

house of dreams

BY KRISTIN FITZGERALD-ZITA // PHOTOGRAPHY BY JASON HARTOG

Nestled next to the magnificent Niagara Escarpment, Burlington's newest residential community of Alton Village is a beautiful neighbourhood with no shortage of curb appeal.

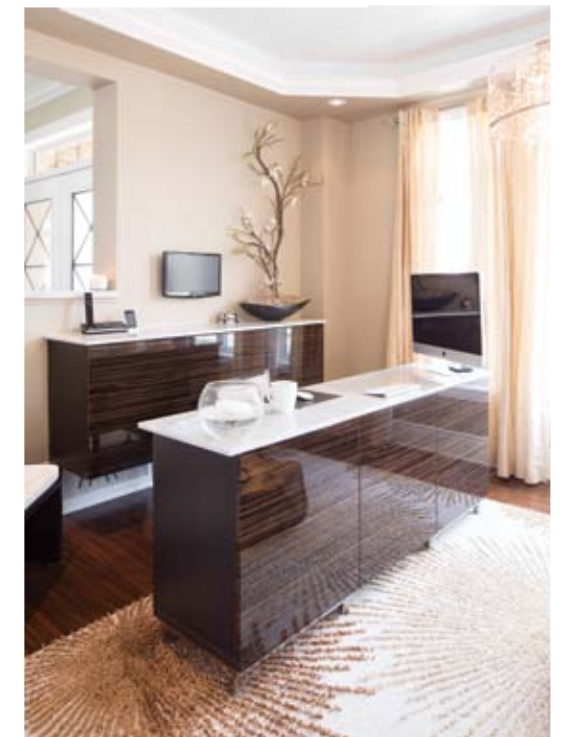
Designed with a focus on good urban planning and stunning streetscapes, Alton Village is a place where dreams can easily come true. Deep in the heart of the community on a lovely, quiet street is a house made of style, drama, warmth and, just maybe, a little bit of stardust.

Homeowners Michael and Raquel spent six months turning their 4,400 sq. ft. home into a one-of-a-kind wonderland, blending contemporary and traditional design to create a perfectly balanced fusion of style and functionality. The home was crafted by one of the leading homebuilders in the area, **Fernbrook Homes**. Michael and Raquel's companies **Meticulous.ca** and **CostaRei Designs** customized the interior and added personal elements to make the remarkable home even better.

From the moment you step off the stately wraparound porch and through the red-trimmed frosted glass doors, you're treated to a little bit of magic that sets the tone for the rest of the house. A wall of diagonally set mirror tiles plays with the light streaming in from two large front windows, reflecting back tantalizing hints of the impeccably appointed office and the cosy family room it faces.

The family room, Raquel's favourite spot in the house, boasts a custom-designed dove-grey couch made specifically to fit the space. Ten people can comfortably snuggle in to watch movies on the 100-inch automatic projection screen with built-in 7.1 surround sound that magically drops from behind a valance. Elegant cream and beige damask wallpaper on the room's feature wall is a bold but chic addition to the otherwise contemporary space that both softens and warms the room.

Dark chocolate, crosscut bamboo flooring provides a luxuriously rich path that runs throughout the house, pulling you across the foyer from the family room and into the eclectic office space. There, a decorative polished tree stump sits below a crystal-bedecked light fixture that drops from the centre of a dramatic coffered ceiling. The neutral walls and pale gold curtain panels provide the perfect backdrop for the drama created by the marble-topped dark lacquered desk and credenza. The homeowners designed both pieces. Metal and glistening chrome accents complete the contemporary workspace. *Continued on page 38*



OPPOSITE: The family room is rich with a myriad of soothing grey tones and textures. An oversized sectional provides plenty of space for the family to cosy in for movie night. **TOP:** Grey and cream wallpaper in the family room adds a dramatic focal point. **LEFT:** A one-of-a-kind tree stump table and curved leather chairs create an intimate space in the office to conduct both business and pleasure. **ABOVE:** The dark lacquered desk and credenza in the office contrast beautifully with an interesting area rug.



From the office, the open concept layout of the main floor allows you to see into Michael's favourite space. The kitchen is a modern masterpiece with sleek, creamy white floor-to-ceiling cupboards by **IKEA**. A long island, topped in honed white Carrera marble, features both a standard and prep sink as well as 10 soft-close pot drawers.

Like the family room, the kitchen is softened by the delicately textured wallpaper in a delicious shade of milk chocolate that warms the room and whets the appetite. A chrome and glass table expands to seat 20 guests. A gas fireplace feature from BioFlame is mounted on a dramatic cream stone wall. *Continued on page 40*



A fireplace mounted on a dramatic stone feature wall warms the dining space. The glass table expands to seat 20 guests. The marble island is the perfect place for the family to gather. A stunning fall floral arrangement from Brant Florist helps set a beautiful table.



Signature red lips.
Signature views
SO UNIQUE, YET
UNDENIABLY YOU.

