

Surface Scene

INSPIRE | INFORM | EDUCATE

SUMMER 2022



WELLNESS SUITES

Sophisticated senior living complex that promotes tranquil living

GRAND MILLENNIAL

A modern twist on a classic look

METAMERISM

Understanding a lighting phenomenon in design



Wellness Suites Condominiums is a boutique senior living facility in Niagara Falls, Ontario, providing a luxurious experience with a wellness approach. The facility features state-of-the-art services and amenities including great food, health, fitness, relaxation, and wellness practices all designed into everyday living. Using natural materials throughout the space adds to the welcoming and tranquil environment.

The entrance lobby nods to the famous waterfall by incorporating a fountain feature to bring the serenity of the outdoors in. The lobby also incorporates Echo Wood veneer in a quarter turn detail as a focal point that highlights the reception desk and entrance to the library. The woodgrain takes pride of place as it flows into the library for a seamless look throughout the cabinetry and wall cladding. Opulent finishes are balanced with the softness of wood to provide a space for inspired rejuvenation.

Project: Wellness Suites Condominiums

Architect: XL Design & 3D Studio

Millworker: Talon Millwork

Location: Niagara Falls, Ontario

Products: Echo Wood Veneer - color Champagne

Application: Lobby wall panels, Library walls and cabinetry, Elevator surround

While the world moves into a time of unprecedented change, the design world has embraced an altered landscape of creativity. "Very Peri," was named Pantone's color of the year and encourages the artistic world to have "a daring curiosity that animates our creative spirit - opening us up to a new vision as we rewrite our lives." This creative spirit manifested a unique trend called Grand Millennial. Items that were seen in historic art movements like Art Nouveau, Victorian or even Neoclassical are now trendy and tasteful.



Grand Millennial was originally coined by House Beautiful and is defined as a resurgence of classical elements that has been given a modern twist. It emulates the hominess of our grandmother's home that lends itself to layers of mixed materials. This trend has risen in popularity because it has created opportunities to story tell, define one's individualism, and also be a response to the supply chain issues due to COVID-19. Design elements in this trend can include florals, ornate lighting, warm woods, wicker or bamboo furniture, slipcovers, pleated fabrics, brass, and even collection items, such as china or silver.

In order to blend with modern day design, a curated selection of design elements is done in a way that is timeless and not kitschy. This style is attainable for users because they do not shy from mixing tones like brown woods with antique furniture or other distinct design patterns. It also gives them the power to add uniqueness into their design and purchase from consignment shops or reuse family members furniture that would otherwise go into landfill. This resonates with designers because being sustainable is done inherently when repurposing and can guarantee build quality from previous furniture makers. Whether in the form of slipcovered furniture or incorporating brass into the project, there is a comfort and familiarity in this resurgence of classic and perpetual style.





OLYMPIC FAIRMOUNT HOTEL | SEATTLE, WA

Architect of Record: MG2

Interior Designers: Lázaro Rosa-Violán, Parker-Torres Design Inc.

Photographer: © Brandon Barre Photography

Not only are we seeing this trend pop up in homes, but in commercial spaces as well. For example, Seattle's iconic Olympic Fairmount Hotel, built in 1924 was renovated by architectural firm, MG2. The challenge was to modernize the hotel while preserving its ornate features, cove ceilings and grandiose stairways. Brass detailing was paired with metal steel that made it modern yet not clashing with the hotel's typical Renaissance style. Other spaces with the idea of scale to create an inspiring and creative ambiance. This trend continues to popularize because it has the ability to emotionally connect with the space and can create a limitless mind of creativity.

Morela Eyewear
Architect: Nika Zupanc



METAMER WHAT?

They say lighting is often the first or last design element considered in the process. Lighting is measured in Kelvin (K) or the SI base unit of thermodynamic temperature, equal in magnitude to the degree Celsius. In simple terms; the more white light, the hotter it is. Typical incandescent warm white lightbulbs are around 2700K, cool white or Neutral white starts around 4100K and daylight is about 6500K. The various degrees in lighting play on different effects in a space. For example, specifying a warm white light can provide a space that appears tranquil and calm while using a cooler light like in bathrooms or kitchens will make the space feel whiter. But how does this effect a color finish? Because a natural phenomenon called metamerism occurs.

Metamerism occurs when two colored objects appear to match under one lighting condition and do not match when viewed under a different lighting condition. Three examples of how metamerism plays a role in decorative surfaces are:

Observer metamerism is when a pair of colors match for one observer, but not for a second observer.

1

Illuminant metamerism is when two colors match under one light source but not under a different source.

2

Geometric metamerism is when a pair of samples (usually textured) match under one illuminant and viewing angle, but no longer match when the angle of illumination or viewing angle changes.

3

2700 K
3000 K
4000 K
5000 K
6500 K

Warm White



Cool White



Daylight



EDUCATE

Creating a palette viewed under different lighting helps to mitigate chances of variation but isn't always a definite solution. Colors react differently under different temperatures of lighting so one finish may change color but another won't. For example, a large conference room that has south-facing windows while the opposite side of the room has a neutral light temperature can result in color variation on all the surfaces, even though it's within the same room.

Decorative surfaces like High Pressure Laminates provide an endless number of color, pattern and texture combinations. Textures and patterns in HPL or TFL often have microscopic directionality so a stippled texture turned 180 degrees can be perceived as a slightly different color (geometric metamerism). Manufacturers of paint, textiles, and almost every decorative surface facilities look at colors in a light booth which allows them to be viewed under a wide range of lighting temperatures. The goal for these companies is to narrow the gap in possible metamerism changes.

Even though these situations happen, metamerism can also play to a designer's advantage. The perfect white can't be sourced? A different lighting temperature can solve the issue. This scientific principal is to help educate designers as to why the colors specified may look different on a job site versus when it was laid out on a material palette. While lighting plays an important role in design, it should always be considered in different lighting temperatures to mitigate color variation.

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