

APRIL 2021

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

style

ADVISOR



Raise the roof

The Quonset house turns up
the volume on lofty living

MEN'S WEAR

A distinguished look at reworked classics

DESIGN

New finds kickstart an outdoor refresh

TRENDS

How vintage dealers influence decor



LOUIS VUITTON

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EDITOR'S LETTER



A quiet corner of a Quonset house in Ontario highlights the homeowners' love of unique spaces and mid-century furniture.

PERSONAL SPACE

There is often tension between embracing style that both satisfies your own desires and shares something about yourself with others. Fashion and design can just as easily be salves or status symbols. We recently surveyed a group of readers about whether they lean toward one or the other and the response was: When it comes to the objects and experiences that enrich your life, you value a real connection above all else.

That's a sentiment that is reflected in the more intimate way we're relating to our homes. After spending a year getting to know these spaces better, what they need to include to accommodate how we want to live is obvious. In the case of the Quonset house in our cover story ("Curves ahead," **PAGE 30**), that is loft-like airiness in a more affordable locale out of the big city. In our roundup of summer design trends ("Outer beauty," **PAGE 26**), it's capturing every inch of backyards and balconies to expand your private domain. Even in the playful world of dollhouse design ("Thinking small," **PAGE 22**), artisans see their diminutive domiciles as an extension of the decor they love at full scale.

Men's fashion is also shifting away from a uniform that signals who you are and what you do in favour of something more personal. With corporate offices relocated to kitchen tables, it has to. If a man dresses up today, it's more likely because he enjoys how it makes him feel, captures an interest in the craftsmanship of clothing or conveys an appreciation for looking put together whether he's working remotely or not. The classic pieces in our fashion feature ("Better with age," **PAGE 36**) include subtle tweaks that emphasize this appreciation for quality and ease.

Of course, dressing and living for yourself will likely have the unintended effect of projecting your confidence and flair to others. And that's what style is really all about.

ANDREW
SARDONE

Andrew Sardone
Editorial Director



INSTAGRAM

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ON THE COVER

Maria and Robert Iantorno are pictured in the kitchen of their Singhamton, Ont., Quonset house.
Photo by Doublespace Photography.

THE GLOBE AND MAIL style ADVISOR

APRIL 2021

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The Globe and Mail Style Advisor is published six times a year by The Globe and Mail Inc., 351 King St. E., Suite 1600, Toronto, M5A 0N1. Tel. 416-585-5000. The next issue will be May 14, 2021. Copyright 2021, The Globe and Mail. Indexed in the Canadian Periodical Index.

ADVERTISING OFFICES:
HEAD OFFICE The Globe and Mail,
351 King St. E., Suite 1600,
Toronto, M5A 0N1. Tel. 416-585-5111
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E-mail: advertising@globeandmail.com.
United States and countries outside of North America:
AJR Media Group, 212-426-5932,
ajrmediagroup@globeandmail.com.

Publications mail registration no. 7418.
The publisher accepts no responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts, transparencies or other material.
Printed in Canada by Transcontinental Printing Inc.



In instances where a company provides support to The Globe and Mail Style Advisor, that company does not review or approve a story prior to publication.



HERMÈS
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CONTRIBUTORS

The magazine's writers, photographers and illustrators share where they're dreaming of escaping to this summer

‘My tiny, cedar log cabin in the Laurentians. Wild raspberries grow all over the surrounding hillsides in July and August, with blackberries coming later in the season.’



Toronto-based photographer **LUIS MORA** has had the likes of Margaret Atwood, NBA player Serge Ibaka and artist Takashi Murakami in front of his lens. In “Better with age” (**PAGE 36**), he captured the season's new take on men's-wear classics.

‘Any food and flower market in Colombia or Mexico. You can really get to know the culture of a country by visiting their food markets.’

‘I feel grateful to have my own outdoor space and time spent in my garden is my ideal escape.’ – **ALLISON**

‘An East Coast road trip with my family.’ – **CAM**

‘Anywhere with trees, water and a hammock.’

‘I dream of a rustic Croatian seaside home like the kinds that I grew up around. You can smell the sea salt in the air.’



For the design feature, “Curves ahead” (**PAGE 30**), Toronto-based writer **MATTHEW HAGUE** explored the history of Quonset huts, dome-shaped dwellings with military origins. It's an architectural style he was previously unfamiliar with, but one that he now notices everywhere.



Shown here with their three-year-old, illustration team **ALLISON BURDA** and **CAM GEE** of Hamilton, Ont., drew on their personal love of dollhouses to capture the domestic whimsy of these miniature homes for “Thinking small” (**PAGE 22**).



ANYA GEORGIJEVIC penned a handful of stories on topics ranging from Dior Maison's new dishware (“Divine design,” **PAGE 11**) to lighting innovator Luminaire Authentik (“Glow up,” **PAGE 20**). This spring, she will add fashion designer to her CV with the launch of Anushka, a resort-wear collection with city flair.

#BTS WITH FEATURE MODEL PETER GUDRUNAS

The master glassmaker has found new fans in Canada's fashion community



Peter Gudrunas never expected to star in a fashion editorial. “Frankly, it's all mysterious to me,” the glassblower says of his recent turn moonlighting as a model. “I live out in the sticks, and I'm over 70.” The magazine's contributing fashion editor, Nadia Pizzimenti, first spotted him in a campaign for the Toronto retailer and clothing brand 100% Silk.

The star of “Better with age,” (**PAGE 36**), Gudrunas has spent the past 45 years running Sirius Glassworks, his studio in Gasline, Ont., where he creates colourful vases, plates, bowls and cups using the Venetian glassblowing technique established more than 2,000 years ago. “It takes physical stamina to make glass. Sometimes, I jokingly call it ‘jock art,’” he says.

Gudrunas describes glassblowing as a dirty process that's not really conducive to designer clothing. “I've trashed a lot of nice clothes just walking in the shop and getting distracted,” he says. While growing up in downtown Toronto, Gudrunas was drawn to fashion and says he was a bit of a dandy in high school. Today, he describes his style as conservative, and would invest in Savile Row suits and Italian tailoring if it made sense for his lifestyle. “If I could, I would have a nice rack of clothes. And nowhere to where them!” – **CAITLIN AGNEW**



From his studio close to Lake Erie, Peter Gudrunas creates collectable glass pieces including (from top) the Cobalt Spiral Vase, Transparent Soft Green Gradient Plate, and Rosé-Pink Bubble Vase. For more information, visit siriusglassworks.com.

PHOTO BY JENNA MARIE WAKANI (JEREMY FREED)



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PROFILE

Piece by piece

Ko Júbilo strips back his work to create heirloom-quality design

It's important that we just don't throw everything away all the time," Ko Júbilo says. "Whether it's an Apple Watch or a piece of furniture, there should be ways of forwarding that design further down the line." That philosophy underpins all of the Vancouver-based designer's work, which spans interiors, furniture, lighting and other projects that let him develop objects that are special enough to be passed from one generation to the next.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »



From his studio in Vancouver, designer Ko Júbilo refines furniture to achieve pure forms and long-lasting functionality.

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CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 8 »

One of Júbilo's most ambitious endeavours took that ethos to the extreme. Over the course of four years, he painstakingly undertook a frame-off restoration of his

father's beloved 1969 Alfa Romeo Giulia GT. He had no experience with automotive restoration, but worked evenings and weekends welding metal and sewing upholstery to bring the Giorgio Giugiaro-designed coupe back to its original glory. "It was one of the most challenging projects I've ever done," Júbilo says. "But when you take something apart, that's the best way to learn how things are made. And then when you put it back together, you learn even more."

Júbilo graduated with a degree in industrial design from Emily Carr University and worked at Molo Design and London's Barber & Osgerby before establishing his own studio in 2015. Since then, he has collected an impressive roster of clients, including influential West Coast fashion brands such as Wings + Horns and Roden Gray. His luxurious and minimal approach to lighting and furniture earned him a spot on the 2020 edition of Dwell 24, a list of the best up-and-coming designers selected by the American design magazine.

"The simplicity of his work really appeals to me," Daniel Chmielewski, the co-founder of Vancouver fashion brand Haven, says. He commissioned Júbilo to create a modular display system for one of his retail stores. "It's that whole Dieter Rams philosophy of not having anything extra that's not functional. The aesthetic is based on the function."

This aesthetic is apparent in a circular oak dining table featuring a trio of curved wooden legs and a rotating quartz centrepiece inset in the top (pictured above). Balancing practicality and playfulness, every aspect of its design is considered with decades of use in mind. The same is true of an understated bed inspired by an exhibition of traditional Chinese and Japanese joinery he saw in Milan before lockdown. Made entirely of maple, Júbilo designed the frame to stand not just the test of time, but the rigours of moving house.

While different from his dad's classic Giulia in every possible way, these designs are informed by the same process of stripping something down to its most basic elements and deciding what's absolutely necessary. "It's a very simple idea," he says. — JEREMY FREED

FASHION

Strap in

For his spring collection, Daniel Lee, creative director at Italian fashion house Bottega Veneta, staged an intimate presentation titled "Salon 01" that was reminiscent of the atelier-style shows of the past. While the clothes played with the concepts of intimacy, domesticity and being

home, the accessories hinted at an opposing force: a desire to escape.

The Salon 01 seatbelt bag, with its oversized hardware and webbing strap inspired by airplane buckles, is the most literal example of this inspiration. A sleek triangle flap features a double zipper that reveals a handy hidden pocket. The padded effect and tubular leather drawstring adapts the shape of the bag while maintaining the quilted proportions that have become synonymous with the Bottega reinvention over the past couple of seasons. While the bag is available in stretch linen canvas and washed denim, it is most luxurious in shades of Hydrology leather, which is distinguishable by its soft texture and matte appearance. The waterproof treatment gives the material a sporty and technical look while upping its functionality.

