

JOSEPHINE LEUNG

Co-Founder & Managing Partner, GOCO Hospitality

Long before wellness became a global conversation, Josephine Leung was shaping what it could be. Trained as an architect at the University of Hong Kong and Columbia University in New York, she spent the early part of her career designing cities and urban landscapes – award-winning work with HOK International that earned prestigious recognition including Best Urban Design Firm of the Year and the AIA Sustainable Urban Design Award. What she was really learning, she came to understand, was how the spaces people inhabit shape the lives they lead. Wellness was the inevitable next step.

Before joining GOCO Hospitality, she served as Head of Design for Octave Living, a US$380 million wellness community near Shanghai, and as lead architect for the reconceptualisation of the Mandarin Oriental Landmark Hong Kong. She brought to both the same instinct she brings to everything: start with the land, honour the culture, and design from there.

As Managing Partner of GOCO Hospitality, Josephine leads the company's Concept Development, Design & Technical Services division, remaining deeply involved at every

stage from development strategy and master planning through to wellness programming and operational readiness. To date, she has personally led the concept development and delivery of more than 200 wellness, spa and hospitality projects across over 20 countries, with her work setting new benchmarks for wellness destination planning across Asia, the Middle East, Europe and North America. She is also co-founder of Horwath HTL Health & Wellness, guiding the hospitality and real estate industries towards destinations that work as well commercially as they do experientially.

What distinguishes her, beyond the scale of the work, is the philosophy behind it. Every project she touches prioritises authenticity over trend, local culture over imported formula, and long-term social impact over short-term returns. She mentors architects, designers and project managers with the same rigour she brings to the buildings themselves – many have gone on to lead in their own right.

In 2023, her own cancer diagnosis sharpened her focus further. Going through treatment – asking the hard questions about what actually worked and why – gave her an intensely personal understanding of what genuine longevity care looks like, and the drive to deliver it. That experience led directly to Oliv Longevity, the urban longevity clinic she co-founded in Bangkok, and it informs every decision she now makes at Fivelements.

Josephine leads by designing with precision and humility, with land, people, values and culture at the centre of every decision.