

# THE STRAITS TIMES

## the NEWmarket

Produced by Special Projects, Marketing Division, SPH. Monday, January 12, 2015 18

### Relaxing sanctuary Sleek amenities add a luxurious touch to your bathroom

**BY SHERYL QUEK**

ONCE a purely functional space, home owners are turning the bathroom into a private retreat.

Mr. Kc Lee, managing director of German luxury bathroom brand Hansgrohe, says there is a rise in demand for bathroom designs that evoke "a calm and relaxing atmosphere" as well as nature-inspired bathrooms.

Key considerations when designing your dream bathroom include adequate ventilation (to prevent mildew and lingering smells) and enough shelving space so that toiletries and other necessities are within reach.

To create an illusion of space, opt for coloured tiles and lighting. Know where the plumbing, water lines and vent stacks are before planning the bathroom layout.

whose collections feature collaborations with renowned designers such as Philippe Starck.

If it is a pampering shower you want, Hansgrohe's Mr. Lee recommends the Raindance Select. Instead of a shower, a click of a button lets you switch between a gentle Rainfall spray shower and massage jet mode.

There is also the Hansgrohe Raindance Rainfall overhead shower that offers three different pleasurable shower modes, yet complies with flow rate regulations, he says.



#### Relax in the tub

These days, you can get more than just a soak in a tub with water massage features.

German brand Knaif's luxury range, Aqua Spa, for instance, offers a selection of free-standing bathtubs with a variety of massage configurations.

Luxury Swiss bathroom brand Laufen is a favourite among home owners for its quality and craftsmanship.

Ms. Jennifer Ng, managing director of Carrera Bathroom, a supplier of luxury bathroom solutions, highlights the Laufen Palomba freestanding bathtub for its unique asymmetrical design. With its sloping high back, the tub moulds to your body's curves.

#### Unusual choices

Ms. Luann Leong, Ferrara Asapaga's business development manager, notes that "modern, classy" is the preferred look of most clients.

To add a quirky touch, some opt for free-standing bathtubs instead of more conventional counter-top ones.

Match such bathtubs with Cresta's tap fittings and faucets which are popular for their clean lines. They are also ideal as elegant fittings in a minimalist bathroom.



#### Designer brand Axor features collaborations with renowned designers such as Philippe Starck.

If the bathroom is where you get ready at the start of the day, an integrated vanity with sink, mirror and storage space combined is an ideal option.

Ms. Leong points out that it is crucial to keep shelving space in mind when designing your dream bathroom. "You will need space for toiletries around the vanity area such as toothbrushes, hand soap, creams and spare toilet rolls," she says.

Also consider the all-important toilet bowl based on its water-saving features, how easy it is to clean it, its height, ease of installation, and even the flushing noise.

"Wall-mounted toilet bowls provide a sense of spaciousness because the ceramic portions are trimmed to the bare minimum, with the flushing mechanism concealed within the wall," says Ms. Leong.

On the other hand, floor-standing toilets offer a sleek option, as the toilet bowl's ceramic body conceals the pipes.

While aesthetics play a big part in building your dream bathroom when choosing design or bathroom fittings, Ms. Leong says it is important to get good quality products that are long-lasting.

They should be resistant to humidity and the effects of salt chemicals such as soap and harsher cleaning chemicals such as bleach.

#### Rain shower

You can create a luxurious resort-style ambience with bathroom fittings, such as those from Hansgrohe's designer brand Axor.

#### Save energy with Mitsubishi appliances

MITSUBISHI Electric has introduced new refrigerators and air-conditioners that meet the highest Energy Label currently possible at three "ticks" for the former and five "ticks" for the latter to meet new and more stringent Energy Efficiency requirements.

The new Home refrigerator models utilise Inverter technology to optimise energy efficiency, performance and reliability. Their installation space can be reduced despite having larger capacity by using high efficiency "Vacuum Insulation Pack" that provides better insulation without the need for thicker cabinet walls and doors.

Top-end models also feature individual separated compartments with more sensors that aid temperature control accuracy and food preservation.

Mitsubishi Electric's advanced technologies in air-conditioning systems are evident in its own building at Alexandra Road, which earned the BCA Green Mark award for Existing Non-Residential Building (Platinum) last year. It was achieved using high-energy efficient systems with integrations of advanced centralised controllers that enable further reduction of electrical consumption.

New home air-conditioners, in particular the MRX-4C100VA, MXY-5C125VA and MXY-6C140VA models, feature a unique, quiet and easy cleaning system which helps to increase operating efficiency and reduce energy savings. These new models have attained excellent energy label with highest five "ticks" from the National Environment Agency.

Says Mitsubishi Electric Asia's managing director Minoru Hagiwara: "Mitsubishi Electric Asia believes that the MEQ (Mitsubishi Electric Quality) experience is all about servicing with pride and care. Our management intends to keep the interest of its stakeholders in Asia Pacific, including contributing to the society, at the top of the company's priorities."

"Embracing the spirit of our corporate statement, Changes for the Better, and our environmental statement, Eco Changes, the Group expresses its goal to be able to adapt to make things better and contribute to industries and society as a whole."