Lee's take on how fashion has adapted to drastically different lifestyles mirrors our renewed interest in comfort and appreciation for craftsmanship and longevity. There is perhaps no better fashion metaphor for the season than an accessory you fasten securely before taking off. — NADIA PIZZIMENTI



Salon 01 bag,
from \$2,790 at
Bottega Veneta
(bottegabeneta.com).

FRAGRANCE

All the feels

Like the legendary artists and writers of the Roaring Twenties, today's creatives are finding artistic inspiration in uncertainty. Byredo founder Ben Gorham, a Swede born to an Indian mother and a Canadian father, is launching Mixed Emotions, a unisex scent created in response to the tumult of 2020. "I hope that people read the label and identify with that sentiment in its simplest form, and then find something deeper to relate to," he says.

Mixed Emotions draws on Byredo's overarching ethos of translating abstract ideas and memories into scent. Other bestsellers with similarly nuanced interpretations include Mojave Ghost, an encapsulation of the Mojave Desert, and Bal d'Afrique, which reflects Gorham's imaginings of his father's travels through Africa. Mixed Emotions juxtaposes our collective highs and lows by aligning the familiar with the unusual. Comforting notes of maté and sweet cassia are surrounded by wood, while black Ceylon tea is interrupted by sharp violet leaves. Gorham hopes to inspire a moment for reflection and remind us that unsettling experiences often result in positive change.

Alongside the launch of Mixed Emotions, Gorham commissioned the production of *Tall Are the Roots*, a short film directed by Fenn O'Meally that documents conversations with three subjects as they reflect on the challenges and dreams of their personal experiences. Its campaign imagery is equally suited to conflicting feelings. It features a perfume bottle that's been smashed on the floor, fragrant juice spreading beyond shards of broken glass.

— CAITLIN AGNEW

Byredo Mixed
Emotions, from
\$257 at Holt Renfrew
(holtrenfrew.com).





Carrera Chronograph Porsche Special Edition, from \$7,250 at TAG Heuer (tagheuer.com).

WATCHES

Race against time

car brand, the timepiece celebrates 50-plus years of shared motorsports history, both on and off the track.

Designed to appeal to owners – current and aspiring – of Porsche’s famous rear-engine 911 coupe, the watch is liveried in the same red, black and grey colour scheme as Porsche interiors, and available with a contrast-stitched leather strap to match the car’s upholstery. The dial is modelled after a Porsche speedometer, right down the automaker’s signature font, and textured to resemble the surface of a racetrack.

Turn the chronograph over and you’ll find an oscillating balance shaped like a Porsche steering wheel, visible through the sapphire crystal case back. With a starting price of \$7,250 on the aforementioned strap (or \$7,500 on a sporty steel bracelet) this won’t be a casual purchase for most, but it’s a steal compared to the TAG Heuer-branded Porsche 911 that surely can’t be far away. – J.F.

As the major players in fashion, design, beauty and even fast food embrace the power of the collab (Levi’s x Lego? Sure why not!), a few holdouts in the luxury world have notably stayed out of the fray. TAG Heuer and Porsche, two brands with long histories in motorsport and legions of devoted fans, finally took the partnership plunge in February when they unveiled the new TAG Heuer Carrera Chronograph Porsche Special Edition. The first product of a newly minted relationship between the Swiss watchmaker and the German

HOUSEWARES

Divine design

When Christian Dior was 14 years old, a palm reader told him that women would bring him his life’s success. “You will make a great deal of money out of them,” the great couturier recalled of the prophecy in his autobiography, *Dior by Dior*. It would, of course, come true. It’s unclear whether this specific event steered Dior toward clairvoyance, but he became very superstitious as an adult. He consulted psychics before making big business decisions and liked having his tarot cards read before launching new collections.

Dior’s beliefs have left permanent traces at the couture house. Its Constellation collection for home, designed in collaboration between current artistic director Maria Grazia Chiuri and Italian artist Pietro Ruffo, is an homage to the couturier’s love of tarot. Drawn in black and white, the symbolic sketches reimagine the tarot universe that Dior was so fond of. Using figures from Tarot de Marseille, a style of the mystical decks that can be traced back to the early 1500s, Ruffo dreamed up cryptic compositions on Limoges porcelain.

The ominous La Mort figure appears on one of the serving platters, surrounded by the ouroboros, an ancient symbol of a snake biting its tail. The two represent the afterlife and rebirth. Its companion platter, Le Mat – or The Fool – represents movement and new adventures with images of a jumping dog and a bell hat. The showstopping pieces offer plenty of fodder for magical dinner conversation, something Dior himself would have no doubt appreciated. – ANYA GEORGIJEVIC



Dior Maison La Mort and Le Mat platters, \$600 each at Dior (dior.com).

WELLNESS

Glow up

Over the past year, interest in candles has grown beyond their comforting radiance to focus on the pieces as objects that are displayed like art. You can see this shift in the 13-piece line Ikea created with Byredo’s Ben Gorham, which waft subtle scents from demure stoneware vessels, or the Instagram hit Twist candle by Dutch designer Lex Pott, two tapers that emerge from one curvy base. “I believe the pandemic is a driving force behind this movement,” says Joseph Cheatham, founder of candle brand yasaf, lit. “We’ve seen a lot of paradigm shifts...people want to create an environment that’s conducive to productivity as well as tranquility.”

Cheatham’s Collection I debuted in the fall and contains six candles, including Inception, a calming blend of palo santo, sage and cyprus, and N’ Side, a spicy combination of cardamom tea, grapefruit, pink pepper and vetiver. Collection II will launch this spring with two new scents. Cheatham calls this new release Euphoria x Divinity and says it was designed to evoke “that happiness and optimism that was missing and overshadowed by 2020.”

The candles use ethically sourced ingredients and sustainability drove the choice of a glass vessel. “They’re chic and matte-frosted, durable and repurposable,” he says. He tapped his friend Fred Sands, an art director and graphic designer, for the colourful and playful packaging. “I felt it was imperative to have candles that augmented and catered to your every need and setting, and were mood-shifting,” Cheatham says. “Whether you wish to imbue your space for an evening of intimacy, self-care rituals or elicit inspiration, we have you covered.” – MARYAM SIDDIQI

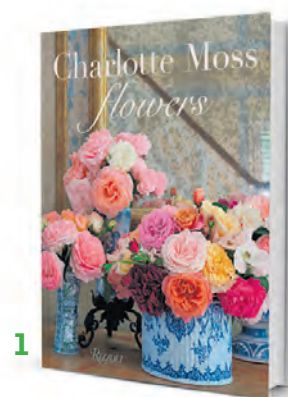


yasaf, lit candles, US\$48 through yasaf.lit.com.

STYLE BOOKS

Garden variety

Whether your growing space is a pot on your window sill or an expansive estate, **NOLAN BRYANT** compiles references for a verdant life



1



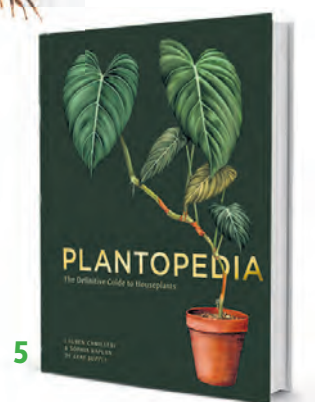
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8

1. CHARLOTTE MOSS FLOWERS

For famed interior decorator Charlotte Moss, no room is complete without flowers. In her 11th book, she sought to capture the thoughtful arrangements that punctuate her personal spaces and those of her clients. Packed with helpful tips, the book is ideal reading for gardeners who are keen to show off their prized blooms indoors. *Charlotte Moss Flowers* by Charlotte Moss, \$67.50 at bookstores and online (rizzoliusa.com).

2. THE NATURALLY BEAUTIFUL GARDEN

In this book, author Kathryn Bradley-Hole explores what it means to have a garden that works with, rather than against, nature. The lush images of some 30 gardens from across the globe demonstrate that there's no beauty or creativity lost when environmentally mindful methods are employed. *The Naturally Beautiful Garden* by Kathryn Bradley-Hole, \$75 at bookstores and online April 13 (rizzoliusa.com).

3. FIRST GARDEN

Style icon C.Z. Guest wrote this charming book in 1976, and in the subsequent printing (which is easier to find) none of her personal gardening adventures and practical tips and tricks for first timers were omitted. Truman Capote's zippy introduction and splendid illustrations by Sir Cecil Beaton both remain. *First Garden* by C.Z. Guest, \$50 through TorontoVintages on etsy.com.

4. BRAIDING SWEETGRASS

This book was an instant bestseller, and for good reason. Author and botanist Robin Wall Kimmerer beautifully connects her readers to land and nature. For her, plants and animals are our oldest teachers. Pulling from her life as an indigenous scientist, Kimmerer reveals the gifts and lessons that living beings, be it a strawberry or salamander, can provide. *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants* by Robin Wall Kimmerer, \$52.50 at bookstores and online (milkweed.org).

5. PLANTOPEDIA

Not everyone has access to a plot of land or even a balcony to make a garden of their own. For those whose horticultural space is limited, this book serves as a guide for growing inside. With it, the prospect of successful plant parenting feels attainable. *Plantopedia: The Definitive Guide to Houseplants* by Lauren Camilleri and Sophia Kaplan, \$55 at bookstores and online (smithstreetbooks.com).

6. BUNNY MELLON

During her lifetime, Bunny Mellon liked to fly under the radar, but since her death in 2014, she has become a style icon. Numerous illustrated books focus on her exquisite homes and gardens, but it's this brilliant biography that digs deep into her life and recounts some of her biggest garden projects including the transformation of the White House rose garden. *Bunny Mellon: The Life of an American Style Legend* by Meryl Gordon, \$36.50 at bookstores and online (grandcentralpublishing.com).

