



LUXURY HOME & DESIGN SHOW

MEDIA RELEASE

A Rare Experience: The history and charm of an Italian “piazza” recreated at Vancouver’s “Luxury Home and Design Show” – June 21-24

Vancouver, B.C. (June 4 2018): Walk into BC Place during the **Luxury Home & Design Show** and you could be convinced you’ve been magically teleported thousands of miles away - to an Italian piazza.



Fountains, cobblestones, greenery, benches, and gelato will recreate the charm and welcoming aura of an authentic Italian piazza that covers 8,000 square feet.

The third **Luxury Home and Design Show** at **BC Place** on **June 21-24** offers the rare chance for those who appreciate design and innovation in its truest form to experience in person, and acquire, carefully curated bespoke décor and artwork from some of the world’s top artisans and privately-invited luxury product companies. (See updated [exhibitors list](#) here.)

Like the show, which brings together designers and artisans from all over the world who draw their inspiration from many time periods and aesthetics, Italian piazzas are often surrounded by rich architecture from different periods. The piazza, which translates to the “square” or “plaza” is a quintessential gathering place that fits perfectly with the overall Renaissance theme of the show and is fittingly cosmopolitan (see the [video here](#)).



“The piazza is a gathering place in various parts of Italy, however, not only in Italy,” says the show’s concept designer [Bianca Fusco Zanatta of Vancouver](#). “It’s also in England, Greece, and many parts of the world, it’s just that a different word is used.”

(more)

“It’s always been something that’s made me feel comfortable,” says Jim Paquette of Gemstone Masonry & Landscape Supply, who is building this piazza and who has personal experience with Italian piazzas through frequent trips to Italy with his Italian wife.

Paquette is laying 8,000 square feet of Roman pavers for the piazza. These pavers have been “tumbled and have that essence of time,” he says. They look very natural, allowing us to have the feeling of centuries-old cobblestones inside a modern stadium.

“It’s a gathering place, a meeting place, a place that everyone would just go in the evening and let their kids play soccer, run wild and do their thing,” he says of piazzas. “We’re trying to recreate what Italy is all about in this piazza.” Alongside the piazza will be an impressive garden, including 10-foot cypresses and a water feature. “You are in Vancouver, but as soon as you open the door, you can say, ‘Oh, wow, it’s a European garden.’”, adds Fusco Zanatta.

Charity Partners – Arts Umbrella and BC Cancer Foundation.

In addition to the craftsmanship, quality and innovation behind the beautiful things we appreciate, design is also important from a “form and function” point of view. Recognizing this, the Luxury Home and Design Show will make donations to **Arts Umbrella**, and **BC Cancer Foundation** with funds raised at the show’s **Opening Night Debut & Charity Fundraiser** with authentic Italian ingredients provided by the Italian Chamber of Commerce.

Arts Umbrella provides the highest quality dance, theatre, and visual arts programming available for 20,000 young people each year. The BC Cancer Foundation is working with students at Emily Carr University of Art + Design to specially develop six waiting room and treatment chairs specifically designed for patients being treated for cancer. Their designs will be on display at the Luxury Home and Design Show.

Tickets and additional show information

*Tickets for the 2018 **Luxury Home and Design Show** are available on a single-day admission basis at www.lhdshow.com. Tickets are available separately for the show’s “**Tea Pavilion**” featuring Taipei organic tea expert **David Tsay** and Taiwan’s renowned firewood potter [Tian Chengtai](#).*

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