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T H E C I T Y O F M I S S I S S A U G A

## SKY-HIGH *Luxury*

AT  
**HOME**  
IN LORNE PARK

FOR THE  
**LOVE OF ART**

LAVISH  
LEATHER

**+**  
CHALKBOARD  
DIY

# LORNE PARK *Luxury*

STORY **JOYCE TURNER-GIONET**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**



**LEFT:** A warm walnut mantel complements the honed Italian Escarpment Marble fireplace surround to create a stunning focal point. **BELOW:** Custom stained white oak floors throughout add richness.



When Mikhail Polienko meshed the talents of award-winning custom home designer **David Small**, Queen Street design firm CMID and builders Natasha Lobanova and Dmitri Petrov – owners of **Ventus Consulting** – the outcome for his 5,500 sq.ft. Lorne Park custom home was guaranteed to be amazing.

“Good design is good business,” says Carey Mudford, principal at CMID, who worked with her Senior Designer Erin Jones on the project. It’s obviously good for a client’s peace of mind, particularly one like Mikhail, who values the details as much as the professionals. “Mikhail never intended to get so involved in the design, but once his creative side was aroused, there was no turning back,” laughs Natasha.

Traditional or modern? Drawn to the linear lines and symmetry of modern, Mikhail still craved the traditional touches he recalls of

growing up in Europe. “The challenge was to find a balance between the timelessness of traditional design and current trends. The house had to be exciting to live in now and years down the road. It was also important to be a good neighbour. I didn’t want the build to monopolize the street. After meeting with David Small, I knew he’d achieve the architectural balance I was looking for,” says Mikhail.

“The home defines transitional design,” says David. “Traditional and modern elements seamlessly intersect. Clean, uninterrupted

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**OPPOSITE TOP:** With floor-to-ceiling built-in's and doors that lead to the garage and the exterior, the mudroom keeps messes perfectly contained. **MIDDLE:** The powder room vanity is backlit with several colour options, a fun, modern addition. **TOP RIGHT:** Custom built-ins span the length of one office wall, an inviting backdrop for a productive work day. **BOTTOM:** Dmitri Petrov and Natasha Lobanova worked with homeowner Mikhail Polienko (left) to make his vision come to life.

**LEFT:** A waffle ceiling adds a hint of tradition but is set in a geometric grid pattern for an interesting and contemporary feel.

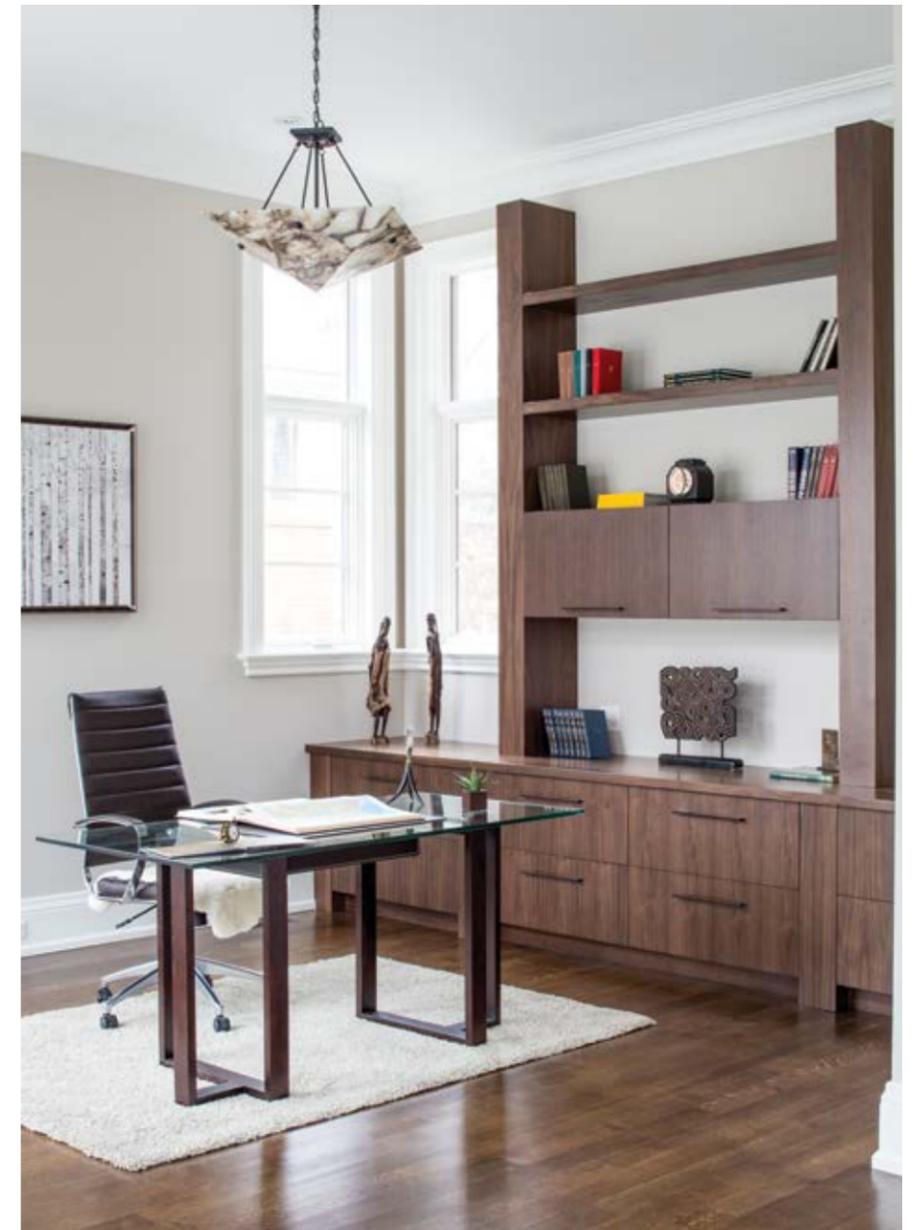
lines are applied to the steeply-pitched roof and coffered ceilings. Oversize and corner windows connect the interior to the outside world. Natural materials – ledgerrock, cedar, stucco and copper – are deployed in a contemporary fashion on the exterior, while giving architectural credence to Mikhail's desire for that aura of permanence. The result integrates seamlessly into the established neighbourhood," says David.