7. GARDENS OF STYLE

For many great style makers in fashion and interior design, gardens are the places from which inspiration is constantly drawn – just think of Christian Dior's floral-print frocks of the 1950s. In this book, influential figures, including former Hermès designer Nicole de Vésian and decorator Bunny Williams, open the gates of their private sanctuaries. *Gardens of Style: Private Hideaways of the Design World* by Janelle McCulloch, \$75 at bookstores and online (rizzoliusa.com).

8. FLOWERS

This classic has nothing to do with growing, but presents the magnificence of flowers as seen through the lens of fashion and still life photographer Irving Penn. Tulips and orchids are captured at their peak, while roses and poppies are snapped in states of decay. Penn transforms each bloom from miracle of nature to work of art. *Flowers* by Irving Penn, \$335 through BooksforQuacks on etsy.com.

Essentials

INSIGHT / ACQUISITIONS

Vibrant thing

Break all the rules when it comes to combining conventional square tiles in decidedly unconventional hues. A handmade quality and muted glazing help Pratt & Larson's more than 200 complementary and clashing tones work for dynamic powder room feature walls or kitchen backsplashes. Pratt & Larson R Gloss 4" by 4" tile, \$77/square foot at Surface & Co. (surfacesco.ca).



SURFACE TENSION

Tilework goes abstract with bold combinations of colour, pattern and form

PHOTOGRAPHY BY NATASHA V. / STYLING BY ALANNA DAVEY

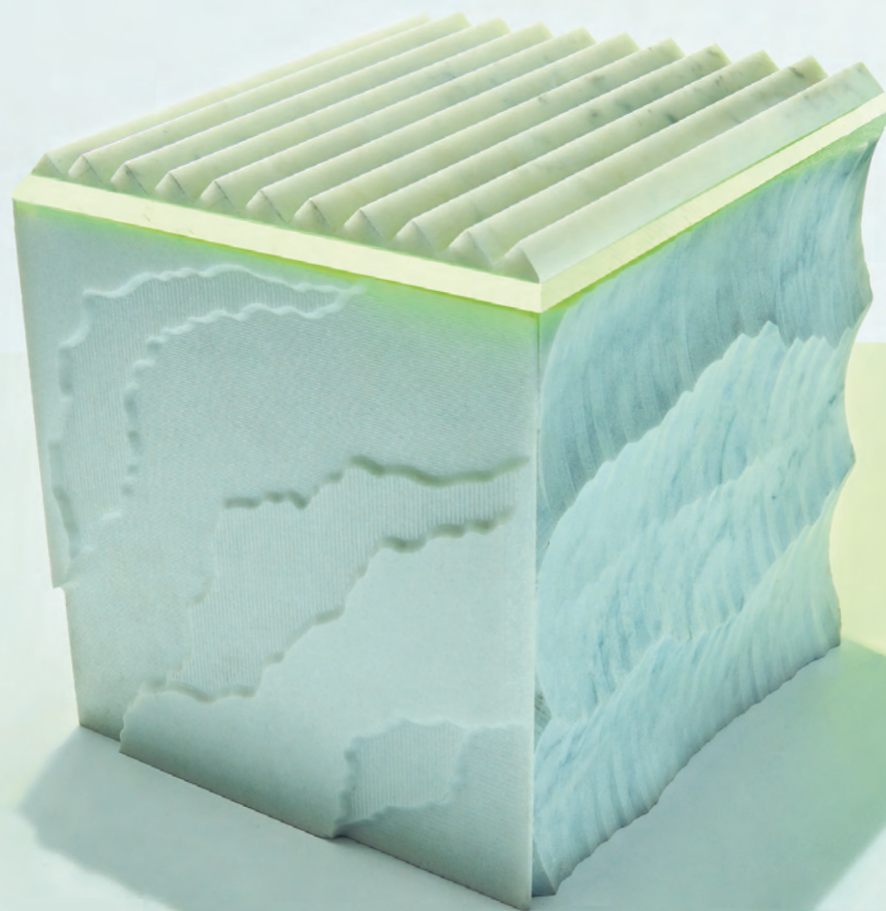
On fleck

Classic terrazzo can take on a more playful look when you switch up the scale and colour of its spots or combine different motifs in a foyer mosaic.

Terra Preciosa tile mixes semi-precious stones with high-performance concrete in shades such as pomegranate and mango.

Terra Preciosa tile in Pomegranate, Blush, Mango and Snow Rainbow, \$49.95/square foot, Terrazzo Mixed Matte grey and white tile, \$11.99/square foot at Cercan Tile (cercantile.com).





Go deep

Walls that seem to grow toward you with organic or geometric textures are turning the surfaces of our homes into sculptural works of art. Artistic Tile's options mimic linear zig-zags, ridges of sand or rock chipped away by centuries of wear. Artistic Tile Pinnacle Bianco Dolomiti 12" by 24" tile (top), US\$155/square foot, Terrain Dimensional Thassos 12" by 24" tile (left), US\$225/square foot, Dune Bianco Carrara 12" by 24" tile (right), US\$196/square foot at Cesario & Co. (cesarioandco.com).



Take six

The hexagon has replaced the linear subway tile as the go-to shape for contemporary spaces with a hint of nostalgia. A smaller tile creates a honeycomb effect in shower stalls while larger pieces can channel Old World-inspired patterns on the floor of a sunroom or enclosed porch.

(From top left) Malmoe Porcelain 10" tile, Six Terrazo Hexagon 9" tile, both price on request at Mettro Source (mettro.ca).

Scale Umbrella White Brillo (Random Patterns) 4" by 5" hex tile, \$12.95/square foot at Ciot (ciot.com). Walker Zanger twill angled hexagon 4" by 4.5" tile, \$55.50/square foot at Surface & Co. (surfacesco.ca).

Terra Esagono Decoro Cornice F 8.5" by 10" tile, \$9.50/square foot at Ciot.

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SAVE FACE

It goes without saying this winter was like no other. The person you see in the mirror today likely looks quite different from the guy who hunkered down in the fall. With video conferencing offering a less-than-clear picture of your mug, it's been easy to let things slide – and grow. A survey by Wahl published in October found that 40 per cent of men have grown their facial hair since the start of the pandemic. But like a bear emerging from hibernation, it's time to conquer spring. And what better way to come out of the cold than by refining your beard? The latest in electric shaving devices have something for every desired finish, whether you're looking to go smooth or maintain a sophisticated scruff. These shavers can get you started on your new-normal grooming routine. – **CAITLIN AGNEW**



Braun Series 9 Wet & Dry Shaver, \$350 at mass retailers and specialty stores (braun.com).



Wahl stainless steel lithium-ion trimmer, \$80 at mass retailers (wahl.com).



King C. Gillette beard trimmer, \$40 at Walmart (walmart.ca).



Babyliss Pro cordless metal double foil shaver, \$150 through matandmax.com.



Philips S7000 shaver, \$200 through philips.ca.

THE EDIT

UTILITY ROOM

Cargo pockets are adding a functional spin to spring apparel



GO GREEN

JW Anderson dials up the fun factor with this nylon jacket featuring retro colour blocking in a palette of cool greens. A mod-shaped zipper pull and striped drawstrings add to its playful look. JW Anderson jacket, \$970 through jwanderson.com.



SHORT STORY

Sacai's shorts incorporate traditional elements such as their drab green hue, knee-grazing length and heavy-duty belt loops. Nylon patches and an integrated belt take them from typical to trendy. Sacai shorts, \$870 through farfetch.com.



MILITARY GRADE

Heavily influenced by army apparel, U.K. brand Maharishi knows a thing or two about making the practical sartorial. This T-shirt in organic cotton and recycled nylon amps up the chest pocket with an angular flap. – **NADIA PIZZIMENTI**
Maharishi Riverine 2.0 tech T-shirt, \$170 at Uncle Otis (uncleotis.com).

IN BRIEF

CHARM BRACELET

Every piece of jewellery tells a story and what better tale than one of Ancient Egyptian gods, pharaohs and the powerful amulets that protected them. The scarab beetle, a symbol of immortality, renewal and transformation, often appeared in the era's jewellery as a method of protection in life and death. Evan Yurman, the design director of men's-wear collections at David Yurman, pairs these references with art deco details in its new Cairo collection. Each of the gemstones used in the pieces are meant to convey a metaphysical meaning: black onyx to absorb negative energy; diamonds for strength and fortitude; lapis lazuli, a stone of friendship; and carnelian, which is said to restore vitality and stimulate creativity. – **N.P.**

Cairo linked bracelet with lapis lazuli in 18-karat gold, \$10,200 at David Yurman (davidyurman.com).



