

CANADA'S

styleat home

BRING
— on —
SPRING!

25⁺
BOLD
BRIGHT
rooms

the perfect
DECOR
FORMULA
HOT
SHADES
+
PLAYFUL
PRINTS
+
STATEMENT
PIECES

plus
a fun
& funky
VANCOUVER
CONDO





No.1
**CHIC &
LUXURIOUS**



No.2
**LIVELY &
ECLECTIC**

A FINE VINTAGE

Paging Grace Kelly! Jolts of juicy hues and metallic hits exude grandeur in a sophisticated Hollywood glam pied-à-terre.



TEXT IRIS BENAROIA | PHOTOGRAPHY TRACEY AYTON

An uplifting spot for enjoying cocktails and gazing at the view, the living room showcases a chic mix of orange, pink, black and gold. Designer Chrissy Cottrell had to search for the drum-shaped table, which has a black-glass mirrored top. "It's very difficult to find a large round coffee table," she says, noting that a square one wouldn't have suited the space's curves.

DESIGN, Chrissy & Co., chrissyco.com; **MOULDING** (throughout), Metrie; **SECTIONAL, ARMCHAIRS**, custom; **COFFEE TABLE, SIDE TABLES, RUG, CHANDELIER, FLOOR LAMP**, custom; **TOSS & LUMBAR CUSHIONS** (except mohair), *Dolce Vita Confetti* **ARTWORK** by Chrissy Cottrell, Curated Home by Chrissy & Co.; mohair **LUMBAR CUSHION**, The Cross Decor & Design; **THROW**, Hermès.



D

ESIGNERS ARE USED TO EGREGIOUS STYLE FLAWS, LIKE CHEAP LINOLEUM PUT DOWN OVER PRISTINE HARDWOOD FLOORS.

"What were they thinking?" we can hear them whisper under their breath. For Chrissy Cottrell of Chrissy & Co., one such gaffe is particularly memorable.

The Vancouver designer was asked to revamp a 1,700-square-foot Yaletown condo as a pied-à-terre for a jet-setting couple and their four kids, ages six to 16.

Chrissy had expected the 32nd-floor suite to be bad, but not *this* bad. The maze-like layout revealed a closed-off den, a kitchen that could only be accessed through a small door and a dining room "so small it couldn't even fit a reasonably sized table." But the worst offence was the wall in the entryway that obstructed the dazzling view, which stretches from False Creek to English Bay.

The designer's treatment for the chopped-up space? Swift and merciless style surgery. "There was no facelift option. Everything in the 1990s condo had to go," she says of the year-long renovation that was completed while the homeowners were abroad (talk about trusting your designer).

"Because of the exceptional view, it only made sense to tear down most of the walls to achieve that panorama," says Chrissy. Other casualties of the overhaul included dark dated floors and puffy patterned burgundy valances that trailed the window tops like overfed caterpillars.

For the overhaul, Chrissy channelled a glam 1950s Hollywood aesthetic. Think lavish rooms laden with panelling, velvet, brass and the low-slung, sculptural seating that typifies Hollywood Regency decor. One could imagine screen siren Grace Kelly sauntering through in a waist-cinching chiffon gown.

Other prevailing tastemakers of the era also figured into the scheme: "I have these fantastic vintage designer books," says Chrissy. "One had a famous Dior

RIGHT, CENTRE & OPPOSITE, BOTTOM From the tangerine-toned velvet chairs (which have a stunning lustre when seen up close) to the ample brass accents, the Hollywood Regency look employed here is so inviting. "All those curves in the furniture allow for better traffic flow and lend an air of elegance," says Chrissy. "Boxy chairs would have enclosed the space." The ornate ceiling medallion adds interest up high and juxtaposes the mid-century-style light fixture.



"Wall panelling provides grace and elegance in a space," says Chrissy. The thin stately mouldings also accentuate the nine-foot-high ceiling. A Mid-Century Modern Saarinen dining table and walnut and leather chairs are classic throwbacks that suit the condo's vintage vibe.

Onyx 2133-10 **FIREPLACE SURROUND PAINT**, Benjamin Moore; **DINING TABLE, DINING CHAIRS, SIDECHAIRS, SCONCES, MIRROR**, Curated Home by Chrissy & Co.





