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High-end Italian furnishings and design store opens in West Ave

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Casa, a high-end Italian furnishings and finishes design store, opened on Feb. 17 at West Avenue.

The store, which is the brainchild of [Jerry Hooker](#) and [Jacob Sudhoff](#), inked a 9,170-square-foot lease in the mixed-use development, according to a spokesperson. Around 6,000 square feet of the space was formerly occupied by [Nara Sushi & Korean Kitchen](#), which [closed in January 2015](#).

[Brett Madden](#), a national retail leasing consultant with Gables Residential, represented the landlord and Sudhoff represented Casa in the lease, according to a spokesperson. West Ave's retail occupancy is now at around 90 percent, according to Madden.

A building permit associated with the build out of Casa was filed with the city of Houston by Scott and Reid General Contractors and indicates construction costs were \$315,000.

The store will be open to the public but cater to developers, builders, designers, architects, hoteliers and homeowners, according to press materials.

The store will feature products from Italian brands, many of which have never been in Houston, such as Giorgetti, Poltrona Frau, Listone Giordano, Rimadesio, Elam Kitchens by Tisettanta, Viabizzuno and Tacchini.

[Sudhoff](#) is the CEO and founder of Houston-based [Sudhoff Cos.](#) and [Hooker](#) is a principal and architect at [Mirador Group](#). The duo is also behind [Giorgetti Houston](#), the first luxury branded condo project in the Bayou City.

The condos, named after the 120-year-old Italian furniture maker Giorgetti, [are set to break ground in March](#) at 2701 Steel St. in the Upper Kirby area.

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COURTESY MICHAEL HUNTER

Jerry Hooker, left, with Jacob Sudhoff with a chair made by Italian furniture maker Giorgetti.