Gaetano

**E-mail:** gaetano.379502@2freemail.com

**Senior level Architect with expertise in interior and lighting design & multi-disciplinary design coordination skills and strong exposure to project management, seeking an assignment as…………**

Design Director

**Over 26 years’** experience spanning premium residential, commercial, hospitality, corporate and institutional projects across Europe Middle East, and the USA. Technically resourceful, innovative, focused & decisive professional, the key member of project management team, anchoring interior design & engineering as well as production function as per project requirement and in integration with other engineering disciplines. Creative and trendsetting in concept design, translating client imaginations to best-in-class experience. Strong focus on quality, aesthetics and sustainability; delivering projects with unmatched mood quotient, ambience and utility efficacy within a defined budget. Out of the box planning, organisation and people management skills to drive excellence in performances regarding cost, quality, timeline and client satisfaction. Hands on experience in onsite construction supervision and coordination functions to ensure efficient execution of designs, while managing changes and conflicts. **Areas of expertise include….**

* Design Development
* Design Presentations
* Design Coordination
* Concept & Detail Design
* Constructability Review
* Const. Documentation
* IFC Drawings Production
* Design Execution Support
* Design Change Mgmt
* Technical Submittals Mgmt
* Project Mgmt Supports
* Team Building & Leadership

Professional Synopsis

* Extensive experience in design, engineering, technical documentation, and production/review/approval of coordinated drawings and managing construction engineering and execution works in close coordination with other disciplines like Civil, Structural MEP, Infrastructure, while adhering to quality and delivery norms
* Deft at coordinating design development with multiple design consultants, reviewing adequacy & intent of design against project requirements, and managing technical office team in detailing and drafting of coordinated construction drawings
* Skills in developing design concepts for high profile commercial brands, designing luxury private houses development for the hospitality sector and providing strategic direction for clients
* Efficient in tracking, monitoring and controlling projects progress against budget & schedule, while expediting resolution of progress bottlenecks, managing conflicts, mitigating risks & cost, and ensuring optimum utilisation of manpower and resources
* Familiar with local & international design & engineering codes & standards, Sustainable design, Green Building concepts
* User proficiency in **AutoCAD, Sketch-Up, Maya, 3D Studio Max, V Ray, Photoshop, Adobe Lightroom, Adobe Element In Design, Illustrator, After Effects Corel Draw, Piranesi, Vector Works, SketchBook Pro**
* Collaborative team player with proven leadership aptitude; excellent communication, interpersonal and problem-solving skills; innovative and solutions-oriented approach to challenges having passion & drive for excellence

Executive Functional Skills

* Deliver architectural (interior & lighting) plan & design guidelines, schematic design, define the technical platform and engage internal/external designers in design development based on client inputs or design mandates
* Support, understand and advise the client on the requirements and obligations in the development of a design
* Ensure the design process recognises current legislation, standards and codes; and design information is of the right quality and keeps pace with project timescales
* Lead, motivate, develop, appraise & manage the performance of staff to ensure deliveries meet laid down standards and expectations
* Coordinate production, approval and issuance, and change of construction documents & drawings in keeping with schedules
* Establish and enforce quality and standard in schemes, ensure schemes are designed to standards to suit building, marketing and economic considerations, as well as be competitive in design terms
* Develop new/changed designs as required, to meet the changing demands and planning requirements
* Establish good working relationships with Site staff and Department Heads to ensure schemes are constructed as intended and to encourage feedback for inclusion in future programmes to avoid wastage and improve the product
* Implement new ideas and methods and continue to seek ways of enhancing contribution to the organisation’s goals
* Assume responsibilities for business development, commercial, construction, project management functions as and when assigned
* Develop conceptual sketches. detailed design, construction drawings, detailing, and coordinate with other consultants/trades
* Lead and manage design and drafting staff both at developmental and construction stages. Monitor & control the process of production of coordinated drawings, Shop drawings in compliance with the given specifications & applicable standards
* Review / approve ID Shop Drawings / Builders work drawings / Material Approvals / RFIs for all Architectural work as well issue LCIs for the design changes on the Project
* Assist Planning, Procurement and Material teams; and liaise with site team on priorities/problems on the day to day activities

Experience Summary

**Interior Design Expert | Mabanee – Kuwait Aug 2015 onwards**

Job Profile

* Assist the company with a selection of interior finishes in residential, commercial and hospitality construction
* Coordinate material choices, prepare conceptual drawings and manage design process from selection to installation
* Support the company with the scope of works, tender documents and evaluation reports and site inspection.