The feature wall colour was inspired by a black and orange 1949 Dior perfume advertisement showing an illustration of a woman's hand resting in a tiger's paw. Both Chrissy and her client loved the ad's mix of whimsy and opulence, so referencing it in the design was a no-brainer.



illustration of a tiger's paw and a woman's hand rendered in burnt amber that [my client] really liked. She also loves Hermès, so it felt natural to incorporate orange into the design."

Chrissy used the beguiling warm citrus hue as a focal point on one of the condo's central walls, which dovetails into a daring black kitchen boasting a sultry elegance impossible to achieve with white. Meanwhile, glossy black interior doors and trim used throughout the condo lend the space cohesion and contrast the white backdrop.

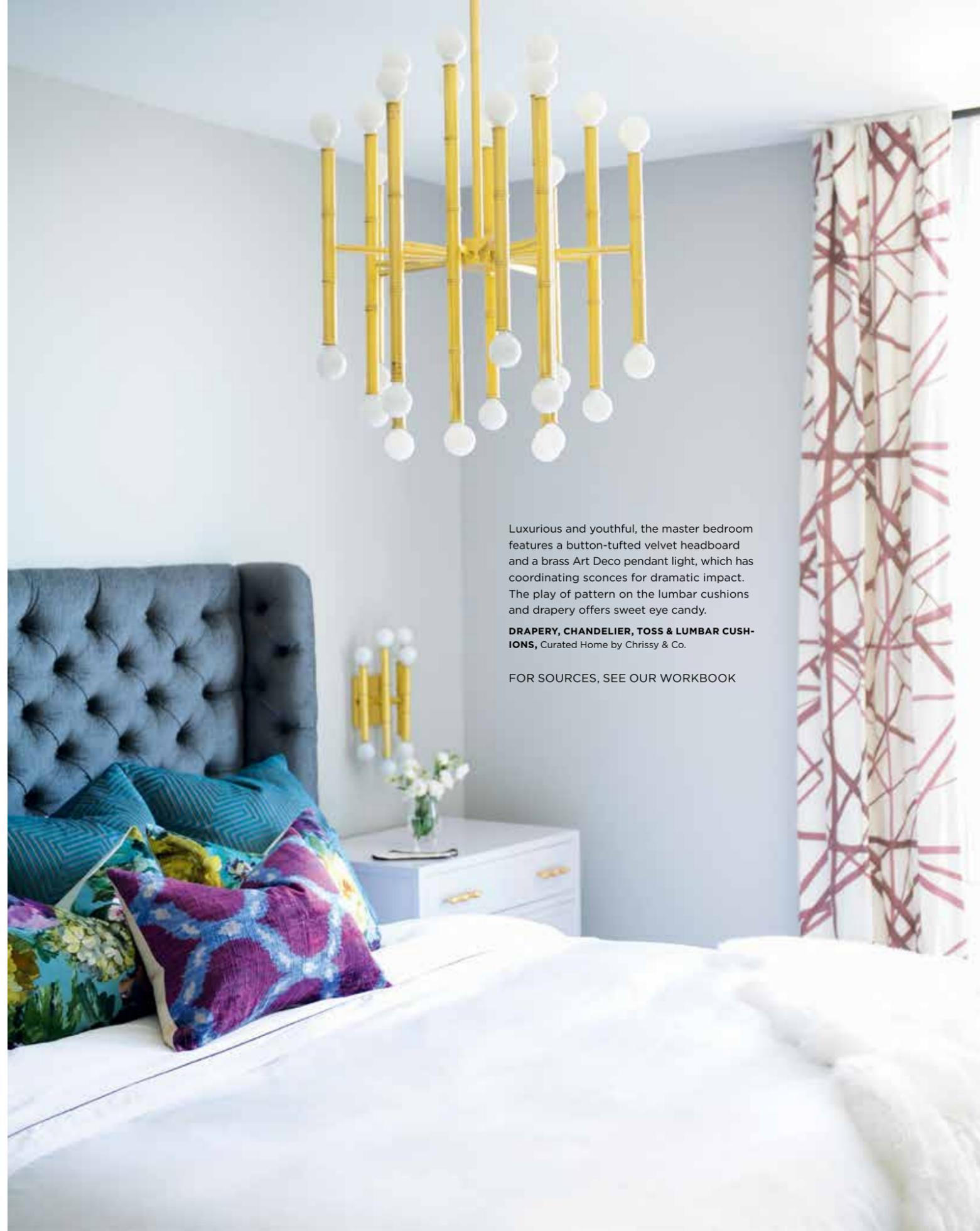
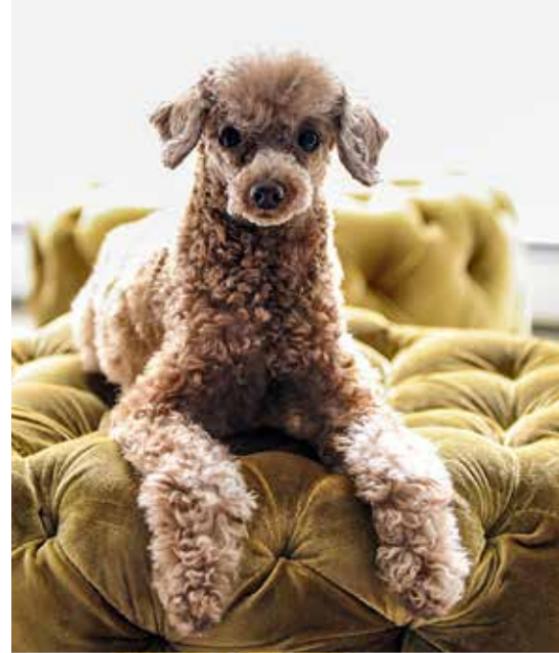
The overall effect of the dwelling's decor is at once dramatic and chic yet totally livable. The design shows just how much power colour can offer a space if a client is gutsy enough to embrace it. Chrissy was thrilled these "adventurous homeowners" didn't need convincing; in fact, they trusted the designer so much, they didn't even see the final result until a year after its completion. Today, the space has great flow

