

CANADIAN

HOUSE & HOME

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Behind the scenes
with Jessalyn Gilsig of Glee

APRIL 2010

Spring Decorating

A MODERN
FARMHOUSE
BY LYNDA REEVES

H&H Design
Contest:
Readers show
their style

7 GREAT
LAUNDRY
ROOMS

Homemade Gourmet Pizza

The great room adjoining the kitchen is a serene, sun-filled space with small dormer windows above the beams. **Oak flooring** (throughout), Moncer; **sofa, chairs**, Montauk; **pendant light, console tables, coffee table**, BoBo Intriguing Objects; **TV, Sharp; lamps**, Cocoon Furnishings; **bowl** (on coffee table), HomeSense; **runner, bowl** (on console), Elte; **throw**, West Elm; **artwork** by Doran, Art Interiors; **books**, 18 Karat; **fireplace surround**, Little's Carving & Design; **Napoleon fireplace inserts**, Napoleon Home Comfort; **doors**, Andersen; **door hardware**, Barces; **ceramics** (on console), Made; **branch**, Angus & Company.

OPPOSITE, TOP: The house's exterior has a distinct Belgian farmhouse vibe. **Landscape design**, Mark Hartley Landscape Architects; **landscaping**, Coivic Contracting; **roof**, Mikeof Residential and Historical Roofing; **plants**, Willowbrook Nurseries; **trees**, Drysdale's Tree Farms; **door**, Statements; **door knocker**, Cornerstone Home Interiors; **windows**, Andersen.

BOTTOM: The design team of (left to right) Trish Johnston, Lynda Reeves, Erin Feasby and Sheri Graham Delagran at the kitchen work table.



HOW DOES A HOSPITAL LOTTERY SELL OUT DURING A SLUGGISH ECONOMY? BY OFFERING A GRAND PRIZE HOME FROM THE H&H DESIGN TEAM.

Design: LYNDA REEVES, ERIN FEASBY, SHERI GRAHAM DELAGRAN and TRISH JOHNSTON
Architectural design: RAY MURAKAMI
Text by: KELVIN BROWNE
Photography by: MICHAEL GRAYDON

Show Stopper

Unlike most overdecorated showhomes, I found this one in Oakville, Ont. — the grand prize of the 2009 Princess Margaret Welcome Home Sweepstakes — to be decidedly compelling. Instead of the predictably overstuffed fancy rooms, this house was an unconventional take on comfort. I wasn't surprised to hear that its modern farmhouse look had been controversial, and that most of the 50,000 people who toured the \$3.5 million house last fall walked out with a strong opinion. That's a good thing: Unlike other showhouses, people cared about this one. So much so that they opened their wallets in the midst of a recession and bought every last ticket for a chance to win. Love it or hate it, the house helped raise over \$6 million for cancer research.

Indeed, the minute I saw it, I realized it was a trendsetter. And sure enough, the sophisticated farmhouse look has caught on with leading retailers and designers. "I was inspired by farmhouses in France and Belgium," explains the home's principal designer, Lynda Reeves. "They're fascinating because they have the warmth associated with our farmhouses but with a sparer, architectural discipline. Less rustic. No visual clutter." It's a contemporary approach without being too minimal, a style that is appealing to our modern tastes.

"Lynda had a vision," says residential designer Ray Murakami, who designed the building and detailed the exterior. "That clarity helped us get the house done on time, from concept in December 2008 to completion of construction in June 2009," CONTINUED ON PAGE 142





SEE HOUSEANDHOME.COM

Get decorating tips from Lynda's video tours of the showhouse. Click **DESIGN**.