**Budget
Blinds**

a style for every point of view®

Rollers, Wood & Faux Wood, Draperies, Cellulars, Solar Shades, Shutters, Romans, Sliding Panels, Woven Woods, Faux Iron, Motorization

*FREE In-home Consultation**

Professional Measuring and Installation

#1 In Custom Window Fashions

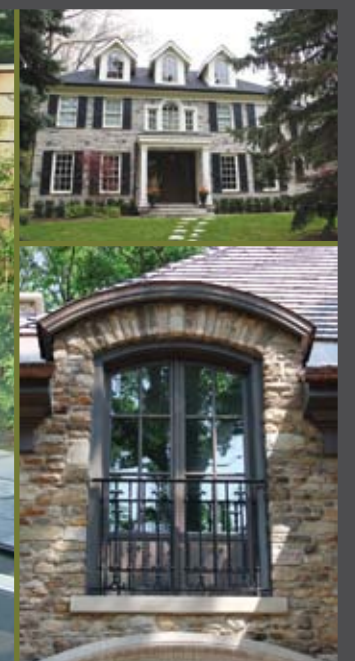
Exclusive No Questions Asked Warranty

Customer Satisfaction Guaranteed

30% off on Select Signature Series Window Treatments

Burlington
905-484-3372
Oakville
905-825-9438

Allow us to bring
your dream to life.



Whether you are renovating an existing home or planning to build a Masterpiece, Tallinn Windows & Doors will provide you with a choice of uncompromised products, innovative solutions and professional experience.

www.tallinnwindowsdoors.ca 416.236.4414



TALLINN
WINDOWS & DOORS INC.



TOP LEFT: A variegated natural stone wall is an eye-catching focal point in the master bathroom. **ABOVE:** The lower level family room includes areas to relax, craft and play. **ABOVE RIGHT:** White trim beautifully contrasts the bold brown geometric wallpaper in the master bedroom. **RIGHT:** Every inch of space is used, including the temperature-controlled wine cellar located in the headspace below the home's wraparound porch.



While the kitchen is a functional room designed to the hilt, the real reason Michael favours this space is because it leads directly into the home's two-car garage that doubles as a cigar lounge. The ultimate man cave, the garage is triple heated and features a 300 CFM ventilation system, two cosy leather club chairs, a wall mounted LCD TV, and an espresso bar. There is even room to spare for a car and a few motorbikes. The basement – where crafts are made, games are played, and homework is done – is similarly well appointed. Not just a play space for kids (although there is a sweet little hideaway beneath the stairs meant just for wee people), the basement boasts a wine cellar with enough space for 600 bottles, a tanning bed, and a spa series sauna with built-in sound system. A gorgeously designed nanny's quarters, complete with kitchenette, private bathroom, walk-in closet and computer nook, can also double as a luxurious guest suite.

Upstairs, four stunning bedrooms have been meticulously crafted to become not just rooms for sleeping, but retreats that soothe and restore both body and soul. The master en suite, with a magnificent rock wall in pale shades of mottled ochre, two smoked glass bowl sinks, and a deep soaker tub, is more of a spa than a bathroom. *Continued on page 42*

Cheferential Treatment

PERSONAL CHEF SERVICE

A unique experience that will nourish you body and soul, and accommodate your busy schedule with food made from scratch



289-259-6973

www.cheferentialtreatment.com

*What you do in your
bedroom is Our business*



BEVELLE

Roma Smoke

INTERIORS BY *the*
feathered bed

Full design services & beautiful custom draperies available
1463 Ontario St, west of Brant • Burlington
thefeatheredbed@bellnet.ca 905.681.2400

