – Suite 149**

**312.204.6220, [www.porcelanosa-usa.com](http://www.porcelanosa-usa.com)**

**Haya Salina** is just one of the few natural hardwood offerings from Porcelanosa. Its rich chocolate brown coloring streaked with a tawny honey color will truly lend a distinctive look to any décor. Haya Salina is made of Beech wood, and comes with a 30 year warranty against damage. The hardwood can be installed using the floating or gluedown method.

Sponsors include ShowHouse by Moen and Traditional Home Magazine

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**ABOUT LUXEHOMETM**

LuxeHome boasts more than 100,000 square feet of space with 30 boutiques that feature the finest kitchen and bath products for luxury home building and renovation from the most recognized and respected manufacturers worldwide. Open to the public, as well as interior designers, architects and custom builders, LuxeHome displays the widest selection of products to fit all lifestyles, from modern European to classic American to traditional English. In addition to the extensive lineup of manufacturers, each boutique offers knowledgeable designers who are available to assist with all phases of each design project. LuxeHome's boutiques are open for shopping Monday through Saturday.

For more details, please visit [www.merchandisemart.com](http://www.merchandisemart.com) or call 800.677.MART (6278).

MMPI is the world's leading owner and operator of showroom buildings and trade show facilities, bringing buyers and sellers together in more than 300 market events, trade and consumer shows and conferences each year.

MMPI manages The Merchandise Mart and 350 W. Mart Center in Chicago; Market Square, the Suites at Market Square, Hamilton Market, Plaza Suites, Furniture Plaza and the National Furniture Mart in High Point, N.C.; the Architects & Designers Building and 7 W New York in New York; the Boston Design Center in Boston; the L.A. Mart in Los Angeles; and the Washington Design Center and Federal Center Southwest in Washington D.C.

Vornado Realty Trust, owner of MMPI, based in New York City, is a fully integrated real estate investment trust. Vornado's common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and are traded under the symbol VNO.

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