The entrance – with its classic square Coco White Marble floor framed with Black basalt – is flanked by an open-concept dining room and study. "The dining room's coffered geometric-grid ceiling paired with full-height panelling set a formal tone. Across the hall in the study, walnut built-ins and the millwork's modern lines deliver a casual sophistication Mikhail felt appropriate for a workspace he would use daily. Wall niches showcase interesting art. Throughout the house, the composite of dark wood floors, light cabinetry and a soft palette create an unconscious harmony one feels when moving from room to room," says Erin.

Most flooring is quarter-sawn White Oak. A custom stain with dramatic black undertones highlight the grain's movement. Dmitri aptly describes it as "zebra patterning" — the traditional warmth of wood with a pleasing punch of contemporary panache.

"How did you visualize the main living space?" Mikhail ponders the question. "We like to entertain, so we wanted the kitchen, breakfast area and family room to be a bright, open space. I'm a fan of natural light," he says. He points to sidelight windows that flank the **Napoleon Home Comfort** gas fireplace, an inspired addition, installed by Golden Windows Ltd. Set unusually high up, they allow light to flood into the room while ensuring privacy from the house next door.

"Within the space, we created a feature wall that complemented the windows, playing on their square shape. Three rows of light ivory panels above the walnut mantel tie in with millwork on the kitchen's range hood," says Erin. Walnut repeats on the floating shelves



and vaulted ceiling. The fireplace surround is honed Italian Escarpment Marble from Rivalda Ceramic Tiles Inc. **Masterwork Stone** laid the tiles in a vertical mosaic that delivers a textured, three-dimensional effect, a design trend Mikhail picked up on while in Europe. Built-ins are by **Bella Kitchens**; squared-off walnut/brushed nickel hardware is from **Richelieu Hardware**. Carpentry work is by **VK Building Concepts Inc.**

Lighting is important to Mikhail: "There were at least a dozen trips to lighting stores. Yes, lighting is functional but it has huge aesthetic implications," he says. Like most lights in the house, the pendant is from **Universal Lamp**. Several fixtures were custom-made.

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The custom kitchen by Bella Kitchens blends function with interesting architectural elements, like deep crown mouldings and curved mullions. **BOTTOM:** An old-world, framed brick entryway leads into the lower-level wine room.



The kitchen is by Bella Kitchens. Creamy maple cabinets and dovetailed drawers are finished with polished nickel. Countertops are Super White granite. Its translucent quality lends depth to the grey veining, an effect that reminds Natasha of “floating ice on an ocean.” A single granite slab was used in an artistic statement over the range top. The backsplash is O’White Elegant teardrop marble, mesh-mounted in the trendy Arabesque format. Its playful geometrics suggest a Moroccan influence. Despite extensive use of stone, traditional elements – like furniture feet on cabinetry, polished nickel faucets, mullions cut into the glass cabinets and pewter and watermark glass pendant lights – keep the space warm and grounded.

“Relaxed, functional, but still a little dressed up,” is how Mikhail describes the design of the master and en suite. Colours and textures took their cue from the stunning Fiori di Bosco marble fireplace mantel positioned slightly off-centre so that TV and fireplace do not compete. Textured silver wallpaper on the niche wall complements the marble. Mikhail’s feeling about the importance of lighting asserts itself here with his decision to go with dimmable pot lights and a chrome teardrop chandelier. *Continued on page 24*



**LEFT:** In the master, the attention to detail continues with the addition of ceiling trim, sparkling lighting and textured wallpaper. **BELOW:** A grey apron clad tub sways away from the traditional. **BOTTOM:** Set in waterfall style, the white marble counters integrate seamlessly with the maple cabinetry.



In the en suite, custom maple cabinets are topped with Oriental White Marble. Drawers boast polished nickel hardware by Berenson. The freestanding oval tub with grey apron is crowned with an elegant Brizo Baliza Bath Collection faucet. Charm White porcelain wall tiles in the shower were laid for a waterfall effect, complemented by Vail Shimmer, a spa-like marble and glass mosaic on the shower floor. The homeowners step out of the oversize luxury Steamist shower onto heated white Coco Marble. A Japanese Toto washlet is tucked away in a separate space.

As Dmitri says: “Building a dream home requires teamwork. When you build a great team, you build a great house. You project manage with a total commitment to quality, finishing on time and on budget.” On the last day, the team should come together and enjoy that perfect moment, the moment in which new homeowners like Mikhail do a final walk-through and say with complete conviction, “Wow, this is exactly what I dreamed of!”

This house is currently for sale by **Sam McDadi Real Estate**. For more information visit [www.mcdadi.com](http://www.mcdadi.com) or contact Team McDadi at 905.502.1500 or direct at 416.801.2400. **OH**