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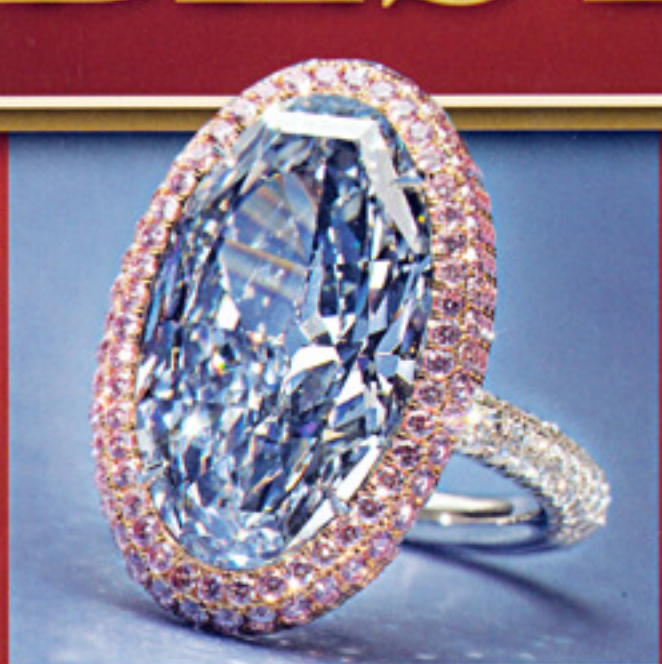
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Fusion

Cameo Kitchens takes its talent to the big screen.

WHEN MARWAN RIZEK, president of Cameo Kitchens and Fine Cabinetry, decided to update the front display at the company's Toronto showroom, he resolved to fill it with the kitchen of tomorrow. The result is Fusion (\$250,000 as shown), a compelling kitchen design that utilizes new technologies to foster perhaps the oldest human social activity: bonding over shared meals. "The kitchen shouldn't just be a kitchen to cook in," says Ariel Muller, of Toronto-based Ariel Muller Designs, whom Rizek hired to help design Fusion. "It's also for people to connect, spend time, entertain, and communicate."

Debuted in September, Fusion centers on a 10-foot-wide interactive media

backsplash that, as pictured by Rizek and Muller, helps bring people together. Aside from its obvious decorative uses—it can display any moving or still image—the backsplash can show cooking videos, make video phone calls, or tune into three different television programs at once.

To bring the backsplash to life, Muller enlisted the aid of Matthew Grossman of the Toronto firm Architratics. The technology comprises three individual monitors that are specially configured so that their images abut with less than a quarter-inch gap between the screens; the mounting hardware permits adjustment of the monitors up and down or side to side. The backsplash can be controlled via remote control or iPad (a

touch-sensitive screen is optional), and the whole setup can be easily integrated with an existing home network.

Ease of use extends to Fusion's appliances and cabinetry. The Miele suite includes an induction cooktop and two ovens, and the servo-enhanced cabinets and drawers open and illuminate at a touch. The island's cabinetry is rift-cut walnut, and the back-wall cabinets are high-gloss white lacquer with a urethane sealer. Fusion's bar has LED lighting and a handmade agate surface. But any element of the kitchen can be customized for clients—and the company they plan to keep. —JEFF ANDERSON

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