

MARIANO ROSSOUW

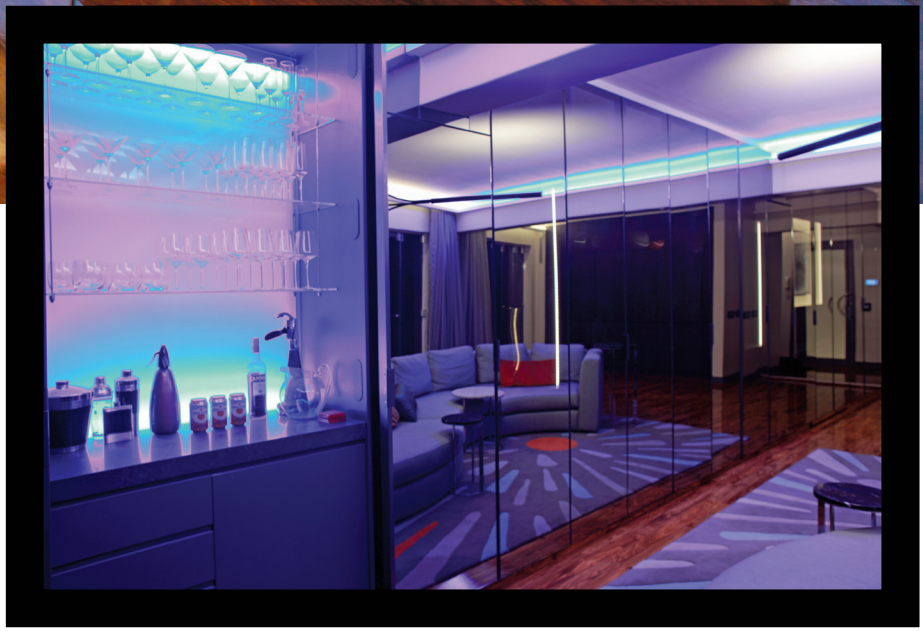
# MAKING DESIGN

# LIVE

*Founded in 2011 by Tony Mariano and Danie Rossouw, Mariano Rossouw is an innovative and progressive interior design studio that creates designs that seamlessly reflect the personality of their clients.*

Cape Town-based design studio, Mariano Rossouw provides interior design and interior architectural design services for residential, commercial and hospitality projects. They believe that good design should always be both beautiful and functional.

Mariano Rossouw is passionate about being creative and helping others, and design enables them to do both. For them, design is all about turning the homeowner and client's vision into a reality, and going above and beyond expectations. "We conceptualise and bring to life heart-stirring







ideas, whilst guiding our clients to achieve their dream interiors effortlessly.”

The creative minds at Mariano Rossouw love bringing joy to people’s lives through interior design. They understand that design has an impact on a person’s mind, body and soul. To them, design is about more than just putting elements together to create a whole. Walking into a space that has a beautiful interior, with elegant décor and a welcoming ambience has the potential to improve a person’s sense of being. “Design is a very powerful tool that can improve the quality of life, very quickly. We love to be part of this industry that choreographs and uplifts the quality of people’s lives.”

**DESIGN BENEFITS IDENTIFIED BY THE MARIANO ROSSOUW TEAM:**

- It saves us time on a daily basis.
- It makes us feel good and keeps us smiling.
- It can prevent potential injuries.
- It adds value to our properties.

For Mariano Rossouw, it is very important to have a clear understanding of what the client requires. They always strive to add value to their clients’ investments. They work hard to create designs that are fine-tuned to the individual tastes of their clients, making it easy for the client to see a piece of themselves when they enter into the space. They pay attention to what the client wants. “Listening to the brief is vital. We extract what’s in our client’s head and how they live their lives and tailor a solution that makes their lives easier, incorporating everything they are wanting and everything that they didn’t think of that is available on the market.”

**WALKING INTO  
A SPACE THAT  
HAS A BEAUTIFUL  
INTERIOR...HAS  
THE POTENTIAL  
TO IMPROVE A  
PERSON’S SENSE  
OF BEING**



**CONTEMPORARY DESIGN IN AFRICA**

According to the founders of Mariano Rossouw, contemporary African design is represented by a growing trend in redefining the relationship between African traditionalism and modernism. There is now a platform for African artists to express their creative and experimental nature, particularly in the use of materials. “Architects David Adjaye and Kunle’ Adeyemi, Malian furniture designer Cheick Diallo and Sculptor Anton Smith are just some of the designers that embody a full expression of contemporary African design.”

For Mariano Rossouw, contemporary design has its roots in the present. Their interpretation of contemporary design is inspired by distinctive styles. It has very clean lines, organic shapes, natural materials, neutral hues and the team at Mariano Rossouw loves to incorporate micro splashes of bold colours.

As interior designers specializing in the African market, the team at Mariano Rossouw have experienced and overcome a few challenges. Choices for design elements such as furniture and accessories are very limited in the African context. Other challenges that they have faced include the shortage of infrastructure and suppliers’ logistic systems. To some designers, these challenges can be limiting but the experts at Mariano Rossouw have managed to find their way around them. “To overcome these challenges, we have expanded our supplier base, focusing on developing close relationships with our existing local suppliers and implementing supplier development initiatives where possible.”







The hardest project that Mariano Rossouw has undertaken was a high-profile dance club on Loop Street in Cape Town. "Coordinating and integrating the various technologies that have never been used before in this context and ensuring the durability of materials used, was extremely challenging. This project also had the highest level of wear and tear we have ever experienced and finding fittings and techniques that would withstand their operating environment was very difficult." By taking on this project, the Mariano Rossouw team learnt a lot of valuable lessons that have helped them grow as designers. They learned that "it is vital to research and specify the most suitable materials and fittings that suit the job profile. You need to make sure that you take the time to vet the contractors, to make sure they have the right set of skills, understanding and capacity for the specific job."

## LOOKING AHEAD

Despite the challenges, there have been highlights in the Mariano Rossouw journey. These highlights include designing the VIP Lounge for Winnie Mandela's 80th Birthday celebration at the Artscape Theatre, and they designed a Manor House on a wine estate resembling a mini Versailles; the design was a fusion of Baroque, Russian and African inspirations.

According to Mariano Rossouw, design is headed towards becoming more sustainable and it will incorporate more intelligent features. 3D printing will be a regular feature, and micro-designed and modular spaces are gaining popularity.

For more information or to contact Mariano Rossouw, visit [www.marianorossouw.com](http://www.marianorossouw.com)