SEE SOURCE GUIDE

OPPOSITE: Mirrored walls and an elaborate crystal chandelier add glamour to the dining room's starkly simple period-style furniture. **Table, chairs, JackKryn France; chandelier, Elte; mirrored wall, Adanac Glass; drape fabric, Kravet; sewing, We Do Draperies; drape hardware, Restoration Hardware; decanter, silver pitcher, 507 Antiques; plates, HorseFeathersHome; white pitchers, Hollace Cluny; specialty wall finish (throughout house), Behr.**

LEFT: The library features warm tan walls, custom oiled-oak bookcases and fanciful decorative lighting. **Table, Design Workshop; lamp, Trianon; drapes, West Elm; sewing, We Do Draperies; chandelier, Union Lighting; built-ins, Rettie Restoration; drape hardware, Restoration Hardware; antique books, Queen West Antique Centre; chair, JackKryn France.**

BOTTOM LEFT: Every house needs a great laundry-mudroom. This one has an H&H signature dog shower as well as a

convenient hanging rack above. The sleek, stackable washer and dryer in steel grey are from Samsung. **Cabinets, Michael Black; tiles, Saltillo Tiles; sink, faucets, dog bath, Kohler; iron rod, brackets, Dynamic Iron; pendant light, Union Lighting; hardware, Restoration Hardware; House & Home canisters, towels, hangers, The Bay.**

BELOW: The front hall is designed for entertaining with a welcoming fireplace and the drama of a huge window wall at one end. **Tile, Stone Tile; sconces, Elte; door hardware, Barces; floor lantern, Elizabeth Interiors; candle (in lantern), Pottery Barn; candlesticks, Cynthia Findlay Antiques; taper candles, HorseFeathersHome; black bowl, Dynamic Iron; chairs, Camilla House Imports; ram, Post + Beam Reclamation; mirror, BoBo Intriguing Objects; fireplace surround, Little's Carvings & Design; Heatilator fireplace insert, Rasmussen log set, MacKenzie Distributing.**



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SMART HOME

COMMAND CENTRE

The showhouse was equipped with a TriVista Control4 system (operable by various remotes, touchscreens and iPods throughout the house, or via the Internet) that provides:

- Centralized multi-room music
- One-Touch home theatre
- Programmable Smart thermostat
- Remote-access safety and security options
- Smart lighting

Lynda's favourite room is the farm-style kitchen. The open dining/work table keeps the feeling of this room light and airy. The oiled-oak piece has a practical honed CaesarStone top. A custom breakfront (right) holds House & Home whiteware and serving dishes; a custom plate rack by the sink stores everyday dishes; and the Sub-Zero fridge (left) tucks neatly into a wall of cupboards. The mauve and charcoal vintage runner was a lucky find at Elte.

counter, Ciot; **countertop fabrication**, Marble and Marble; **Viking and Sub-Zero appliances**, Appliance Canada; **cabinets**, Michael Black; **wall cabinet, dish cupboards, island base**, Rettie Restoration; **House & Home dishes**, The Bay; **pot rack**, Williams-Sonoma; **pendant lights**, Elte; **sink, range backsplash**, Perfect Stainless; **hardware**, Restoration Hardware; **baskets**, Flamant; **faucet**, Kohler; **stools**, plants, **candle, pottery**, Pottery Barn; **floor lantern**, Elizabeth Interiors; **soap**, L'Occitane.



Dressed in statement drapes in a Nina Campbell fabric, the principal bathroom features french doors that open onto a small balcony.

Chandelier, chair, Elte; tub, filler, Ginger's; drape fabric, Primavera; sewing, We Do Draperies; bath products, L'Occitane; tile, Stone Tile; stool, HorseFeathersHome.



The vanity was one of many custom built-ins by master carpenter Simon Rettie. **Tile, Stone Tile; limestone counter, Tempo Marble & Granite; vanity, Rettie Restoration; sconces, Elte; orchid, hardware, Restoration Hardware; sinks, Kohler; faucets, Ginger's; mirrors, Camilla House Imports; House & Home towels, The Bay; black accessories, 18 Karat.**



The iron four-poster bed is outfitted in crisp white House & Home Boutique Hotel bedding from The Bay. For a hit of bold colour, Lynda threw a painted canvas runner by Madeline Weinrib from Y&Co across the foot of the bed.

Bed, Dynamic Iron; mattress, Magniflex; table, Pottery Barn; art, lamps, Elte; vase, Made; carafe, clock, Cynthia Findlay Antiques; mantel (not shown), Finesse Fireplaces, through A Stone's Throw.



