

A HOME FOR *all time*

Passionate pursuit of perfection,
from the past to the future.



PHOTO: STEPHANIE BROWN

MELANIE CURLEY, *Owner* *Mango Reclaimed, Whitby*

What do you look for when deciding whether a piece should be reclaimed?

If it's the right size and function it's always a great candidate to reclaim. If you love a piece of furniture but dislike the way it looks, restyle it! I hate the thought of perfectly good furniture sitting unused in someone's garage or basement because they are afraid to paint it – give it a new look so it can be loved and used every day.

How did you come to find your passion in refinishing furniture?

Back in university I was trying to furnish my first apartment and realized I couldn't afford anything that I really liked. I love interior design and have a tendency towards expensive taste! I found that by restyling previously loved furniture I was able to get well-made furniture with a custom look at a fraction of the cost.

What's the most inspiring spot in the world for you?

I love being in my studio! It has great natural light, and I can just turn on some music, tune out the world and get painting! This is when I usually have my best ideas. Using my brain in a creative way allows me to really re-focus and that's when the business ideas usually start flooding in. I always keep pen and paper close by – I'm a perpetual list maker. It's always great to recharge too. I think it's really important to switch gears sometimes and just get outside and enjoy nature.

CATRIONA CRAMPSEY, ANTHONY GIORGETTI, ZOE LUCYK

(Co-Owner and Chief Designer),

PAUL LUCYK, AMANDA BEER

Lotus Home Interiors

How would you describe your design aesthetic?

It would have to be urban modern. I design using many different elements such as wood, metal, concrete and stone, adding soft textures in the furnishings, draperies and décor. It combines a soft, comfortable look with a sense of laid-back cool. Using accents of nature such as wood tables, rugged wood floors and stone walls creates a home that welcomes you back after a long day. Most of our designs cater to family homes, with children and pets. While my designs are stylish and beautiful, they are also realistic. I always get to know my clients, how they live and what they like, then design a space that reflects who they are and how they live.



PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

What are some current design trends you're excited about?

I like the shift away from lots of bold colours to a more minimalist colour palette of whites, soft greys, browns and creamy neutrals with very little colour thrown in. These quiet aesthetics allow us to escape the rush of our everyday lives. Statement mirrors are all the rage. Step away from boring rectangular mirrors with a plain frame and go for something with more spunk.

And if you want the look of hardwood without the maintenance, luxury vinyl flooring is the way of the future.

To what places do you like to travel? For myself and my husband Paul, who is also my business partner, our travel choices are usually geared toward destinations that are warm and by the ocean. We are both PADI-certified scuba divers and we absolutely love the ocean and the wildlife. *Continued on page 54*



PHOTO: STEPHANIE BROWN

LYNDA KENTIE, SHANE OBORNICK & MARK CRUMBY

Roadshow Antiques South, Pickering

What’s the best thing about working with all these great items from the past?

Lynda: I couldn’t possibly own all of the pieces that I like, but I do get to enjoy them while they are here. There are so many new and interesting items coming in daily. I love to research the pieces that I am not familiar with and learn so much that way.

Shane: I definitely think that the best part about working with all these items from the past is there’s almost always something new or unexpected to learn about them that can be so very fascinating.

What should people bear in mind when choosing antiques for their home?

Shane: Personally I say surround yourself with things that make you feel good. It should be things that you find interesting or can even be a great conversation piece. For a lot of people I believe it’s about remembering their childhood and the nostalgia factor of reliving their past.

Mark: Always purchase items that you absolutely love.

What’s the oddest item you’ve seen?

Lynda: I’m always fascinated by the various ways that people repurpose the items they buy. The most unusual one that comes to mind is when a man came in to buy a Player’s flat 50 cigarette tin to use for his father’s cremated remains.

Mark: I would say that the oddest item that I have come across while being at Roadshow has been the early 1950s electric shock therapy machine. It was complete and looked like Frankenstein’s portable recharger.

STEPHEN & HEATHER TOBEY

Owners, Gordon Tobey Developments Ltd., Brighton

What makes your company unique? Gordon Tobey Developments builds fully customizable homes. With in-house design capabilities and a highly-skilled building team we are able to offer our clients a home that meets their expectations and lifestyle needs. Further, we have demonstrated our commitment to quality and comfort by making Energy Star certification a standard feature.

How do you keep customers happy? We take the time to get to know each of our customers and find out what is important to them. From start to finish, we listen closely to ensure that we hear AND understand their requests. We have found that this customer-focused approach fosters confidence and peace of mind.

What do you enjoy most about your work? Someone once said “variety is the spice of life.” At Gordon Tobey Developments, no two homes are alike. We are constantly researching new products and trying new techniques to meet our customers’ needs. This provides opportunity for learning, which drives continuous improvement. That keeps the entire crew engaged and excited! **OH**



PHOTO: WALTER FRANCZYK