GAME FACE

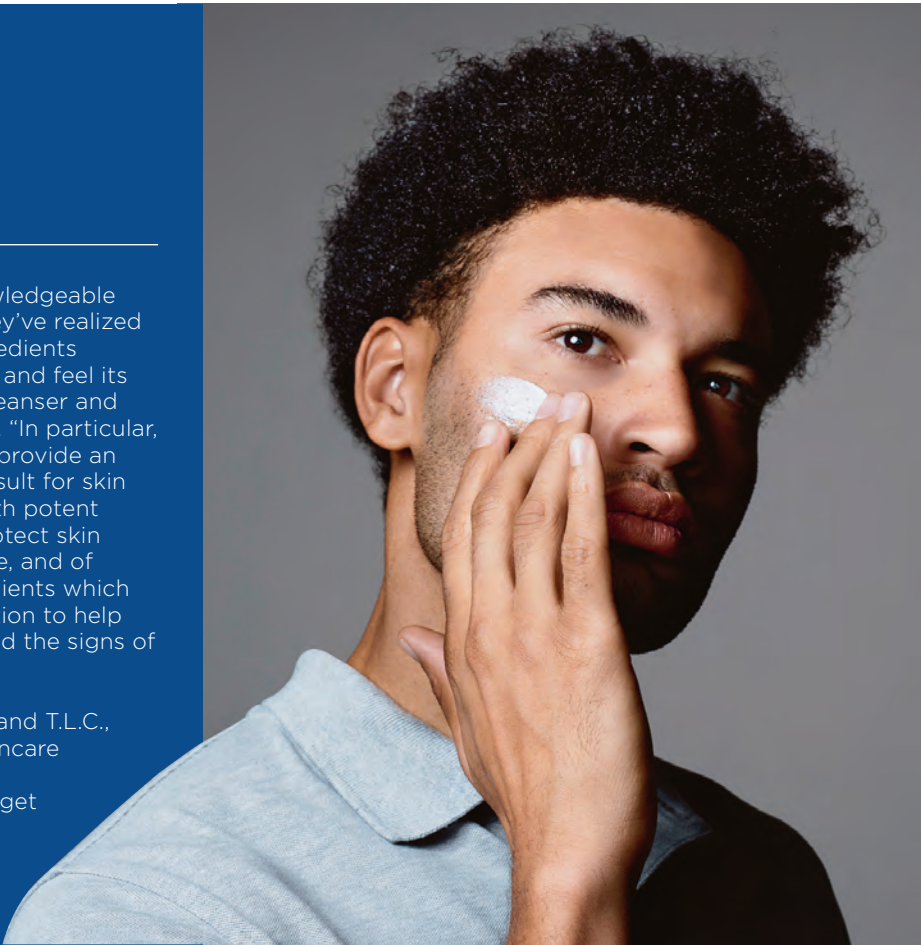
A skincare pro shares the play-by-play for a winning complexion

You don't have to be a professional athlete to have an all-star grooming routine. If you want to level up your game face, then it's time to get serious about skincare. Building a basic routine – washing, exfoliating and moisturizing – will go a long way towards transforming your complexion. "If skin becomes irritated, and you are shaving every few days, it can cause redness, bumps and uncomfortable burning that is really painful," says Emily Dalton, co-founder of Jack Black, the number one head-to-toe U.S. men's grooming brand. A product line that's formulated to chill out sensitive skin, she explains, should soothe redness and help you win a handsome complexion at the same time.

Once the bases are covered, it's time to layer in extra know-how. "As men

have become more knowledgeable about good skincare, they've realized that there are many ingredients which can help skin look and feel its best, beyond a simple cleanser and moisturizer," says Dalton. "In particular, plant-based ingredients provide an incredible impact and result for skin concerns of all types, with potent antioxidants that can protect skin from free-radical damage, and of course, sunscreen ingredients which provide essential protection to help minimize sun damage and the signs of premature aging."

With time, commitment and T.L.C., it's possible for every skincare novice to master a pro's playbook. Here's how to get into the game.



Don't skip warm-up:
Wash and scrub before you shave

Clogged pores from sweat or pollution can bring down your complexion, but so will surfactants in cleansers that dry out and irritate skin. Dalton's advice? Look for sulfate-free products with derivatives of natural ingredients, such as oats and coconut, that are both gentle and effective at washing away daily grime. Follow with an exfoliating scrub to slough off dead skin cells and smooth the way for an even closer shave. "If you have a beard, use a facial scrub in the shower and work beneath the surface of facial hair to remove the dry, flaky skin that can cause itchiness," says Dalton.

Try Jack Black Pure Clean Daily Facial Cleanser and Face Buff Energizing Scrub



Go the extra mile:
Add one more product to give your skin a boost

As long as the sun's out, your skin is vulnerable to dryness, fine lines and wrinkles. Save your complexion by adding an extra step to your skincare routine. Applied before a moisturizer, skin serums are typically light and absorb quickly to deliver efficacious and concentrated amounts of active ingredients below the skin's surface for targeted age control. Dalton adds that if the product has plant-based ingredients like organic green tea and sorghum grass stalk, it can boost skin cells without stressing out already sensitive or irritated skin. That's a real score.

Try Jack Black Nighttime BAK-Up™ and Protein Booster Skin Serum

Make the big play:
Double down on hydration

So much of skincare is about defense, blocking wrinkles and fine lines by protecting your skin before they happen. Protect your skin by going in with a hydrating moisturizer. There are a lot out there to choose from, but a winning product will feel sheer and lightweight on the skin with at least SPF 20, which offers broad-spectrum protection from UVA and UVB rays (known to speed up signs of aging). Dalton's must-have list also includes natural sources for Vitamins A, C and E like blue algae extract and sea parsley which soothe and improve the skin's appearance.



For bonus points, add a lip balm with SPF and natural moisturizers like shea butter and avocado oil. When applied on or beyond the lip line, you'll get maximum hydration and reduce your risk of chapped lips.





BED CHECK

Switch up your sheets for the season with Maison Tess's wardrobe of linens

If a year in and out of stay-at-home orders has taught us anything, it's that little delights can have major benefits. A nice bottle of wine or a fresh set of sheets can be a boost to the homebound. Maison Tess, the Montreal-based linens company, knows this and combines fashion and design with function and sustainability to help make your bed the perfect escape.

Founded in 2017 by Laura Nezri Chetrit, the brand's mission is to provide style-conscious consumers with pieces for their bedrooms that can be switched up seasonally. "In my mind, the colours that you have on your bed in January aren't necessarily what you want to see in July," she says. The approach is driving quick growth for the company, which saw a 500 per cent bump in sales in 2020.

This year, Nezri Chetrit launched a calming collection called the New Neutrals. Sheets, duvet covers and quilted blankets are intended to be mixed and matched. Soft hues of moss, amber, latte and clay evoke nature's spring awakening while providing a neutral base for layering colour and texture in fall and winter. Available in muslin cotton or coco linen, a cotton-linen blend, the bedding is sold as sets or separates.

The brand's manufacturing is done at a fourth-generation family-owned textile mill in Portugal and all items are Oeko-Tex certified, meaning they are free from harmful substances. "I didn't want to have a production where I wasn't sure of all the steps, in terms of respect for the environment and respect for the people involved," Nezri Chetrit says. — **MARYAM SIDDIQI**

New Neutrals linens range from \$70 to \$460. For more information, visit maisoness.com.



Maison Tess founder Laura Nezri Chetrit (top left) takes a fashionable approach to bed linens, such as her New Neutrals collection (above).

IN BRIEF



GLOW UP

Luminaire Authentik has grown rapidly since its humble beginnings in a Bromont, Que., garage six years ago. Maude Rondeau founded the lighting company after 13 years of working in the fashion industry. "We always think that we have to go very far to get a good product and I wanted to show the opposite, that we can do beautiful stuff here locally." Today, the company operates a 53,000-square-foot manufacturing facility in Cowansville, Que., and showrooms in Montreal and Toronto. Rondeau finds inspiration in Scandinavian clean lines and muted hues. Knowing that every customer is different, endless customization is possible online with a few easy clicks. The latest collection takes terrazzo and translates it into sculptural compositions in shades of oyster, peach and cactus, all combined with Luminaire Authentik's minimalist touch. — **ANYA GEORGIJEVIC**

For more information, visit luminaireauthentik.com.

THE BUY

PATCH PERFECT

Even if you've been sticking close to home, the latest accessories look well-travelled



BRAND STAN

Lanvin's vintage label-embellished knapsack is the perfect weekend getaway bag. Keep it packed with just the essentials for the moment you're given the green light to get out of town. Lanvin vintage badges backpack, \$1,500 at Simons (simons.ca).



NICE POP

From far away, Bode's see-through tote looks like it belongs to someone who's been places. Up close, you'll notice that its decals are actually labels from bottles of cream soda and ginger ale. Bode PVC and corduroy vintage stamp tote, \$725 at Ssense (ssense.com).



ROAD TRIP

Upgrade your billfold to a wallet that captures your growing wanderlust, such as Givenchy's leather style with its overlaying patches inspired by American highway signs. — **ANDREW SARDONE** Givenchy logo-patch zip-around wallet, \$900 through matchesfashion.com.

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THINKING SMALL

Dollhouses are no longer child's play. As **GAYLE MACDONALD** writes, they've become teensy backdrops for the most ambitious design ideas

ILLUSTRATION BY
ALLISON + CAM





After its exterior reno, Alison Lawler-Dean's dollhouse (above left) is ready for decor. Jacqueline Greenwood and Chris Toledo's respective work (above centre and right) intricately captures historic detail. Fernando Setien's furniture (right) often recreates a client's own full-sized pieces.



When Maria Fowler purchased the Little Dollhouse Company more than 20 years ago, she thought she was getting into a niche business popular with children and hobbyists. She had no idea she would soon have a clientele that includes a rock star, two Oscar winners and a diminutive sex therapist.

"I honestly never know who will walk through the door," Fowler says. Her whimsical store in Toronto is filled to the brim with every tiny stick of furniture and itty-bitty accessory a person could want to create the dollhouse of their dreams. "Dr. Ruth [Westheimer] came in one day. She's an avid collector, and basically, a miniature herself."

"When she left she said, 'Maria, do you know why miniaturists make the best lovers?'" Fowler says, still chuckling at the memory. "It's because we have the best imaginations."

Over the years, she has also served Whoopi Goldberg, Helen Mirren and Eddie Vedder, the lead singer for Pearl Jam. Since COVID hit, the celebrity walks-ins have stopped. Fowler misses the face-to-face interaction with her customers, but has not had the time to give it much thought.

Unlike countless businesses that have suffered during the pandemic, Fowler has never been busier. In the past year, interest in miniatures has exploded as a younger generation of stuck-at-home hobbyists has discovered just how cathartic and fun it is to build tiny versions of spaces that reflect how they want to live. "With miniatures, you can make a world exactly as you want it," Fowler says. "You have absolute control over it, and during COVID especially, that has been very empowering."