Projects Handled

* Avenues Mall (Phase 4 & 4B) - Kuwait
* **Hilton Garden Inn**-Kuwait
* **Waldorf Astoria**-Kuwait
* Hilton Team Member Housing-Kuwait
* Refurbishment of **64** toilets in Avenues Mall, with a new concept Design and execution

**Head of Interior Design | Echo Architecture – Riyadh, KSA Sep 2013 – Jul 2015**

Job Profile

* Manage and execute Interior Design work for Shopping Centres & 4\*/5\* Hotels in accordance with company procedures
* Lead a team of designers (architects and interior designers) in the delivery of design solutions which meet the Clients’ cost, quality and compliance requirements – for new-build and shopping Centre refurbishment projects
* Apply design management procedures to support the design work of the interior design team
* Coordinate with, and integrate the design with related design disciplines (architects, MEP engineers, structural engineers and specialist designers), contractors and sub-contractors.
* Provide collaborative leadership and support to Clients

Projects Handled

* Mall of Arabia–Riyadh
* Hamra Mall –Riyadh
* Mall of Dhahran
* Taif Mall Jubail
* Mall Al Jasmin Mall – Jeddah
* Abha Mall Amman
* Mall Khaleej Mall – Riyadh
* Mall of Arabia – Cairo
* Mall of Arabia–Amman
* Zahra Mall – Jeddah
* Sesto San Giovanni – Milano – Italy
* Cascina Merlata–Milano – Italy
* Mall of Florence – Firenze – Italy
* Al Nakheel Mall Refurbishment – Riyadh
* Mall of Arabia Refurbishment–Jeddah
* **Sheraton Four Points** – Riyadh
* **Marriot Courtyard** – Riyadh – Jeddah
* **Aloft Hotel** – Riyadh – Jeddah
* **Hampton by Hilton** –Riyadh
* **Premier Inn** – Riyadh – Jeddah
* Salbouk Housing Compound – Riyadh
* Arabian Centres Leasing Office – Riyadh

Previous Experience

**Communication & Interior Design Manager | IKEA – Kuwait City, Kuwait Nov 2010 – Mar 2013**

* Successfully increased seven months level of creativity from 56% to 84% and six months level of inspiration from 63% to 96%
* Exceeded 20% of the Sales budget for the consecutively last three financial years

**Project Manager | Callison – London, UK 2009 – 2010**

* Refurbished **HARRODS** MENSWEAR Knightsbridge London with style undoubtedly unique, original and thoroughly reveals the characteristics of Harrods brand

**Senior Interior Designer | Kinnersley Kent Design – London, UK 2007 – 2009**

* Completed the refurbishment of **HOUSE OF FRASER** in Oxford Street London that demonstrates a significant revolution in the brand’s retail image. The new look is sleek, glamorous, sophisticated, confident, luxurious materials, dramatic shapes
* Completed the refurbishment of Houses of Fraser Manchester and Bristol
* Commended for building up of House of Fraser in Westfield London
* Providing new look for **TWININGS** Tea Shop in London
* Won Retail Interior Awards for Food & Supermarket Design of **WAITROSE** - First Waitrose in Dubai located in Dubai Mall underneath the world’s tallest tower during 2009
* Successfully designed to reflect the ambience of British Waitrose yet adapting it to appeal to contemporary Arabic culture
* Created a new look for **BATEEL** Middle Eastern luxury confectionery brand, the date of a global luxury phenomenon
* Contributed by opening several Bateel Shops and Bateel Cafe’ between 2007-2008 in the Middle East
* Designed several High-End Residential Projects, Lounge Bars & Restaurants

**Project Leader / Associate | Mattesini Industrial Interior Design - Arezzo, Italy Sep 2002-Sep 2007**

* Instrumental in building up more than 27 Showrooms, Shops and point of sales for **Celin.B** around the world
* Successfully built about 18 Showrooms, Shops, Point of Sale and Showrooms for **FLAVIO CASTELLANI** across the globe
* Successfully created more than seven Showroom for **MASERATI** and **FERRARI** around the world and two Showrooms for **GIORGIO ARMANI** in Italy
* Made more than 5 Showrooms and Shops each for **ERMANNO SCERVINO** – Italy and **EMPORIO ARMANI** - Italy and Refurbishment **GUESS** Shops Italy
* Delivered **PATRIZIA PEPE** Concept – Firenze 2004
* Worked on several concepts for Hotels Details, High-End Residential project, Museum in Florence, Disco Club Tuscany Sea Side

Early career Experience

**Interior Designer | Highland Associates – USA Oct 2000 – May 2002**

**Set Designer Assistant / Interior Designer | Cinecitta’ Film Production – Rome, Italy Sep 1991 – May 1999**

Credentials

**Education**

* Master degree (Virtual Architecture) – Quasar Design University, Italy, 2014
* Certified Graphic Designer - Quasar Design University, Italy, 2006
* Bachelor degree (Interior Planner, Garden & Industrial Designer), Quasar Design University, Italy - 2000
* Diploma Interior Designer – Art High School P.A. De Luca, Italy 1988
* Diploma Art Master - Art High School P.A. De Luca, Italy, 1985 -

**Training & Courses**

* AUTODESK Certified 3D Studio Max Visualization 1 Rome -31\07\2013
* AUTODESK Certified 3D Studio Max Visualization 2 Rome -31\07\2013
* AUTODESK Certified Auto-Cad 2D Rome - 04\30\2013
* AUTODESK Certified Auto-Cad 3D Advanced Rome -31\07\2013
* Advanced Listening Skills Kuwait - 16-17\05\2012
* Lighting Advanced Kuwait 13-14\05\2012
* Ikea Brand Values Kuwait 3\03\2012
* Ikea Discovery Delft - Nederland - 05\2011
* Ikea Exploring Delft - Nederland - 05\2011

Personal Particulars

* **Date of Birth:** July 13, 1970
* **Languages:** English, Italian, French
* **Nationality:** Italian
* **Visa Status:** Work Permit (Kuwait)
* **Location Preference:** UAE