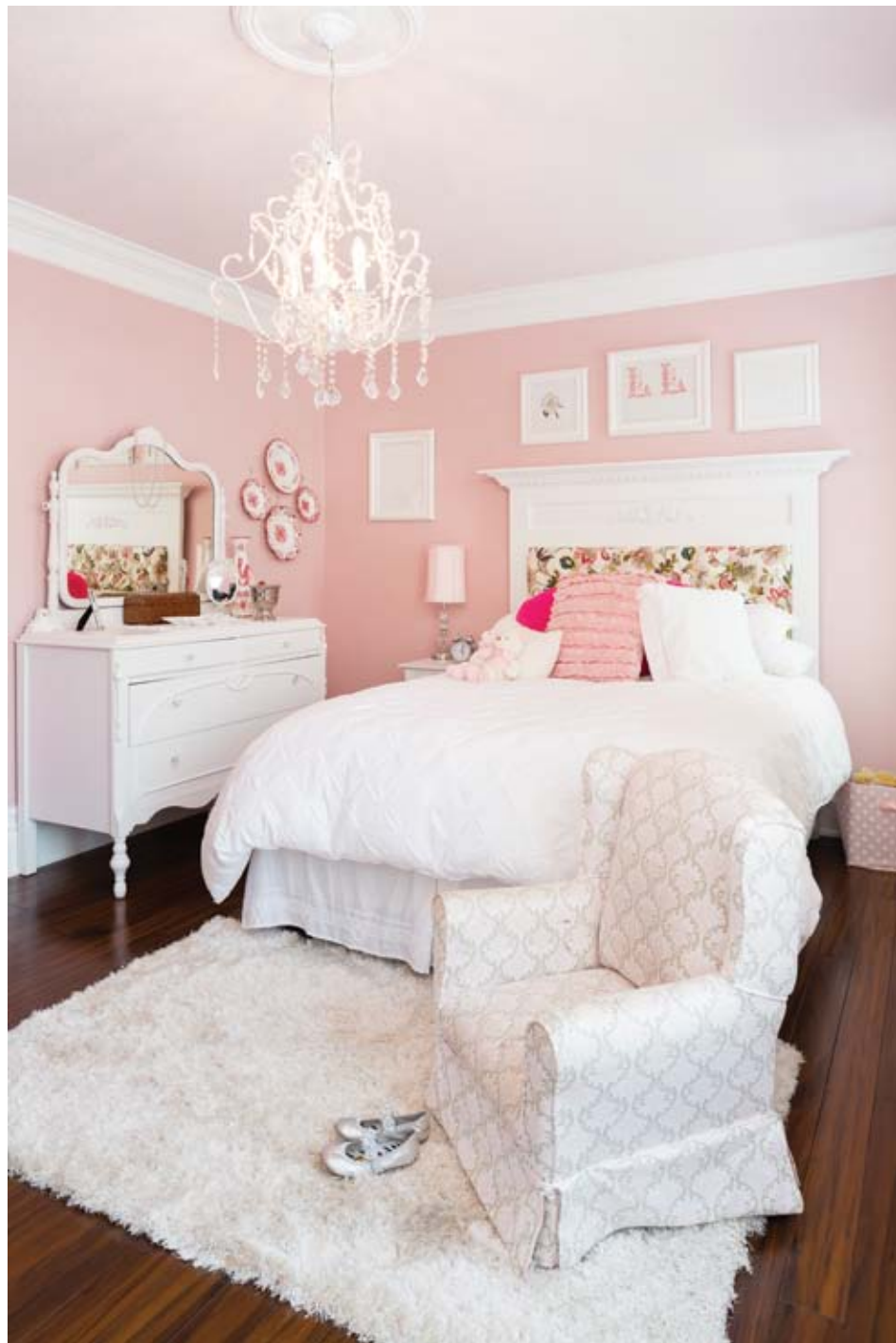
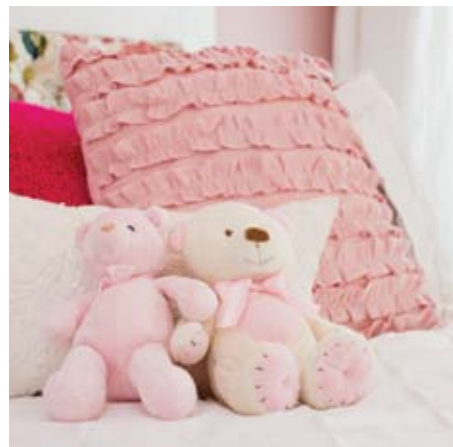
CAMBRIDGE
ELEVATING INC.
PREMIER MANUFACTURER
OF CUSTOM ELEVATORS



1261 Industrial Road
Cambridge, Ontario
1.800.265.3579
sales@cambridgeelevating.com
www.CambridgeElevating.com



RIGHT: The sparkling chandelier and floral headboard in this pretty pink room provide everything a little girl needs for the sweetest of dreams. **BELOW:** White accents, like a vintage-style dresser and crisp drapes provide beautiful contrast to the pops of pink throughout the room.



Perhaps the dreamiest room of all is the bedroom that belongs to the couple's daughter. A sparkling chandelier, sweet candy-pink walls, white vintage dressers, and a fireplace mantel-inspired headboard designed by Raquel fill the room with a touch of magic appreciated by princesses young and old.

Without question, this house is a true dream home. However, it was never meant to belong to the family that conceived, built, and designed every fabulous inch of it. Michael and Raquel created it to

fulfill another family's dream so that they in turn could continue to reach for their own.

As co-owners of their two businesses, the couple has been buying, decorating, landscaping, and selling their magnificently upgraded homes in Alton Village for the past several years. Their ultimate goal is to one day build their very own mortgage-free forever home. But in the meantime, this talented duo is content to make dreams come true for others. And they most certainly do. **OH**

It's not just a lift. It's a lifestyle.



Need a place to store your "Toys"? Why not store them on us!

Our 4-Post car storage lifts can instantly double the useable garage space at a fraction of the cost of adding an addition. At the Lift Superstore we have a wide selection of car storage and service lifts that are ideal for car enthusiasts and hobbyists looking for the right lift to get the job done.



2300 Speers Rd., Oakville, Ontario
866-799-5438 | www.liftsuperstore.com