Social media has helped spread the word about this once-sleepy sector, making it easier for customers and artisans to find each other. Etsy, Pinterest and Tumblr are replete with miniatures

for sale to accommodate everyone's personal tastes, while carefully curated Instagram accounts are filled with glossy photographs of rooms that look like they belong in Architectural Digest or a Roche Bobois showroom. On the feed of Lavender Belle Miniatures (@lavenderbell_miniatures), there are rooftop gardens with pots of succulents and working fountains. Dr. Kwandaa Roberts (@tinyhousecalls) includes downscaled versions of Hamptons-inspired beach houses. Los Angeles artist Chris Toledo (@ibuildsmallthings) does up fully furnished 1:12 scale models inspired by his city's 1920s architecture and sells them for US\$150,000 to \$200,000 apiece.

"Until a year ago, I had no idea this world of miniatures existed," says Alison Lawler-Dean, a marketing executive in Toronto who found an antique dollhouse on Instagram and has been decorating it with her seven-year-old daughter. "I drove out to Oakville, picked it up contact-free from this lady's porch. Structurally, it needed a full repainting and all the doors and windows had to be redone."

Then the fun started. "Instagram is like going down a rabbit hole of teeny-tiny riches," says Lawler-Dean, who started buying select pieces such as a beautiful teal sofa from Revive Minis (@reviveminis) as well as making her own furniture and accessories. She's currently inspired by Aubrey Srnc (@okay-minis), who is recreating her small Toronto apartment, and Cath Square (@thesquaretospare), whose DIY tutorials on YouTube show amateur miniaturists how to marble countertops, lay herringbone floors, build bookcases and make a pint-sized box of sushi. "It's a thriving, incredibly supportive community of people who help each other make their interior design dreams real," Lawler-Dean says.

Fernando Setien, a contemporary fine mini-furniture maker in Barcelona, says many of his clients ask him to make exact replicas of life-sized

furniture they already have in their homes. Others come to him because they love the clean lines and modern aesthetic of his sideboards, cabinets and Paimio chairs, which range in price from US\$100 to \$1,200. "I believe, because of all the closures, people have had the time to rediscover the wonders of play," Setien says. "Miniatures are the perfect escape."

That feeling is shared by Jacqueline Greenwood, who bought her first dollhouse second-hand when COVID began and her job in childcare abruptly came to an end. Her intention was to furnish it with pieces she made herself and give it to one of her young grandchildren. That, she says now, is not going to happen.

"I love it more than I imagined I would," Greenwood says. Her Instagram account, @wildwood_miniatures, has over 21,000 followers who adore the life-like authenticity of her pieces, such as functional hurricane lanterns, an Aga stove, hand-painted china plates and distressed kitchen cupboards in a lovely robin's egg blue. "At first, I worked on it during weekends, but now it's become a fantastic focus of my day," Greenwood says. She fully furnished her first dollhouse, an English country house, and is now on her second project, a country store. "The most complicated piece I've worked on is a dollhouse within my dollhouse, which is a replica of the Rosehill cottage featured in the movie *The Holiday*."

For this Torontonion, the saving grace of miniatures is that they've provided direction, purpose and introduced her to a whole community of like-minded people who love make-believe and design. "This has been an incredibly intense time for so many people and I think our minds can easily run away from us with worry and concern," Greenwood says. "The world of miniatures is like anything creative. It brings you into the moment and it keeps you in the moment, where creation works its magic." ■



Van Cleef & Arpels

Haute Joaillerie, place Vendôme since 1906



Lucky Spring collection
Clip and bracelet, rose gold, carnelian,
onyx and white mother-of-pearl.

OUTER BEAUTY

From hardy outdoor kitchen surfaces to elevated lawn chairs, **ANDREW SARDONE** compiles the spring finds that will breathe new life into your garden



FRENCH CONNECTION

You may not be able to experience Paris this spring in person, but Maison Sarah Lavoine's new collaboration with the Louvre brings a bit of its spirit home. The Tuileries collection includes cotton velvet cushions inspired by the toy sailboats that float across its eponymous garden's reflecting pools and tabletop accessories that pay homage to its historic statuary. Maison Sarah Lavoine candleholders, starting at €32 through maisonsarahlavoine.com.



ROCK SOLID

Caesarstone tested its outdoor quartz surfaces to ensure they don't discolour in sunlight and can withstand temperatures between -25 and 50. They're available in three contemporary hues from marble-like Palm Shade (pictured) to Clearskies, which mimics flecked concrete.

Caesarstone outdoor collection, from \$80/square foot through caesarstone.ca.



AFTER GLOW

For its Flindt Garden collection of lighting by Danish designer Christian Flindt, Louis Poulsen set out to recreate the dimension daylight adds to backyard landscapes for the evening. The streamlined posts are available in two heights in weathered metal or aluminum finishes and direct light downward to create a soft radiance. Louis Poulsen Flindt Garden light, from \$522 through louispoulsen.com.



TONE ON TONE

For outdoor designers who want to stick to a strict palette, French furniture manufacturer Fermob is now launching collections grouped by colour scheme. Its first edit, Light and Shade, caters to minimalists with its mix of furniture, lighting and accessories in harmonious greys, whites and blacks. For more information, visit fermob.com.



MOD MENU

Belgium's Ethnicraft is debuting its first outdoor collection, which takes elements of its existing interior furniture and adapts it for al fresco spaces. Made from solid teak, sofas, armchairs and dining pieces are ideal for creating a mid-century-inspired grouping that's more modern than retro. Ethnicraft Bok outdoor dining table, \$3,699, chairs, \$1,149 each at Elte and additional retailers in Toronto and Vancouver (ethnicraft.com).



WARM COMFORT

Outdoor seating isn't always the cushiest, but for those who really want to veg out poolside, Roche Bobois' Informel armchair provides maximum R&R. Upholstered in a plush and stretchy Sunrise textile over Dryfeel foam that withstands the elements, it will be the hottest seat on the deck – or dock. Informel Low Bar armchair, \$4,960 at Roche Bobois (roche-bobois.com).



PALM READ

Melamine dishware can look as elevated as the finest of china. Crate and Barrel's leafy collection includes serving and dining pieces in a tropical motif that will instantly add a sense of summer to your table. Breezy Melamine palm leaf dishware, from \$11.95 at Crate and Barrel (crateandbarrel.ca).

DES

THE ULTIMATE OUTDOOR KITCHEN



BY THE BOTTLE

Lark's six-packs are popping up on porches all around Toronto

Lark's beverage offerings have grown beyond still and sparkling spring waters (some augmented with floral extracts to emulate the flavour of iced tea or cola) to include an all-natural ginger ale, barista standard oat milk and the table wine served at Manita, a café, grocer and bar in the city's west end. Each is shipped in a sling-top glass bottle made in Italy and labelled with a water-soluble sticker. Packs are delivered to customers' doors via an eco-friendly van and empties are retrieved to be sanitized and refilled.

Lark has made a splash on Instagram where customers regularly post shots of their photogenic bottles of clear, pink and lavender water. Its branding emphasizes minimalism with a hint of comfort and nostalgia, things Donnelly thought everyone could use more of during the pandemic. "We added a lot more levity and humour to the language," Donnelly says. "We try to keep it really friendly." — **CAITLIN AGNEW**

In the GTA, Lark bottles can be ordered in sets of six one-litre bottles, from \$15 for still water. For more information, visit larkdfff.com.



When Michelle Donnelly founded Lark last year, her plan was to supply restaurants and hotels in the Greater Toronto Area with Ontario spring water bottled and exchanged on a closed-loop system. But the pandemic had other ideas. "The day everything shut down was the day that we launched," she says. Instead, Donnelly and her team decided to offer their products via home delivery including a subscription service, similar to an old-school milkman. "We have a small but very mighty and loyal community of people who order monthly or biweekly," Donnelly says.

THE EDIT

FOR THE LOVE OF LOAVES

If you've become a dough pro, it's time to update your bread gear



INSIDE THE BOX

Give your next loaf a cozy spot on your counter with this handmade chestnut and walnut wood box by Spain's Mad Lab. Its lid conveniently flips over to become a cutting board. Doghe bread box, €312 through mad-lab.com.



LOOKING SHARP

Woodworker Stéphane Dumont, who runs Arbol out of Rivière-Ouelle, Que., creates his bread knife in maple or cherry with a blade that can be adapted for right- or left-handed slicers. Arbol bread knife, \$42 at Simons (simons.ca).



BOARDING NOW

When it comes to cutting boards, the bigger the better for both utility and displaying a delicious spread. This acacia option is almost 30 inches long, perfect for tackling a crispy baguette. — **ANDREW SARDONE**
Smaata chopping board, \$29.99 at Ikea (ikea.com).

IN BRIEF



ANNUAL DELIVERY

The Five-Year Whisky Bottle Club from Vancouver craft distillery Odd Society Spirits is a creative new way to experience a whisky tasting without leaving home. The series follows the life of a whisky as it ages from a new-make spirit. Subscribers can expect the first of their six 750 mL bottles fresh off the still this spring. "As distillers, we taste the barrels over time to see how it's coming along," Gordon Glanz, Odd Society's founder, says. "Whisky lovers and whisky nerds don't usually get that opportunity." The small-batch distillery has called East Vancouver's port district home since 2013. Its whisky is made from 100-per-cent British Columbia pale malt barley grown in grain country near Prince George and malted in Armstrong. — **NATHALIE ATKINSON**

Five-Year Whisky Club membership, from \$295 until April 30 through oddsocietyspirits.com.

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Robert Iantorno's Quonset house is distinguished by its great room that takes full advantage of the structure's 20-foot ceilings.

