

INDULGE

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SPRING HOMIE ISSUE

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REFLECTS ON HER
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10TH ANNIVERSARY

LEE BRIAN SCHRAGER
WHIPS UP BREAKFAST IN HIS NEW
CORAL GABLES ESTATE

AND
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+ INTERVIEWS WITH
UGO COLOMBO, CONSTANCE COLLINS,
TERI WILLIAMS AND MORE



the movers PEOPLE WHO MOVE MIAMI.

{RAINMAKER}

Ugo Colombo

His visionary development achievements have reshaped Miami's skyline. See what the Italian-born, University of Miami-educated founder of CMC Group and chairman of The Collection is building next — and why he'd rather live here than L.A.





VITALS 55. Born in Milan, the eldest of two sons. His father owned an Italian industrial-materials empire while his mom mostly stayed at home after selling a lighting company. Well-traveled and internationally educated, Colombo went to boarding school in Lausanne, Switzerland, before becoming a University of Miami Hurricane in 1983. He graduated with a degree in Business Administration and began buying, selling and managing apartment buildings before founding CMC Group in 1986. A real estate magnate credited with launching the '90s Brickell boom, he has masterminded six of Miami's most noteworthy condominium residences. His latest, Brickell Flatiron, breaks ground in April. Colombo lives in Miami Beach with his wife, Sara, the owner and CEO of Nest Casa boutique in Bal Harbour Shops, and their two children, Stella, 9, and Umberto, 10, who shares a March birthday with Dad.

CURRENT JOB Founder and President of CMC Group, a real estate development company focused on luxury residential, commercial and retail properties. Also owns The Collection, a seven-franchise luxury-car dealership – one of the country's most successful – based in Coral Gables.

NEWEST PROJECT Brickell Flatiron, a towering, 70-story condo designed by Miami architect Luis Revuelta, furnished by Italian designer Massimo Iosa Ghini and outfitted with works by American artist Julian Schnabel created exclusively for this property.

FAVORITE PART OF YOUR JOB "Seeing something born from a piece of paper. From the day you sit down with an architect and think about creating something, to actually seeing it become real."

"The most important thing is always to do what you promise. You have to stick to your word."

FIRST PAYING GIG "When I was 18 I started working with my father, who manufactured plastic molding compounds. Technically he didn't pay me, but there were a lot of benefits. I think that's where I developed my love for creating something."

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT "Building Bristol Tower was a big accomplishment, because I was very young, and so was Miami, so it was really an uphill battle. I think finding out I got the financing was one of my best days on the job. But when I look back I still wonder how it happened, and how lucky I was that everything went smoothly."

ON MIAMI'S EVOLUTION "In Miami 30 years ago, there was nothing. If I wanted mozzarella I had to go grocery shopping in New York. But I saw the potential of the location. I always believed Miami would grow and become a major metropolis because of its proximity and appeal to Europe and Latin America. We just needed to build the infrastructure for people to come. Today, Miami is probably surpassing the quality of life in Los Angeles."

BUILDING PHILOSOPHY "Never overdo it. I never do more than one project at a time, two max. I pay a lot of attention to detail, and I keep my feet on the ground, because the most important thing is to build something that is functional for the people who live in the building. You can't just create a piece of art and ignore the interior. You have to build a building from the inside out."

ON TRYING NEW THINGS "I recently went skinning up Aspen Mountain, and I thought I was going to die. It's kind of like trekking up a mountain with skis on. I'm really more of an engine guy — I don't usually huff and puff up a mountain."

SOMETHING PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU "That I'm not extremely extroverted. I meet a lot of people all the time in my work, and part of my job is sales and marketing, but I have to force it. When I meet someone it depends on how comfortable I feel with them. Some people I open up to more than others."

GREATEST EXTRAVAGANCE "Buying myself a watch I don't need. I have far too many, because I'm really a collector. I've been known to buy the same watch twice!"

IF YOU COULD TRY ANOTHER CAREER "I would own a tech company. I'm fascinated by that kind of innovation. You've got to be mesmerized by the success of Jeff Bezos or Steve Jobs. I feel like these kinds of entrepreneurs can only be found in America."

BEST ADVICE SOMEONE'S GIVEN TO YOU "Never be your own headline. Never think too highly of yourself."

BEST ADVICE YOU CAN GIVE TO ENTREPRENEURS "You're only as good as the people you work with. The key is finding the right people — people you trust will represent your vision."

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