







Crown Jewels

HISTORIC COLOURS AND **INTRICATE PATTERNS EQUAL A STATELY STUDY** IN CONTRASTS.

Text by IRIS BENAROIA | Photography by TED YARWOOD

While many of us go taupe for fear of turning our homes into overstimulated circuses, Toronto interior designer Theresa Casey embraces the rainbow: "Colour is the easiest way to transform your space — you can have a wall come forward or recede. Sometimes a small room doesn't have a lot of light, and you add a beautiful eggplant purple et voilà, your space is cosy and warm." She often asks homeowners, "What makes you feel good?" — which is what she did here. It's a good question, bordering on the philosophical.

"I'm looking for what makes a space work," says Casey, who incidentally notes there's nothing wrong with neutrals, if that's your thing. Most importantly, "it's meaningful to see someone's personality come through in their space."

To wit, this three-storey Edwardian is flush with old world sophistication and a soulful, literary air that perfectly reflects its inhabitants. "They're very passionate, and she's a real book person. They entertain a lot and travel. She bakes, and he cooks," says Casey of the owners, who share the home, in a leafy Toronto neighbourhood, with their son, daughter and family dog.

Rooms throughout the 7,000-square-foot dwelling are peppered with jewel tones and gorgeous tilework. Pattern is prominent, verging on haphazard, which gives the interior an uncontrived look, as though it came together naturally over decades as opposed to being conjured in a single reno. Detailed millwork, antiques and a classic kitchen with vintage hardware and miles of hanging copper pots evoke a bygone era. But that doesn't mean it's old-fashioned or serious (note the TV in full view on the main floor). "I would call it CONTINUED ON PAGE 108





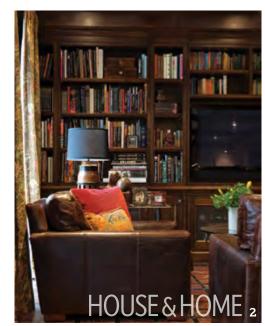
ABOVE: Pots bubbling with delicious soup on the gas range are par for the course in this cook's kitchen. Copper cookware is suspended from a brass rod for a lively, scullery look. The rack above is 15' across and is used both for display and storage.
The light fixtures are original turn-of-thecentury ship lights Casey bought at a New York auction house. Tiles (throughout), DGM Enterprises.

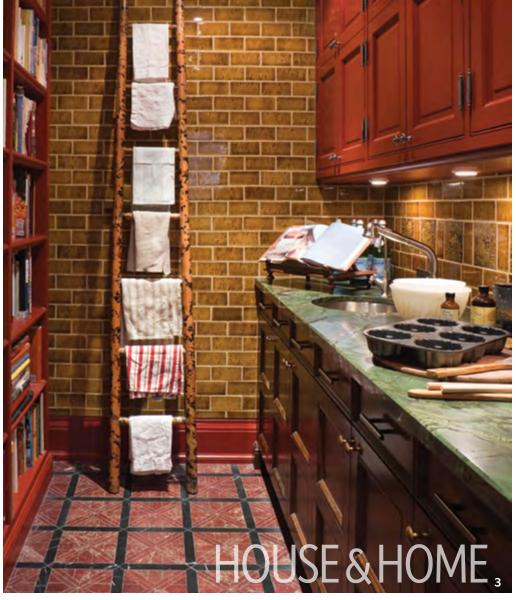
LEFT: A pair of 19th-century high-back chairs and a tufted sofa centred on an oak fireplace offer appealing symmetry in the richly layered living room, as do oval artworks framed by the two doorways. The art's turquoise and ochre shades pop against the sunroom's fresh apple-green walls. **Sofa design, fireplace design,** Casey Design Group; **chairs**, 507 Antiques.

See more of Theresa's work in our gallery. houseandhome.com/mar12



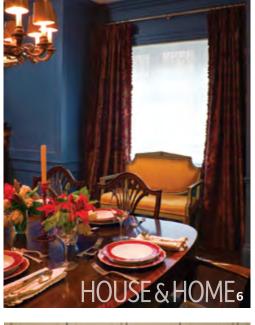




















Rich & THERESA CASEY TURNS BACK TIME WITH A PALETTE THAT'S RESTRAINED BUT MEMORABLE.



Range of historic hues Clockwise from left: Saffron (MSL053), Plumage (MSL163), Calabash

(MSL099), Martha Stewart Living.



Rustic hand-painted tiles Coloured Earth collection border, deco and medallion tiles. Ann Sacks.



Sumptuous solid textiles From left: Desire Indigo, Belia, Sienna Cognac, Designer Fabrics.



Subtly exotic Persian wool rug Persian rug, Elte.





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