PHOTO BY DOUBLESPEACE PHOTOGRAPHY.

Curves ahead

Quonset buildings were developed a century ago for the military and have been adapted for farms and housing. Today, they're once again the perfect shell for a new way of living

BY **MATTHEW HAGUE**

To the untrained eye, Robert Iantorno's home looks like a grain shed. The utilitarian structure, in the small village of Singhamton, Ont., is a domed steel shell with no windows on its long, ridged sides. It wouldn't be out of place in the middle of a farmer's field overflowing with tractors and bales of hay.

The agrarian allusion doesn't bother Iantorno. "I like the simple, pure form," he says. "And it's beautiful inside." That it is. Twenty-foot ceilings soar over an open-concept living, dining and kitchen area. Through a single, tall expanse of glass on the south end, sunshine floods the house, bouncing between the smooth concrete floor and the shimmering metal walls. In the greyest parts of winter, light still glows against the honey-hued kitchen cabinetry and mid-century vintage furniture.



Robert Iantorno and his wife, Maria, work on the Quonset's mezzanine level (above). Throughout the space, the texture and colour of the cool metal roof plays against warm wood, smooth concrete and vintage furnishings.



This type of dwelling is known as a Quonset house, named for a military base in Rhode Island where they were developed to house soldiers and equipment. Over time, they were modified for agricultural purposes, then houses. Now, thanks to growing interest in prefabricated homes that work generous space and natural light into a more affordable structure, architects are adapting the Quonset for contemporary living.

Iantorno's architect, Andy Thomson, embraces the Quonset's agricultural connotations. In fact, he loves the idea of crafting something rooted in rural pragmatism. "One of my mentors gave me this mantra, which I use all the time," Thomson says. "He told me to ask myself, what would a farmer do? Farmers have limited resources, limited time and zero interest in unnecessary maintenance. They need to know that what they build will still be standing for generations."

Such durability was important to Iantorno, who shares the space with his wife, Maria. Like many people who were born in in the 1980s, he faced astronomical real estate costs by the time he finished university. It didn't help that he was originally seeking shelter in his hometown of Toronto, among Canada's priciest cities. Uninspired by the prospect of splurging to live in a tiny condo where the noise of neighbours echoes through paper-thin walls, he decided to switch up his search and find vacant land north of the city. "I didn't want to be crushed by mortgage debt," he says.

Whether you are building in the middle of a city or in the country, erecting a custom home is usually a way to burn through money, not save it. But Iantorno's house is patterned after his architect's own cottage in the



A campus of affordable Quonset houses called True North were built in 2018 in Detroit (top and below). Inside, plywood panels follow the curve of the metal roofs (left). Outside, windows at the end of each home connect them to nature – and each other.

Outaouais region of Quebec, a house with proven affordability. “My place is about 3,000 square feet and cost about \$150,000,” Thomson says. “That’s a similar price to an Airstream trailer. It helps that I did a lot of the construction myself. If I had a professional contractor custom build everything, it would have cost closer to \$450,000.”

Like Thomson, Iantorno did a lot of the building work himself, taking pains to ensure his construction was as sustainable as possible. The walls are so well insulated that the structure barely needs conventional heating or air conditioning. “When we found the site, there was nothing on it except for trees and an abandoned lean-to from some hermit,” he says. “Because we were building on virgin land, I wanted to make something really nice – something solid. I think my house will last for another 500 years.”





Denmark doesn't have a history of Quonset-style structures, so this example by the firm VBA is a novelty to locals. Architect Torben Eskerod played with ceiling heights to emphasize the home's volume.



That kind of longevity is a bit ironic, given the history of Quonset huts. Just over a century ago, Major Peter Norman Nissen, a Canadian-educated British army officer, devised a way to construct impermanent soldier barracks in a matter of hours. His idea, called the Nissen hut, was inspired by a now-demolished armoury he saw while studying engineering at Queen's University in Ontario. The design involved stretching sheets of corrugated steel ribs over a dome of steel ribs.

While Nissen huts were a great way to quickly deploy housing, they left soldiers shivering in the cold and sweating through warm weather. Apparently, there's a reason no one camps in draughty steel tents.

During the Second World War, the idea was resurrected and improved on by engineers at a military base at Quonset Point, R.I. Instead of a skin of rickety steel laid over metal ribs, the resulting Quonset huts had a simpler construction: The structure and sheathing were blended into a single, prefabricated panel, including a layer of insulation.

Over 150,000 huts were manufactured during the war, with each costing about \$800 (\$14,000 in today's dollars). So many were produced that surplus huts were sold to the public at cost, and used for just about every imaginable purpose, including farm sheds, of course, but also postwar homes. Whole Quonset villages popped up in North America, including one in central Los Angeles that housed 5,000 people in the 1940s. But as postwar prosperity grew, such economical housing was replaced with bungalows



on tidy suburban streets. The Quonset village in L.A. was demolished in 1954 to make way for a zoo.

Necessity, including circumventing the high housing costs Robert Iantorno has experienced in Toronto, is bringing the Quonset back. There are even new Quonset villages, such as True North, an affordable housing complex that opened in Detroit in 2018.

The austere, military-grade exteriors in True North belie elegant interiors. "There is a wonderful variety you can achieve with the Quonsets," Edwin Chan, True North's California-based architect, says. "They have flexible, open floor plans and can be quite

tall with mezzanines and lofts. And through the large windows at either end, you can not only bring in a lot of light – a lot of warmth – but create a sense that the surrounding nature continues from the site right into each house. Each one is very humane."

Torben Eskerod, an architect at studio VBA in Copenhagen, agrees, having recently designed a Quonset-style country house in Denmark. "There is no strong tradition for Quonset housing in Scandinavia," he says. "But we are glad our clients went along with this bold idea. The domed section gave our client an extraordinary space. At the same time, it connects to nature

and gives an overwhelming experience of light and space inside.”

In 2020, a large Quonset went up on the Queensway in Toronto’s west end. It’s not a house, but a sales centre for a family-focused condo called Reina, which also happens to be Toronto’s first condo with an all-female development team. The structure’s curved façade echoes the rounded shapes of a Quonset. “I got the idea spur of the moment, partly from a contemporary Quonset art gallery I had seen,” Heather Rolleston, principal at the firm BDP Quadrangle, says. “I drew out the idea and almost didn’t want to show it to the client. Part of me wasn’t sure how it would go over. But I also just didn’t want to do another, typical, temporary sales centre. They tend to be all so similar.”

“I loved the idea,” says Taya Cook, Rolleston’s client and director of development at Urban Capital Property Group. “I wouldn’t say the sales centre was cheap because it was a Quonset. It’s still a million-dollar sales centre, partly because we included a lot of custom details, including custom windows. But the open, flexible plan and the overall shape encouraged us to be very creative. Where the curved walls meet the ground, that could be wasted space. We put in a ball pit for kids, which, as a condo for families, says exactly who we are.”

While there are no specific plans for the Reina Quonset following its life as a sales centre, because the structures are modular, it’s possible for them to be moved and reused. There’s no doubt it would be a beautiful starting point for a second home out of the city. ▀

Styling for the Singhampton Quonset house by Cynthia Florek.



To up the ante on standard condo showrooms, architecture firm BDP Quadrangle created a Quonset-style sales centre for Urban Capital Property Group’s Reina development in Toronto.

KEEP IT BRIEF

Dior combines black calfskin and its signature jacquard on the Lock Handbag, a piece that downsizes the proportions of a traditional attaché case.

Coat, shirt, trousers, bag, available at Dior (dior.com).

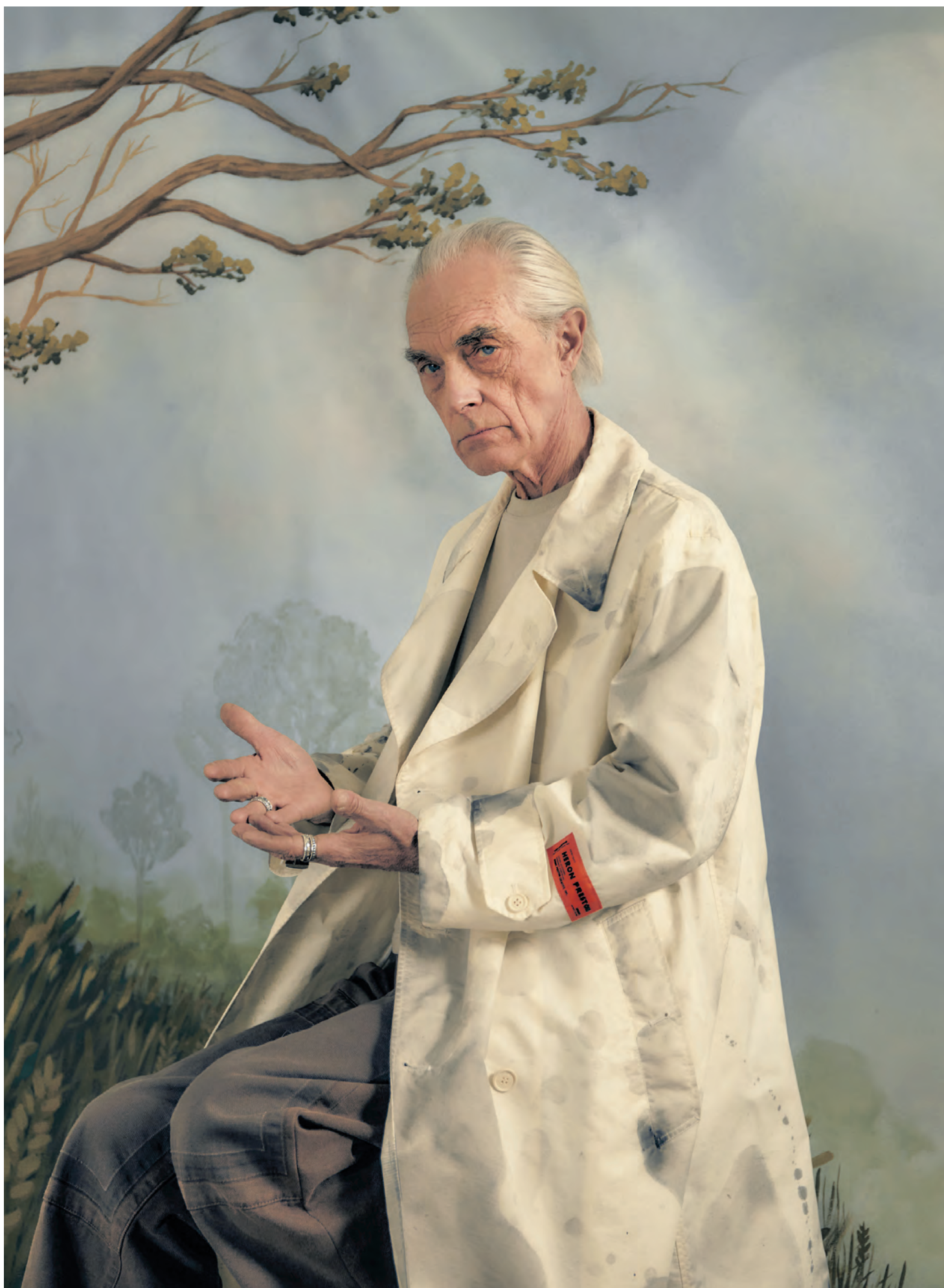
Boyd Court rings, available through boydcourt.com.