A pair of decorative chairs from Anthropologie on a graphic area rug by Madeline Weinrib make a bold sitting area in the upstairs hall. **Rug, Y&Co; lamp, Cocoon Furnishings; drapes, inVU Drapery; drape hardware, Restoration Hardware; mirror, sideboard, Camilla House Imports; vases, Made.**



ABOVE: The cosy guest room was designed around House & Home Rustico bedding in soft tan, rust and cream. **Bed, Cornerstone Home Interiors; mattress, Magniflex; chandelier, Ethan Allen; drape fabric, Designer Fabrics; sewing, We Do Draperies; dresser, Elte; lamp, Cocoon; photo by John Queenan; frame, Ikea; Madeline Weinrib rug, Y&Co; bowl, 18 Karat.** TOP RIGHT: The exterior back of the house is landscaped in a classic French style. Pea gravel, stone and grass were mixed to form a charming courtyard feel. The covered porch is just off the living room. **Chairs, inVU Drapery; pillows, Restoration Hardware; table, Pottery Barn; dining table, benches, Crate &**



Barrel; teak chairs, umbrella, Fresh Home & Garden; lantern, HomeSense; rewiring, Residential Lighting; coach lights, Universal Lamp; large planters, BoBo Intriguing Objects; plant pot, Ikea. RIGHT: The servery just off the dining room keeps wine and barware close at hand. **Marvel wine fridge, Aga Heartland Appliances; wall colour, Behr Premium Plus Texture paint (1001); baseboard paint, Peaches 'N' Cream (P5069-14), ceiling paint, Ceiling White, Para Paints.** BELOW: The lower level was a hit with visitors to the house. Courtesy of Ikea and La-Z-Boy, it featured an entertainment bar with a Marvel beer dispenser and fridge drawers, a huge Sharp TV and a guest suite (bottom right).

Leather wing chairs (not shown), La-Z-Boy Gallery; carpet, Elte; sink, faucet, cabinets, hardware, counters, installation, frames, sofa, chairs, lamp, console tables, guest bed, bedding, closets, lamps, Ikea; throw pillows, Pottery Barn; Marvel beer dispenser, refrigerated drawers, Aga Heartland; TV (not shown), Sharp; fitness equipment (not shown), Fitness Depot; photographs by John Queenan; coffee table, BoBo Intriguing Objects; bowls, 18 Karat; accessories, HomeSense; guest room wallpaper, Blue Mountain Wallcoverings; bowl, Shane Norrie; roman blind fabric, Designer Fabrics; sewing, We Do Draperies.



The most formal room in the house is this sitting room, where a simple tufted ottoman in Ralph Lauren paisley painted linen was the inspiration for the mustard-charcoal scheme. **Bench**, HorseFeathersHome; **sofas**, bench reupholstery, Mieda Design; **Beacon Hill sofa fabric**, Robert Allen; **Manuel Canovas yellow pillow**, Primavera; **Kelly Wearstler for Groundworks blue pillow**, Ralph

Lauren ottoman fabric, drape fabric, Kravet; **mirror**, BoBo Intriguing Objects; **ottoman, Elte**; **rug**, West Elm; **basket, candleholders**, Pottery Barn; **black vases**, 18 Karat; **drape hardware**, Restoration Hardware; **sewing**, We Do Draperies; **andirons**, Southworks Antiques; **fireplace surround**, Finesse Fireplaces, through A Stone's Throw; **Heatilator fireplace insert**, Rasmussen; **log set**, MacKenzie Distributing.



Prints should be simple and graphic in two colours, like this painted canvas dhurrie runner from John Robshaw. **Pepper dhurrie**. Cotton. 2½' x 8'. \$950. At Y&Co.

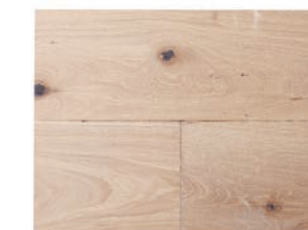


Easy-care quartz is a modern choice for counters. Be sure and ask for a matte finish. **CaesarStone**. In 2020. From approx. \$80/sq.ft. At Ciot.

White oak floors need a dramatic contrasting colour. We chose Iron Mountain (2134-30) from Benjamin Moore for custom kitchen cabinets. From \$45/gal. At retailers across Canada.



