

The formal living room to the right of the foyer sets the glamorous tone that is Jeanne's signature style. The mirror is from The Lighting Boutique.

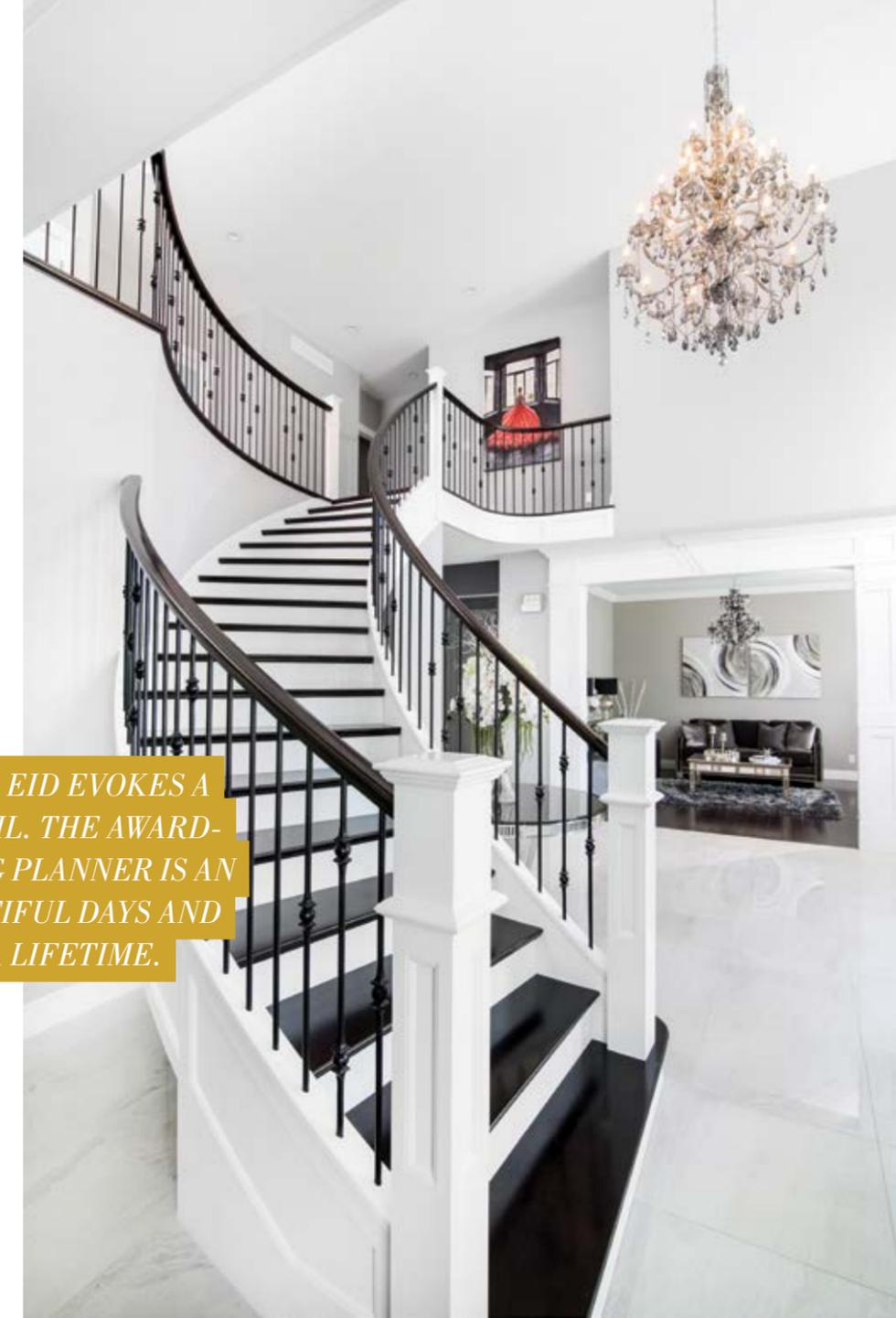


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**NEXT LEVEL**



*EVERYTHING ABOUT JEANNE EID EVOKES A LOVING ATTENTION TO DETAIL. THE AWARD-WINNING WINDSOR WEDDING PLANNER IS AN EXPERT AT CRAFTING BEAUTIFUL DAYS AND MEMORIES THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME.*

**IT COMES, THEREFORE, AS NO** surprise that when Jeanne and her husband, Victor, decided to build their new 5,000 sq. ft. home in LaSalle, Jeanne was ready to take on the challenge of designing it herself. A lifestyle blogger as well as a wedding planner, Jeanne was able to bring some serious design chops to the project. And, while the number of decisions involved in creating a home of this size and magnitude might overwhelm some, for Jeanne it was just another day at the office. Her sense of style and drama began in childhood when she was a self-confessed “girly girl” growing up in Lebanon. She recalls how everyone in her town would know about a wedding. From the earliest age she would sneak into the back of the church so she could watch the bride walk down the aisle. After meeting her husband (who is from Leamington) through family friends, Jeanne had two weddings of her own – one in Lebanon and one in Canada after the couple relocated to Windsor to begin their new life. *Continued on page 40*



**TOP LEFT:** Jeanne readies her home for company. **ABOVE:** The sweeping staircase evokes visions of girls in tulle and sequins making a grand entrance. **LEFT:** The homeowners acted as their own contractors. The exterior stonework was sourced through Santerra Stonecraft, while the brickwork is from Patene Building Supplies. Landscaping is by Lakeshore Landscaping.



