



A TOUCH OF STONE  
**JANUARY**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
2024

BONNE ANNEE!! HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

THIS IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE TIME OF THE YEAR, NOT ONLY BECAUSE JANUARY IS MY BIRTHDAY MONTH 🥰 BUT IT ALSO SIGNIFIES A FRESH START AND TIME OF REFLECTION.

WE JUST WRAPPED UP A WHIRLWIND YEAR WHERE I GOT TO MEET SOME PEOPLE THAT ARE ALREADY CHANGING MY LIFE JUST BY BEING THEM, AND I WORKED ON PROJECTS AND IN PLACES I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD GET TO SEE OR DO, I TAKE THIS TIME TO REFLECT ON WHAT THIS YEAR WILL LOOK LIKE AND THE WORD THAT COMES TO MIND IS ELEVATE.

ELEVATE MY RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE, ELEVATE MY CUSTOMER SERVICE, ELEVATE MY TEAM AND ELEVATE MY WORK.





A TOUCH OF STONE

2024

# JANUARY NEWSLETTER

---

I HAVE ALREADY PLANTED THE SEEDS OF ELEVATION WITH THE NEW SHOWROOM AT THE WESTSIDE DESIGN STUDIO IN ATLANTA. OUR NEW SHOWROOM IS LOCATED AT 1530 ELLSWORTH INDUSTRIAL BLVD NW, ATLANTA, GA 30318 AND WILL BE OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY AT THE BEGINNING.

ONCE THERE, I WILL MEET YOU PERSONALLY AND START THE PROCESS OF SELECTION FOR YOUR NEW PROJECTS. WE WILL HAVE ACCESS TO LIVE INVENTORY FROM MANY VENDORS AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE MANY OPTIONS OF FINISHES AND DESIGNS WE ARE ABLE TO DO TO CUSTOMIZE AND PERSONALIZE YOUR PROJECTS. YOU WILL LEAVE THE APPOINTMENT WITH THE PEACE OF MIND THAT EVERY DETAIL HAS BEEN THOUGHT THROUGH AND TAKEN CARE OF EVEN BEFORE YOU EVEN START THE PHYSICAL WORK. I AM SO EXCITED TO SHARE THIS WITH YOU.

SO MY COMMITMENT TO YOU THIS COMING YEAR IS TO ENSURE THAT I ELEVATE THE EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE WITH EVERY PROJECT A TOUCH OF STONE IS INVOLVED WITH.

LET'S ELEVATE OUR LIVES TOGETHER THIS 2024. I AM SO PUMPED!!!

Marylene Briere

WESTSIDE DESIGN STUDIO  
1530 ELLSWORTH INDUSTRIAL BLVD NW  
ATLANTA, GA 30318

# NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024

*A Touch of Stone*

Designer: Kristan Moore



## **Question 1: What makes you choose between stone and quartz?**

I am a natural stone girl! Nothing compares to the depth and colors of the earth's natural beauty. Natural stone can etch and stain but I see beauty in its aging process. If my clients are adamant about having a surface that does not stain, I recommend Quartz - Cambria is my favorite company - they make beautiful, quality products that closely resemble natural stone.

## **Question 2: How do you incorporate stone or quartz in your designs?**

The stone is always a centerpiece and focal point. I use stone as countertops and as full backsplashes in kitchens and bar areas. I do like to use porcelain on shower walls. It is a lighter product than natural stone and using it as full piece on the wall, it eliminates grout lines but people do not like to clean. Porcelain produces a look similar to natural stone but does not require as much maintenance.

## **Question 3: What Influences or inspires your design choices?**

Kristan & Co's work employs clean lines, soothing palettes, and an understanding of space that intersects function and flow. This classic simplicity is subtle yet striking, uncovering depth in a space through textures, light, and colors. Kristan & Co seeks to uncover the beauty of a home while challenging the conventional boundaries of style.

## **Question 4: Do you have a favorite stone and what is the name?**

My favorite stone is Calacatta Gold Marble. It is a timeless classic that has so many neutral beautiful colors in the veining and works with any project - traditional or modern. But there are so many variations of marble, making it possible to choose a stone based on the space and the design features of a space.

## **Question 5: When choosing a stone or a quartz, do you choose first the color pallet or the movement of the stone? Which is predominant in your choice?**

I typically choose the color pallet first. The movement of the stone is dependent entirely on the slab and how the earth shaped it. Starting with the color pallet leads to choosing a slab, which in turn leads to finding a stone with movements that enhance the space and the design.



# NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024

*A Touch of Stone*

Designer: Kristan Moore



## **Question 6: What is your opinion on manmade products?**

I feel manmade products have come a long way in their replication of natural stone. They are also more durable. Cambria is a great example of a company producing an excellent product. If a client tells me that they want an “almost perfect kitchen” all the time with no wear and tear, the manmade product is the way to go.

## **Question 7: Have you ever designed a room around a slab just because you loved it even if it was not your original concept? How did you handle that?**

Yes, especially in spaces like bars and powder baths. These areas are like jewel boxes and don't have to relate or tie into the look of the overall home. They are places to make a statement.

## **Question 8: When you first look at a project do you know immediately what stone you will use, or does it take time?**

I usually have a feeling of what stone will work best for a client's preferences and the space we want to create. The challenge is finding the “perfect slab” because every natural stone slab is one of a kind. But that's all part of the fun!

## **Question 9: What stone has surprised you most when it was installed?**

One of my favorite projects was a home designed to create a seamless link with its serene outdoor setting. The backyard is filled with trees and granite outcrops and the client used floor to ceiling windows to bring the outdoors inside. My client fell in love with a Fantasy Brown Marble. It was not my favorite! However, after it was installed it captured perfectly what my client was trying to achieve – the colors and the movement enhance the connection between inside and outside spaces.

## **Question 10: Do you have any predictions on future stone design trends?**

Manmade products will continue to evolve, improve and become more cost competitive. Whether those products will replicate the earth's natural beauty is yet to be seen, but anyone who is looking to incorporate stone into their home has lots of choices and can't go wrong!



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
@KRISTANANDCOMPANY