Find small ways to make a big statement. **Custom ottoman**, Elte; **upholstery fabric**, Ralph Lauren's **Dovima Linen Paisley (LFY40272F)** in Onyx, \$329/yd., through Kravet.



Bare oak floors look soft and natural underfoot. **DiLegno Euro Oak flooring** in Linen. \$18/sq.ft. Through Moncer.



Look for light fixtures made from reclaimed wood, oiled and unstained. **Wine Barrel chandelier** by BoBo Intriguing Objects. Reclaimed French oak. 55" h. x 41" diam. \$4,500. At L'Atelier.



Linen and cotton are the classic choices for decorative fabrics. These ones feature traditional prints, but in a modern palette of mustard and off-black. **Lee Jofa's Sand Strié in Charcoal** (left), linen, \$252/yd., through Kravet; **Manuel Canovas's Java (4600-01)** in Curry, linen, \$256/yd., through Primavera.



Rugs, like this antique, handmade kilim runner, add character and pattern to a calm, neutral scheme. **Mamina kilim**. Wool. 4' x 13'. \$475. At Elte.

GET THE LOOK OF A MODERN FARMHOUSE.



This sofa from Montauk was the perfect choice. It's sleek and minimal in natural buff linen, but with a nod to traditional wingback style. **Wingback sofa**. Maple frame; C.O.M. 35" h. x 102" w. x 42" d. From \$5,200. At Montauk.



Choose vintage-style cabinets that carry the look of rustic farmhouse furniture. This one is new, but it's a great imitator. **2 door Bakery cabinet** by Bobo Intriguing Objects. Pine. 96" h. x 48" w. x 17" d. \$9,900. At L'Atelier.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

This house would not have been possible without the generosity of so many people. You'll find a complete listing in our Source Guide on page 144. A Stone's Throw, Adanac Glass, Aga Heartland Appliances, Andersen, Anthropologie, Appliance Canada, Arcadia Antiques, Art Interiors, Barcres, The Bay, Michael Black, Behr, Blue Mountain Wallcoverings, BoBo Intriguing Objects, Brenlo, California Closets, Camilla House Imports, Ciot, Cornerstone Home Interiors, Cocoon Furnishings, Coivic Contracting, Crate & Barrel, DeBoer's, Design Workshop, Designer Fabrics, The Door

Store, Drysdale's Tree Farms, Dynamic Iron, 18 Karat, Elizabeth Interiors, Elte, Finesse Fireplaces, Fitness Depot, Flik & Company, Fresh Home & Garden, Ginger's Bath, Heatilator, HomeSense, HorseFeathersHome, Ikea, inVU Drapery, JackKryn France, Kohler, Kravet Canada, LA Design, La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries, Little's Carving & Design, L'Occitane, MacKenzie Distributing, Magniflex, Marble and Marble, Mark Hartley Landscape Architects, Mieda Design, Mikeof Residential and Historical Roofing, Moncer, Montauk, Murakami Residential Design and Reconstruction, Napoleon

Home Comfort, Para Paints, PCM Project & Construction Management, Perfect Stainless, Phil'z, Post + Beam Reclamation, Pottery Barn, Primavera, Queen West Antique Centre, John Queenan, Rasmussen, Residential Lighting, Restoration Hardware, Rettie Restoration, Saltlilo Imports, Samsung, Sharon O'Dowd Antiques, Sharp, Soft Options Upholstery, Statements, Stone Forest, Stone Tile, Sub-Zero, Tempo Marble, Tessera, Trianon, TriVista Smart Homes, Union Lighting, Universal Lamp, Viking, We Do Draperies, West Elm, Williams-Sonoma, Willowbrook Nurseries, Y&Co.

Produced by Kathryn Bala/Photography by Felix Wedgwood (pillows, kilim, tile, dhurrie runner)

SHOW STOPPER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 97

less than half the time it usually takes to build a custom house.” PCM Projection & Construction Management handled the construction, and Mark Hartley designed the gardens, which were installed by Coivic Contracting.