Jeanne and Victor started out raising three of their four children in an Italianate house on 43 acres. “We loved the neighbourhood and the schools,” she says, “and we didn’t want to move out of the area. It was a boys’ paradise living on those 43 acres. We had ATVs, the kids had freedom, it was a perfect location – but when we were expecting our fourth child, the house just became too small. We thought at first that we would renovate but the more we looked into it, the more we realized we would be better selling the property and building exactly what we wanted from the ground up.” Because staying in the area was of paramount importance, they purchased a piece of land not far from their original home and, after interviewing a number of builders, decided to act as their own contractor. The process went down without a hitch. “My husband and I didn’t have one disagreement except over the size of the foyer,” she laughs. “The foyer was a must. It’s a Lebanese tradition to take half an hour to say goodbye. And I love to gather family and friends in my home all the time. I invite my clients as well and a lot of socializing goes on in the foyer. There was going to be no compromising on the foyer!”

**TOP LEFT:** Three views of the kitchen show the attention to detail. **ABOVE:** The butler’s pantry. **LEFT:** “All my colours were based on the smoky colour of my chandeliers,” says Jeanne, “I’m not normally a crystal person but when I saw these chandeliers in The Lighting Boutique, I changed my mind.”



The foyer is indeed stunning. The winding staircase that sweeps elegantly up to the second storey is like an illustration from a fairy tale or a 1930s movie starring Fred Astaire. “I saw a Barbie colouring book with a staircase that looked like this,” Jeanne says with a laugh. “And I knew it was exactly what I wanted.”

The smoky crystal chandelier (**The Lighting Boutique and Appliance Shoppe**) also evokes old Hollywood glamour. It was a gift from Jeanne’s parents and was the inspiration for Jeanne’s colour palette. The soaring ceilings, white and grey colours and open concept are exactly what Jeanne wanted. “I love open concept,” she says as she leads the way into her state-of-the-art kitchen. “I feel I can breathe now.”

The massive black, charcoal and white island, which can seat eight, is perfect for a family that routinely gathers together to share stories of their busy day. Solid black countertops, white cabinets (**Mylen**) and a black, charcoal and cream backsplash provide stylish design support to the majestic swath of beautifully veined granite on the island.

*Continued on page 42*

**LEFT:** The family room is a blend of sophisticated neutrals. The artwork is from Phoenix Home Furnishings. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Jeanne had her original dining room chairs reupholstered (Castle interiors). The tabletop accessories are from Art Expressions. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** The grey-and-white colour palette is the epitome of modern elegance.



feature



Jeanne is a great believer in formal dining and her dining room, with its elegant chandelier, harvest table, upholstered dining chairs (**Essex Home Furnishings**) and sophisticated colour scheme, invites guests to linger over good food and good conversation.

Much of the family's life, however, takes place in the family room that is adjacent to the kitchen. Its large windows (**Martindale Windows & Doors Inc.**) flood the space with light. The fireplace (**Forest Glade Fireplaces**) with its classic surround and mantel (**Dekko**) anchor the room and give it an elegant focus. The furnishings are at once comfortable and stylish. The greige, brushed velvet sofas (**Essex Home Furnishings**) with silver nail-head details provide both comfort and sophistication.

Off the foyer is a formal living room, which doubles as a reception area. Jeanne tells how, after moving in in November, she was determined to have the room furnished in time for Christmas. She found what she was looking for at **Coulter's**, bought the floor model, had the delivery truck follow her home and voila! When her husband came home later that weekend from a hockey tournament he was presented with a fait accompli. *Continued on page 44*



The bedrooms are understated and relaxing. Hardwood flooring and tile throughout the home are from Centura Windsor.  
**TOP LEFT:** Jeanne's office.  
**LEFT:** An oversize shower – with glass from BayView Glass & Mirror Ltd.



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Upstairs, the master bedroom is a restful and elegant retreat. The tufted velvet headboard, the thoughtfully chosen mirrored side tables (**Tepperman's**) and the softly glowing chandelier, create the ambience of a boutique hotel. But it is the walk-in closet that is an utter delight. Close your eyes and imagine a beautifully-appointed European boutique. Then, open them and feast on the artfully arranged shoes, purses and accessories of a woman who knows the true meaning of feminine beauty.

The final touch to this spectacular home is the master en suite. With its oversize shower (**BayView Glass & Mirror Ltd.**), free-standing soaker tub and basketweave tile detail, Jeanne has created a spa-like place to end a frenetic day.

The couple more than rose to the challenge of creating, building and designing a magnificent home. With her discerning eye and commitment to creating beauty in everything she does, Jeanne has sprinkled her magic dust on each and every lovely corner. **OH**

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