#### Winning shots of the world

THE World Press Photo (WPP) Singapore exhibition is back with a showcase of 151 award-winning photographs that captured powerful and poignant moments of the year from around the world.

Presented by The Straits Times and sponsored worldwide by Canon, the free exhibition is at Raffles Hotel till Feb 1.

The winning shots were selected from 26,671 entries submitted to the contest by 5,754 photographers from 132 nationalities. The shortlisted photos are presented in a year-long exhibition that tours more than 100 cities in over 45 countries.

Says Mr Edwin Teoh, assistant director, consumer business marketing of Canon Singapore, and sponsor of WPP Singapore: "Canon's longstanding support of this prestigious journalism contest stems from our philosophy of Aoyori — a guiding principle that focuses on living and working together for the common good."

"Photographers hold the powerful ability to narrate impactful stories through spellbinding images that transcend geographical and cultural barriers, deepening our understanding of the wider community."

"In this particular partnership, we acknowledge the tenacity of photographers and we hope to share their world and elevate the appreciation of visual journalism with the public."

There are outreach programmes for the public and students, as well as talks and workshops for photography enthusiasts by three award-winning photographers — Julius Schrank, Robin Hammond and Bill Falck. Visit [www.worldpress-photo.asia/outreach](http://www.worldpress-photo.asia/outreach) for details.

#### Marvel freebies

Buy a toothpaste barpack from Darlie and get a free Marvel Kawaii mug with a Spider-Man, Iron-Man, Captain America or Hulk character. Available at \$7.40 from supermarkets, hypermarkets, selected pharmacies, minimarkets and provision shops. While stocks last.

#### Contemporary dining at Mitzo

THE new Mitzo Restaurant & Bar ([www.mitzo.sg](http://www.mitzo.sg)) at Grand Park Orchard combines a contemporary take on Cantonese cuisine and an arboreal cocktail programme, amid a chic setting complete with upbeat music by day and Deep House selections by night.

The menu has familiar Cantonese favourites reimagined with a modern flare and most dishes are designed for sampling. Highlights include black truffle crispy duck and grilled silver cod in champagne sauce and Chinese honey.

Its cocktail menu comprises Updated Classics, which are creative interpretations of old classics with unexpected ingredients, Asian Inspiration, creations that incorporate Asian herbs and spices, and Mitzo Creations, which offer fruity flavours, Rose undertones, creamy textures and stronger drink tastes.

Says Park Hotel Group's chief executive officer Allen Law: "We are delighted to welcome Mitzo into the Park Hotel Group family as we move forward with our plans to expand our food and beverage offerings."

"With Mitzo, we are introducing a concept that has yet to be seen in a Chinese dining setting and taking another step forward in our ambitious strategy to deliver exceptional guest experiences."

#### New low-fat coffee drink

MADE from 100 per cent low fat fresh milk, ethically sourced chocolate, coffee and cocoa powder, Greenfields new Low Fat Mochoco — a popular beverage in the Indonesian market — is now available in Singapore.

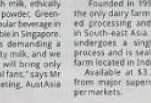
"We heard our Singaporean fans demanding a new drink made from the best quality milk, and we delivered. Time and time again, we will bring only the best quality fresh milk to our loyal fans," says Mr Jan Visanen, head of sales and marketing, AunAsia Dairy Group (South-east Asia).

#### Dining treats

Enjoy Flavours of The Fullerton Heritage in celebration of Singapore's golden jubilee, with special set menus at \$35 per person for lunch and \$58 per person for dinner at The Fullerton Hotel Singapore. The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore, One Fullerton, Santis, Overstay and The Pavilion, Customs House, Proccacci and The Fullerton Pavilions, Calanuya Hill Sunday.

#### Open house

Visit Lasalle College of the Arts' annual open house on Friday and Saturday from 11am to 5pm at its campus at 1 Malacca Street. Highlights include a sneak preview of an award-winning student's animation film, a live recording and studio tour of the college's audio production facilities. Visit [www.lasalle.edu.sg](http://www.lasalle.edu.sg) for details.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MITZO RESTAURANT & BAR, GREENFIELDS DAIRY GROUP, DARLIE, MARVEL, LASALLE COLLEGE OF THE ARTS, FULLERTON HOTEL SINGAPORE



**Publication:** The Straits Times : STheNEWmarket

**Date:** 12 January 2015

**Page:** 2 of 2

## THE STRAITS TIMES

### New low-fat coffee drink

MADE from 100 per cent low fat fresh milk, ethically sourced chocolate, coffee and cocoa powder, Greenfields' new Low Fat Mochaccino — a popular beverage in the Indonesian market — is now available in Singapore.

"We heard our Singaporean fans demanding a new drink made from the best quality milk, and we delivered. Time and time again, we will bring only the best quality fresh milk to our loyal fans," says Mr Jan Vistisen, head of sales and marketing, AustAsia Dairy Group (South-east Asia).

Founded in 1997, Greenfields is the only dairy farm with an integrated processing and packing facility in South-east Asia. Greenfields Milk undergoes a single-pasteurisation process and is sealed directly at its farm located in Indonesia.

Available at \$3.30 (per 1l pack) from major supermarkets and hypermarkets.



PHOTO: MOCHACCINO