

## H2R DESIGNS

Fun, functional and collaborative best describes the work of H2R Designs. Founded in London in 2012 by brothers, Hasan and Husain Roomi, along with Jacqui Shaddock, the firm expanded to Dubai, focusing on F&B, and making a name for itself with the Tom & Serg cafe in Dubai.

**RECENT PROJECTS:** Dining venues – The Sum of Us, Paperfig, byParkers, Copper, The Artisan.

**UP NEXT:** A hotel and a number of F&B concepts. **DESIGN PHILOSOPHY:** "It's not where you take things from – it's where you take them to". Dubai; [H2rdesign.com](http://H2rdesign.com)

## VSHD

Finding innovative design solutions and blending form, function and aesthetic needs are the main objectives of VSHD. Founded in 2007 by Rania Hamed, the firm has already completed over 20 residential villas in Dubai. VSHD is expanding its boundaries with completed penthouses in London and Cairo. **UP NEXT:** A mansion in Orlando, Florida. **DESIGN PHILOSOPHY:** "We believe in a new kind of minimalism with a nonchalant sophistication that is slightly imperfect, yet cool." Dubai; [vshd.net](http://vshd.net)

## GENSLER

The motto for this architecture, design and planning firm is straightforward yet ambitious: 'Design is the means. The starting points are goals, strategies and expectations, which are transcended to create a new and better reality. Design is transformative.' **KEY PROJECTS:** The Shanghai Tower, The Avenues in Kuwait City and The Ritz-Carlton Hotel and Residences, Dubai. **UP NEXT:** Msheireb Downtown Doha, a 31-hectare mixed-use project designed to achieve LEED Gold standards; a 300-metre high landmark tower within King Abdullah Financial District in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. **46 offices worldwide, including Abu Dhabi and Dubai;** [gensler.com](http://gensler.com)

## WOODS BAGOT

With a team of over 1,000 experts working across Australia, Europe, North America and the Middle East, the architecture firm has been based in Dubai for more than 15 years. **UP NEXT:** Al Jada master plan, Sharjah, a 251-hectare mixed use development. In Abu Dhabi, Shams Marina will ensure pedestrian connectivity between hotels, residential units and boutiques. **KEY PROJECTS:** The 32,000-square metre IRENA Headquarters, Abu Dhabi, and the first phase of Dubai Design District, part of a wider plan for Expo 2020. **17 offices worldwide, including Dubai;** [woodsbagot.com](http://woodsbagot.com)

## KART DESIGN

Mustafa Khamash's 11-year-old interior design practice has been privy to the highest levels of

government assignments in the UAE. His VIP clientele regard him as a trusted partner, which is why they return. With an understanding for the region's inclination towards chic opulence, and the importance of an environment in the overall success of an organisation's culture and bottom line, Kart Design is dedicated to creating a lasting impact within spaces. **KEY PROJECTS:** The Executive Office, the Prime Minister's Office, both in Emirates Towers, and the Ministry of Cabinet affairs. Dubai; [kartdesign.net](http://kartdesign.net)

## U+A

Founded in 2007, and led by principals Pedram Rad and Martin Dufresne, this firm has built prestigious projects in Dubai and the region. Powered by global knowledge and driven by local expertise, the team of design specialists adopts a collaborative approach to provide the best progressive build solution for hotels, hospitality, residential, mixed-use, multi-storey buildings and commercial developments. **KEY PROJECTS:** DFWAC CEO Office, Outlet Village Mall, ICCA. **UP NEXT:** DPG Business Bay Parks, Deyaar Midtown, Jeddah Corniche. **DESIGN PHILOSOPHY:** "Setting standards to meet those of international levels within viable creativity is the key philosophy that drives our thought

processes." Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Toronto; [ua-architects.com](http://ua-architects.com)

## YAWAWI DESIGN

His eclectic style with boldly coloured accents has taken Beirut-based Wissam Yafawi to London, Paris, Geneva and Forte Dei Marmi, Italy to cater to high-end clients who seek a unique edge in their interiors. **DESIGN PHILOSOPHY:** "Two years ago I would have told you less is more, but now I believe more is more, if you know how to do it. Each new project is a new challenge. The minimalist look is too easy, the real challenge is in doing more." Beirut; [yafawidesign.com](http://yafawidesign.com)

## AGI ARCHITECTS

With a noticeable international character and a multidisciplinary focus, this firm strives to create environments that add value through imaginative design, materials and construction and technology-aided solutions. Founded in 2006 by Harvard alumnus Nasser Bader Abulhassan, the firm stresses research and innovation. **RECENT PROJECTS:** The Hisham A. Alsager Cardiac Centre was designed to re-imagine the rehabilitation centre as a positive space and a hub for social activity. Kuwait City, Kuwait; Madrid, Spain; [agi-architects.com](http://agi-architects.com)



HAKKAN BY WOODS BAGOT



OUTLET VILLAGE MALL BY U+A





WALL HOUSE BY AGI ARCHITECTS



RESIDENCE BY VSHD



THE AVENUES BY GENSLER



THE SUM OF US BY H2R DESIGN



INTERIORS BY YAFAWI DESIGN



AL HABTOOR VILLA BY KART DESIGN