BELOW "There's a reason kings and queens lived surrounded by beautiful jewel tones," says Chrissy (pictured), who looks perfectly at home in the space she designed. Her toy poodle, Buttons (pictured, page 82), agrees.

LEFT, BOTTOM "I wanted the kitchen to be an elegant contrast to the otherwise bright common area," says Chrissy. "The dark marble countertop and black cabinets are sexy, sophisticated and eye-catching without competing with the rest of the design."

Custom **CABINETS, SIDEBORD, STOOLS**, Curated Home by Chrissy & Co.; **COUNTERTOP, BACKSPLASH**, Aeon Stone + Tile; **REFRIGERATOR, RANGE, RANGE HOOD**, Sub-Zero and Wolf; **FAUCET**, Universal Supply Co.





Luxurious and youthful, the master bedroom features a button-tufted velvet headboard and a brass Art Deco pendant light, which has coordinating sconces for dramatic impact. The play of pattern on the lumbar cushions and drapery offers sweet eye candy.

DRAPERY, CHANDELIER, TOSS & LUMBAR CUSHIONS, Curated Home by Chrissy & Co.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

thanks largely to those vibrant colours – which weren't easy to pull together. "The trick is to have a timeless template," says Chrissy. "You'll notice the foundational elements, such as the white oak herringbone floors and most of the walls, are neutral."

"When I was a young designer, I was intimidated by colour," adds Chrissy. "Grey on grey is simple and safe, but layering colour takes confidence and skill. It has to be done in an elegant way – otherwise, it can look like a box of crayons threw up all over your house." And that in and of itself would constitute an egregious style flaw.

ABOVE The master bedroom's large print – an 18th-century painting of Marie Antoinette by the Swedish painter Adolf Ulrik Wertmüller – may reference a period hundreds of years earlier than the condo's mostly 1950s-inspired pieces, but it prevents the space from feeling too matchy-matchy.

HEADBOARD, NIGHTSTAND, BEDDING, PRINT, SCONCE, NIGHTSTAND HARDWARE, Curated Home by Chrissy & Co.



TEXT MARY LEVITSKI

PHOTOGRAPHY TRACEY AYTON



Though most of the dining room furnishings and accessories – including a glass chandelier and an ornate Venetian mirror – are new, they have a traditional appearance that lends a formal feel. Meanwhile, violet accents energize the space, and a velvet slipcover on the table’s head

chair and a patterned sisal rug wink at coastal living.