Boots, available at Hermès (hermes.com).

BETTER WITH AGE

Embrace the men's-wear classics, reimagined this season in unexpected materials and relaxed cuts

PHOTOGRAPHY BY LUIS MORA / STYLING BY NADIA PIZZIMENTI

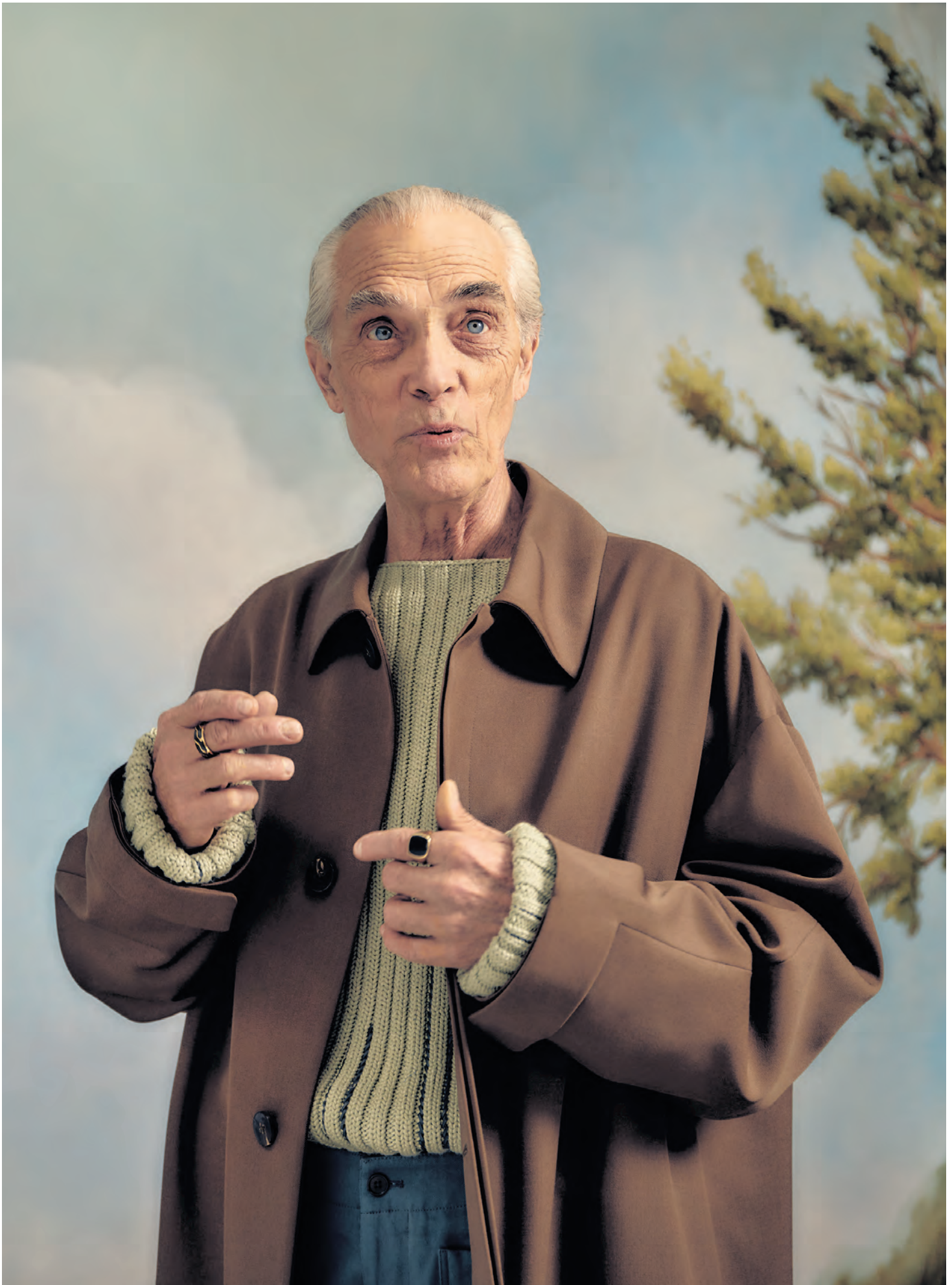


FRESH COAT

A trench is usually the crisp finishing touch but Heron Preston's version looks more like an artful work in progress.

Heron Preston jacket, trousers, available through heronpreston.com. Bottega Veneta shirt, available at [Ssense \(ssense.com\)](https://ssense.com).

Boyd Court ring (on left hand), available through boydcourt.com. Ring (on right hand), available at [David Yurman \(davidyurman.com\)](https://davidyurman.com).



JUMPER CABLE

The fisherman sweater has been tweaked for centuries. A Hermès version adds a contrast yarn to its ribbing, emphasizing its rugged texture. Fear of God x Ermenegildo Zegna jacket, available at Ssense (ssense.com). Sweater, trousers, available at Hermès (hermes.com). Boyd Court signet ring (on left hand), available through boydcourt.com. Ring (on right hand), available at David Yurman (davidyurman.com).

TRIPLE THREAT

Even a three-piece suit can capture the new casual. Zegna's version pares things back by doing away with visible buttons on the jacket's cuffs and adding discreet zippers to the trousers' hems. Suit, shirt, shoes, available at Ermenegildo Zegna (zegna.com).

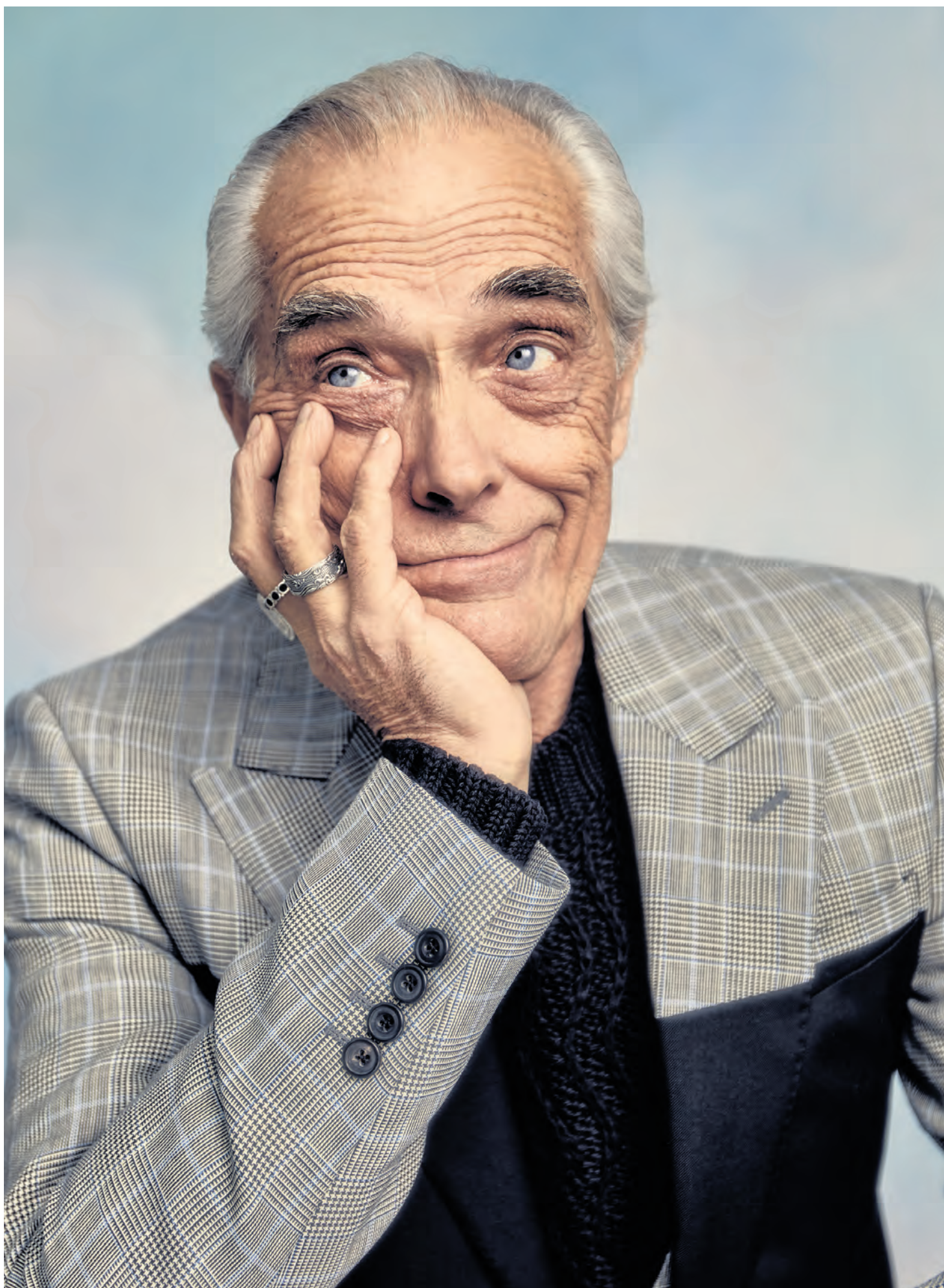


NEW MIX

Hand-sketched florals make an otherwise humble topper into an ornate statement piece.

Salvatore Ferragamo coat, sweater, available through ferragamo.com. King & Tuckfield trousers, available at [Ssense \(ssense.com\)](http://ssense.com). Scarf, available at [Hermès \(hermes.com\)](http://hermes.com).





SUIT SUPPLY

Mismatched fabrics are patched together on an Alexander McQueen jacket. Wearing a suit has become a novel occasion that demands a novelty blazer. Alexander McQueen blazer, available through alexandermcqueen.com. Salvatore Ferragamo sweater, available through ferragamo.com. Rings, available at David Yurman (davidyurman.com).

Model: Peter Gudrunas (read more about Gudrunas's glass work on page 6).
Grooming by Claudine Baltazar for Dermalogica/Plutino Group. Set design by Caitlin Doherty. Styling assistant: Alex Petropoulakis.



Gone picking

The antique and vintage dealers who stock their market stalls and online shops with idiosyncratic decor have never been more influential on design trends. Three sellers explain their role in the cycle

BY **NATHALIE ATKINSON**

That summer, it felt like all of the flea market vendors met up and decided that dusty rattan bookshelves, wicker Emmanuelle chairs and curlicue bread baskets were suddenly worthy of being showcased. Was it 2019? Maybe earlier? It doesn't matter, really, in the timeless world of vintage and antiques. Soon, as if on cue, these pieces were popping up in Instagram room vignettes, DIY blogs (flip that bread basket over and, ta da, the chicest lampshade ever) and in the housewares department of your local big-box warehouse.

The second-hand dealers who search high and low for each summer's version of wicker are often called "pickers" and they know this trendsetting phenomenon well. As the name implies, the picker's emphasis is on curation. Their practiced knack for making the old and banal seem new and interesting positions them at the beginning of the home decor cycle, and their style clairvoyance is what gives the vocation so much of its mystique.

But can a seasoned picker really spot a trend years out? These vendors take us behind the scenes of their processes and share what's on their shopping lists this season.



From his stall at the Aberfoyle Antiques Market, Jed Heinrichs sells vintage accessories that mix farmhouse practicality with industrial flair.



FRENCH CONNECTOR

Jed Heinrichs's handsomely worn pieces add a soulful layer to the modern farmhouse moment

Every Sunday from April to October, dealer Jed Heinrichs can be found at the Aberfoyle Antiques Market near Guelph, Ont. His Square Table Round Bowl stall is lined with vintage educational charts. Ironstone vessels and tinware fill farmhouse cupboards and reclaimed baker's racks.

Heinrichs spends the other six days of the week and all of the off-season in search of vintage pieces that fit his industrial French farmhouse style. "I think sometimes people assume there's a jackpot somewhere, but you constantly have to source and it just accumulates over time," he says. "It's not that there's some huge secret, because it's so spread out across a lot of different avenues." Those options include estate sales, online discoveries, porch pickups and purchasing from other dealers. "It's a ton of driving. You have to go places. Like I always say, 'You're never going to find anything sitting at home,' so I spend hours and hours on the road."

For Frenchware, which is scarce in Ontario, he imports pieces from famous *puces*, or flea markets, in France including Lyon, Saint-Ouen and Vence. Recent travel restrictions have kept Heinrichs closer to home. "It has been kind of enlightening to realize how much you can source locally. But it's resulted in having to pay higher prices," he says. "And then, as a result, you have to charge a bit more."

Flea market trendspotting is a tricky business, but Heinrichs admits he's aware of the effect that his understated juxtapositions of furniture and objects might have. "Vintage and antique wares are a huge source for new wares, especially pottery, textiles and lighting. And hardware. There's entire new product lines that are entirely reproductions." Yet for all their effort, there's something even state-of-the-art factories can't quite emulate. "Patina," he says. "People go crazy. That's a huge buying factor for people and makes things one of a kind."



PATTERN PLAYER

Textile pro Kathy Klassen watches her favourite retro yardage become must-have prints

“We vintage sourcers are the influencers,” says Vintage Van Go’s Kathy Klassen, who has been a reseller of vintage linens, textiles and glassware in Calgary for nearly a decade. While trends today tend to cycle rapidly rather than trickling up or down, a design moment such as oversized floral wallpaper unquestionably emerged from the type of fabrics Klassen and her peers have been unearthing over the past couple of years.

Klassen leans into her mid-century modern taste. Her specialty is bold textiles – think yards of deadstock corduroy in hazard orange – although she also stocks the Hollywood Regency chenilles of the 1950s and hippie boho swatches from the seventies.

Over the past year, she’s seen a substantial increase in business thanks to an Etsy shop she launched just before the pandemic. Prior to that, her stockpile of mod floral bedding, fringed towels and patterned curtains had languished in the spare room of her bungalow.

To replenish her stock, Klassen usually visits a circuit of local thrift stores and receives lots of private buying referrals. She hits as many garage sales as she can and, pre-COVID-19, was a devotee of rural church bazaars. “This pandemic has really put a damper on the picking aspect of it,” she says. “I’m missing the really good small-town church sales where you could load up on great stuff.”

Many mainstream retailers now offer new versions of the retro prints that are Klassen’s bread and butter, but the originals haven’t been tastefully watered down to please the largest number of customers. As Klassen points out, there’s no mistaking the uniquely garish and gloriously madcap colour combinations of the real thing.



For textile hunters, Kathy Klassen’s stacks of fabrics are full of retro prints and quirky colour combinations.



MIX MASTER

Bridget VanWart's eighties-meets-Scandi interiors tease the pastel hues coming into our homes

This season, Bridget VanWart of Halifax-based Instagram decor shop Holy Roller Vintage has her eye on an aesthetic she describes as “a pastel eighties South Beach Miami version of art deco.” Translation: statement pieces such as plastic mirrors, fluted dusty peach ceramic lamps and peacock-style rattan chairs that wouldn't look out of place in a *Three's Company* episode. “I really try to prioritize being at least half-a-step ahead of the curve,” she says.

A bit of contemporary Scandinavian thrown in and some creative styling is how VanWart avoids going what she calls, full *Golden Girls*. “I love coming up with unexpected and modern combinations of pairings – old things with a modern aesthetic,” she says.

When VanWart started selling in 2019, there was a sudden glut of wicker pieces being posted to online marketplaces such as Kijiji. They would often languish there for weeks. “Now it doesn't last for one second,” she says. “I think the material is always out there, with people only passing it over because they didn't know how to style it.”

A micro trend is usually slow to move from flea market popularity to widespread consumer adoption, but lately, VanWart has noticed the cycle speeding up. Take glass Murano mushroom lamps, for example. The petite hand-blown pieces originated in 1970s Italy but popped up as a trend among vintage dealers in 2020. Now, they're being reinterpreted by housewares retailers. “The turnaround was really fast,” she says. “Even Urban Outfitters does one now. They're definitely quick on the draw.”

To source her statement pieces and lighting, VanWart revels in the Atlantic region's seasonal yard sale culture. “It's massive here in Nova Scotia, especially rural ones with groups of people creating supersized yard sale markets. Getting out of the city is key.” ■



Many sellers distinguish their stock by marrying disparate design aesthetics. In Bridget VanWart's case, that's 1980s pastels and a Scandi sense of airiness.





Bricks and bytes

Forget napkin sketches and Pinterest boards. Homeowners are turning to professional design software to visualize their dream spaces

When Candice Chan and Jon Sarafinchin decided to remodel their Edwardian home in Toronto's Corso Italia neighbourhood, Chan taught herself Sketchup. The event producer used the computer program, available as a free version or a paid, professional subscription, to model rooms, try out tiles and play with paint colours. It helped her to develop her contemporary vision for the historic house without excessive real world trial and error. Now, it's a tool she recommends to friends embarking on renovations of their own.

Exploring the possibilities of decor once meant depending on a professional or compiling online inspiration galleries. Today, a bevy of accessible digital tools are available to help homeowners visually communicate their ideas, whether to their architects and interior designers or directly to contractors and tradespeople.

Sketchup is one of the most popular programs, but there are other options with varying functions. For beginners, try Sweet Home 3D, which costs under \$20 and allows you to experience your reno from both a bird's-eye view and a visitor's perspective. Prefer a mobile app? There's Homestyler, which lets you browse other users' designs for inspiration.

"Even if you don't have any sort of skills at all, all of these programs do a fantastic job of skipping past the difficult things," says Tim Fischer, whose company Lifewire rates the best design software. Most offer object libraries that allow you to drag and drop furniture and fixtures around your space.

For big projects, Fischer recommends ensuring the software features both a roof wizard tool to automate one of the most complicated parts of home design and a cost estimator to help you budget. Welcome to the new DIY: digitizing it yourself.

— ADRIENNE MATEI

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