What are the elements that create this sophisticated farmhouse style? On the exterior, the key is its storey-and-a-half concept; it’s a farmhouse with dormer windows, which makes the home’s 3,800 square feet appear quite modest from the outside. The exterior details make a difference as well: the stone base, stucco walls that look lime-washed, wood shutters and exposed wood lintels above the windows all convey a rustic tone.

Inside, the simplicity continues but there’s a grown-up, European understanding of how to live. For instance, the front hall is large and includes a welcoming fireplace (one of five throughout the home). Wasted space? No, it’s gracious, unpretentious, and the perfect gathering place during large parties. The whole of the house isn’t immediately unveiled to visitors. By contrast, the living room and neighbouring library are intimate for day-to-day living. “We have large open spaces on the ground floor, with lots of french doors for natural light,” explains Lynda. “On the second floor, it’s cosy, like a country inn, with sloping ceilings and dormers.” There are three bedrooms upstairs, including a principal bedroom with a fireplace, dressing room and five-piece ensuite bath.

The formality of the H-shape floor plan, with rooms arranged off the large main hall, is countered by a choice of finishes that is anything but fussy. The grand entry is made friendly with a limestone floor with a patina that suggests it’s been there for decades. The main rooms are softened with oiled, white oak floors. Walls are finished with an off-the-shelf specialty paint that gives the look of whitewashed plaster. The finish matches the exterior and has the lime-washed charm of French farmhouses. Exposed wood beams, oiled-oak doors, simple bathroom vanities and

hand-carved limestone mantels continue this pared-down approach with strong lines and no ornamentation.

The unfitted kitchen makes the most overt reference to country, with its open storage for plates and pots, and shelving baskets imported from Belgium. Devoid of the elaborate range hoods and glossy marble that typically decorate — and hide — the intrinsic quality of such a well-proportioned space, the result is country relaxed, not château grand.

“The House & Home team that worked on the project — Sheri Graham Delagran, Trish Johnston and Erin Feasby — all shared the vision and developed a furniture and colour vocabulary we used throughout the house,” explains Lynda. The upholstered furniture is large in scale, but there isn’t too much of it, so rooms don’t feel cluttered. Drapes hang neatly from iron rods, with no complicated swags. Calm, solid colours and simple prints predominate, and there’s lots of linen, a fabric synonymous with casual but elegant living. The understated look continues in the use of matte-black iron, zinc and honed countertops.

The restrained background is punctuated by antiques and art. “There are many unique pieces, such as the wine-barrel chandelier in the great room, and the whimsical tables on either side of the fireplace,” says Lynda. There are surprises that suggest the decorating confidence of an aristocrat living in a farmhouse: a cut-crystal chandelier in the dining room is paired with its antithesis, a humble trestle table; the romantic library has a zinc-topped desk and a dramatic mantel mirror; and the living room’s vibrant paisley ottoman pleasantly shocks the muted tones of the sofas and curtains.

Then there’s a surprise of a different kind, a basement that was designed to be more urban. With a media room, guest suite, workout room with steam shower, and a generous sectional, the basement appealed to anyone who found the rest of the home too rustic.

The house was a hub of activity during the months it was open to visitors. Teams of media, volunteers, work crews and staff spent long hours in its rooms. For Lynda, that was a great chance to see

the house in action. “It was a wonderful house to spend time in,” she explains. “We all loved being in those rooms, and we miss it. It was designed to be a happy house, filled with wit, sunlight and warmth. I hope the new owners are thrilled.”

Of course, it helps to know that one house can do so much good. **H&H**

OUTDOOR LIVING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 74

concrete countertops that can be hosed down, and a skylight that provides enough light for plants to get a jump on the season, while still remaining comfortable during blazing mid-summer days.

“We start a lot of the vegetables from seed, first in the basement, and then harden them off in the potting shed around February,” explains the owner about the process of growing everything from tomatoes, carrots and beans to beets, blueberries and herbs. In the summer and fall, they plan meals around the harvest, incorporating into the menu whatever’s ripe and ready for picking — with the exception of the blueberries. Those the family picks and eats as they ripen — just one more attraction designed to draw them out into their delightful garden. **H&H**



A birdbath-turned-planter (holding pale pink *Origanum* Barbara Tingey) is a pretty focal point in the vegetable garden.

Photography by Janis Nicolay