DESIGN, Kerrisdale Design, kerrisdaledesign.com; **MASCARPONE AF-20 WALL PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore; **DINING TABLE, DINING CHAIRS, CHANDELIER**, Kerrisdale Design; **HEAD CHAIR SLIPCOVER, MIRROR**, RH Restoration Hardware; **RUG**, Ballard Designs; **TOSS CUSHION**, Berzey.

A Vancouver designer dials down the pigment in a family home for a timeless look with a chic Hamptons twist.

Colour Less

COLOUR. It has the power to totally transform a space – no sledgehammer or crowbar required. And, as these Vancouver homeowners discovered, pigment is as equally powerful when it’s subtracted as when it’s added.

“All the walls were painted either mustard yellow or deep





red," says one homeowner, recalling the original state of the 3,200-square-foot house she and her husband bought for themselves and their two young daughters three years ago. Boasting open-concept Craftsman-style architecture, a classic kitchen and dark hardwood floors, the 2007 build "wasn't quite us," she says. Looking to update the main floor with a fresh Hamptons-esque flair, the couple turned to designer Karla Amadatsu of Kerrisdale Design. Having admired her soothing classic-with-a-touch-of-modern aesthetic for years and bringing little furniture from their significantly smaller former pad, the pair was happy to give the designer carte blanche.

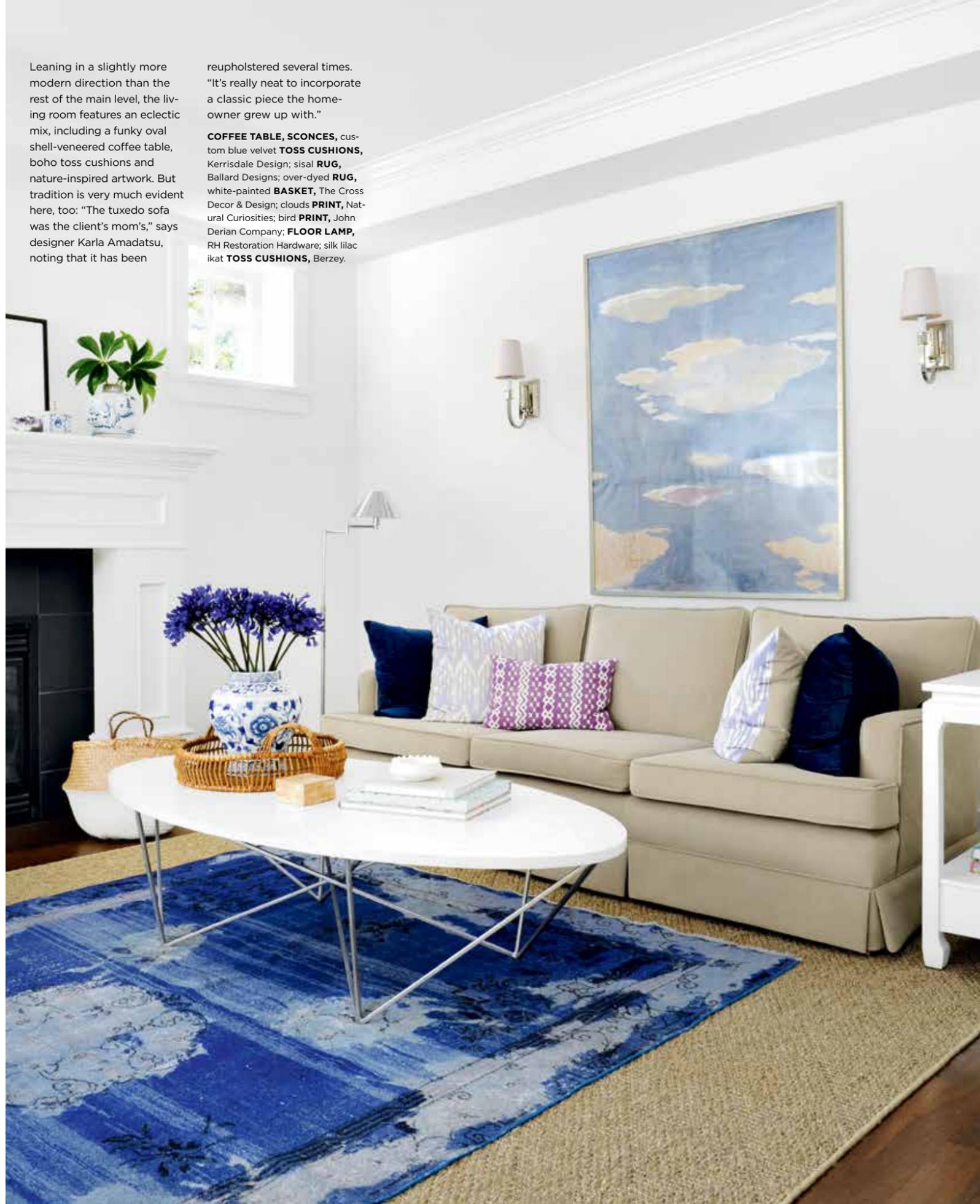
And blanche she did, painting every wall a creamy white. "That alone was a huge transformation!"

