















feature

Mixed metals, sparkle and glamour. That was the holiday theme dreamed up by Patricia Zwolak, owner of Erin Mills Paint & Décor Centre. Patricia, along with team members Carolyn Swinden and Jennifer Rose Merlocco, transformed the home of Jim and Kelley into a glamorous holiday space. It was the fan-favourite home on last year's Mississauga Holiday House Tour, organized by Deborah Lalande of Bleu Venue Events.





The home's transitional style made it easy to incorporate the theme, the holiday décor blending effortlessly into the already lovely aesthetic. The team blended warm and cool metals with hints of sparkle and glamour for an overall effect that they like to call 'Twas The House That Sparkled. The sophisticated palette incorporated fresh, cool white with layers of copper, champagne and metallic finishes. The result was casual and elegant, with an aura of holiday magic and wintery wonder.

The entryway was made welcoming with holiday greenery. Oversize ornaments hanging in the portico added a festive touch. Inside, the foyer was transformed into a winter wonderland. Jennifer created greenery to adorn the circular staircase with boughs, twigs and sparkling bows. The natural elements helped bring a little of the outside in.

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The home's black and white tiles and crisp white wainscotting give the hallway timeless appeal. A large silver vase with twigs on the circular hall table provided a dramatic focal point. Gold and silver branches, pine cones and ornaments were thoughtfully arranged to add texture and dimension, and nutcrackers and a vintage Santa completed the look.

To the right, a formal living room was made festive for the season. A spectacular tree adorned in white provided a striking, opulent focal point. Laden with swags of greenery, the mantel glowed with silver trees and reindeer. The sheen of the metallic finishes sparkled in the tree light, and the effect was magical. Vessels filled with ornaments, candles and stylish throw pillows completed the space. The room was made lovely but still liveable, a great space to entertain and sip cocktails.

The dining room brimmed with warmth and personality. An array of accessories worked effortlessly in this dining room, picking up the metallic hues in the lighting and the organic elements in the artwork from Crescent Hill Gallery. Large votive holders threw light to create a sparkling backdrop down the centre of the dining table. Whimsical reindeer napkins atop gilded place settings by Crate & Barrel completed the look. Continued on page 78

The dining room table is adorned for an enchanting holiday evening. Candles flicker and cast a warm honey-toned glow to the silvers and golds.











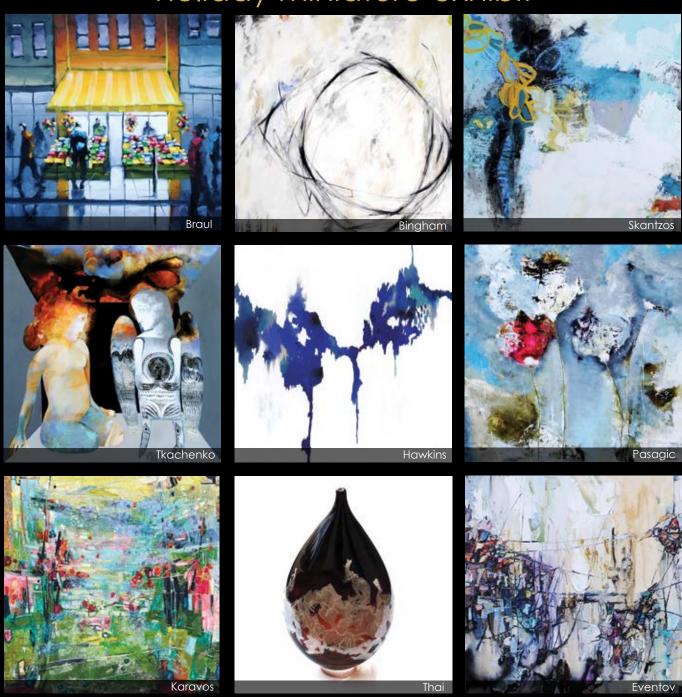
O Christmas tree. In the family room, a more traditional take on holiday trimmings includes Father Time, cosy throws, rustic sleds, glimmering reindeer and stockings hung in the hopes that St. Nick might pay a visit.

Though each room conveyed its own unique sense of style, the overall look and feel of the theme blended seamlessly. The team tackled the styling room by room, with thought to how the family lived and used their space. "In the family room, we used a bigger tree, because they spend most of their time there," says Paticia. A striking window treatment incorporated delicate hanging ornaments. Blankets and pillows added warmth.

White fur stockings, a refreshing take on tradition, echo the white elements throughout. The built-in cabinetry brimmed with whimsical additions, from snow globes and pine cones to oversize ornaments and reindeer. "The family room had a more casual feel," says Patricia. "It was cosy and relaxed but still upscale. It was warm and inviting and said 'come in and stay awhile.' Even the scent we had burning created that cosy feeling of staying and having a hot chocolate."

Both beautiful and practical, an array of sweets arranged in a variety of vessels were artfully placed on the island in the kitchen. The design incorporated rustic touches throughout, from the pine cones in the exterior trees to the birch bark candle holders on the dining table and the boughs on the staircase. Continued on page 80

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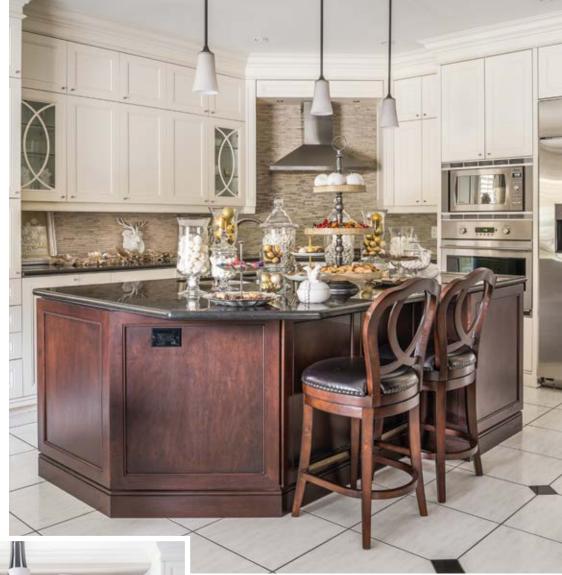




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RIGHT: A great way to add a touch of festive flair to the kitchen is with a candy bar! Here, the designers kept to a white theme for a monochromatic look. **BELOW:** Simple trees in varying sizes add a touch of cheer to the kitchen dinette.

"We wanted the overall look to be easy to do," Patricia says. "It didn't look like a staged home. It was very comfortable, even though there was a lot of glitter involved. Anyone could walk into any room for holiday inspiration."

Jim and Kelley say they couldn't have imagined the breathtaking transformation by Patricia and her team. "Our home was so inviting and elegant for entertaining, and yet comfortably festive for everyday living," says Kelley. "We spent lots of time in each gorgeous room with family and friends, making our holidays feel extra special."

Known for quality paint, the team at Erin Mills Paint & Décor Centre offers much more to clients. A full service decorating and design company, they also provide colour consultations, home staging, and custom furniture and window treatments. Need a redesign but don't know where to start? Want to maximize space or hang art? Simply want to glam it up for the holidays? Patricia and her team can help you make a statement.

It's easy to see why the home earned the title of fan favourite. There was something for everyone, no matter what their style. "We didn't want it to feel unrealistic," says Patricia. "You don't have to go to highend stores, but you can still get a high-end look."

A classic blend of old and new, Jim and Kelley's home evokes the spirit of the holidays. It's a look that can be enjoyed for years to come. OH





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