ABOVE By far the most colourful space in the home, the living room plays host to a boho combination of indigo, violet and fuchsia elements like the block-printed ikat toss cushion and over-dyed rug. They're pretty counterpoints to the neutral, natural and traditional touches, which connect the space to the rest of the main floor.

ARMCHAIR, FLOOR LAMP, TOSS CUSHION, RH Restoration Hardware; **TOSS CUSHION,** Berzey.

Leaning in a slightly more modern direction than the rest of the main level, the living room features an eclectic mix, including a funky oval shell-veneered coffee table, boho toss cushions and nature-inspired artwork. But tradition is very much evident here, too: "The tuxedo sofa was the client's mom's," says designer Karla Amadatsu, noting that it has been

reupholstered several times. "It's really neat to incorporate a classic piece the homeowner grew up with." **COFFEE TABLE, SCONCES,** custom blue velvet **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Kerrisdale Design; sisal **RUG,** Ballard Designs; over-dyed **RUG,** white-painted **BASKET,** The Cross Decor & Design; clouds **PRINT,** Natural Curiosities; bird **PRINT,** John Derian Company; **FLOOR LAMP,** RH Restoration Hardware; silk lilac ikat **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Berzey.



indigo & Eclectic





“We really liked the house before but **IT FEELS SO MUCH MORE OPEN AND FRESH** with the new palette.”

fresh &
traditional



exclaims Karla. Next, the designer sourced or custom designed the major furniture pieces, opting for mostly traditional styles, including a diamond-tufted roll-arm chair for the living room, a Louis XVI-style settee for the kitchen eating area and William Birch-look sofas for the family room. “Classic furnishings with great lines are solid basics that you’re going to love for a long time,” says Karla, who employed neutral envelopes for the same reason.

To animate the space and subtly introduce the upscale East Coast aesthetic the homeowners sought, she layered in a variety of natural textures – weathered wood, linen, sisal – and accessorized with dreamy blue and purple accents that are easy

RIGHT Boasting traditional silhouettes, the eat-in area’s furnishings appear precious, but are actually far from thanks to the leather-look vinyl fabric used on the seating and the dining table’s distressed oak. “All the textiles have stood up to our daughters,” says one of the homeowners, “and the worn wood pieces don’t show scratches.”

DINING TABLE, SETTEE, custom **TOSS CUSHIONS**, Kerrisdale Design; **DINING CHAIRS**, Chair Source; **PRINT**, Myan Soffia.

natural & textured



to switch out in favour of other shades should the homeowners want to change it up.

"We really liked the house before, but it feels so much more open and fresh with the new palette," says one of the homeowners. "It's such a soothing, relaxing environment. We love coming home!" They love it so much, in fact, that Karla is currently busy at work updating the second floor.

ABOVE "With a neutral palette, texture is so important," says Karla, who introduced a variety of subtle surfaces to ensure her design didn't fall flat. In the family room, for instance, the wool rug has a fine diamond pattern, while the wooden coffee table

boasts an engaging grain. "You don't pick up on these things right away, but all those layers add up to a dynamic effect," she says.

SOFAS, COFFEE TABLE, RUG, TABLES, custom **DRAPERY & TOSS CUSHIONS,** Kerrisdale Design; **TABLE LAMPS,** HomeSense.

RIGHT, TOP Much like the way she approaches colour, Karla prefers to tread lightly when working with themes. The homeowners are drawn to a Hamptons vibe, so she peppered in a handful of beachy elements, such as coral artwork and large

seashells. "Nothing overt – just organic touches and bits of nature," says the designer.

ARMCHAIRS, CABINET, sea fan **ARTWORK,** custom **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Kerrisdale Design.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK