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HOUSE & HOME

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THE MAGAZINE OF HOME & STYLE

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**CHARACTER BUILDING:
20 WAYS TO STYLE
THE WHITE KITCHEN**

**50
FABULOUS
FAUCETS**

DESIGN

To create a casually luxe mood, Dang-Mitchell mixes periods and pedigrees. In the living room, she paired chairs by Lucien Rollin and Warren Platner with mod concrete tables from 4living. "It's like a great cocktail party with an array of characters and personalities." Throughout the

house, the built-in cabinets (all by Lamoç), including this nickel-trimmed bookcase, were kept minimal in profile and spirit. A textured rug and hits of black and white add depth and movement, and the soaring 14' ceiling is played up with full-height, silky platinum drapes. Sofa, Colgory Interiors; upholstery fabrics, DWA Interior Furnishings.



In the lap of Luxury

A PRAIRIE PALETTE RENDERED IN RICH MATERIALS AND STYLISH ACCENTS INFUSES A CALGARY HOME WITH QUIET GLAMOUR.

Text by BARBARA SGRÖI | Photography by COLIN WAY



To create a glamorous 1930s-inspired focal point in the dining room, designer Nam Dang-Mitchell splurged on an ornate silver wallpaper by Gracie and jewelry-like Lumière light by Jean de Merry from Primavera. In calculated contrast, a rustic dining table from Crate & Barrel is surrounded by Louis XVI-style chairs from Restoration Hardware and mid-century modern chairs. She used white accents here

"to give a neutral palette a freshness and youthfulness," she says. Interior design: Nam Dang-Mitchell Design; builder, Mission Homes.

To ensure the giant hood custom-made by Hammersmith and stove took centre stage, Dang-Mitchell camouflaged fridge and freezer drawers in sleek white cabinets (all by Lamoc) alongside the stove. The same deep, traditional ceiling mouldings used throughout the home add architectural lift here. An X frame helps break up the monolithic feel of a big island — and is reminiscent of barn stalls.

Marble, Caesarstone, Alberto Marble & Tile
OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT: Polished bistro-style pendant lights by Thomas O'Brien for Visual Comfort echo the look of the dramatic hood. Mid-century modern walnut stools by Cherner from Kit Interior Objects are a consistent theme, with variations in other rooms. Flowering branches make a suitably bold statement in lieu of flowers.

Kitchen Confidential

THE LOOK: Urban country with a sophisticated, monochromatic palette. Clean and timeless with references to old-school culinary culture to warm it up, and riveted trim for an industrial twist. "The contrast makes it all work."

THE LAYOUT: A large L-shape with working island. "It has the clutter-free efficiency of a modern kitchen but also the romance of a traditional one," says Dang-Mitchell. "There's the classic stove-fridge-sink triangle, but positioning the sink in front of a window with a view was key, too."

THE EXTRAS: A huge stove, two sinks, and a microwave drawer facing the stove. Loads of drawers down low, and upper cabinets to max out storage.

THE MATERIALS: Miles of marble and stainless steel all anchored by dark and medium-toned woods on the floor and bold X-framed island.

Designer Nam Dang-Mitchell.



Disparate elements create a sense of drama in the foyer, where a 1930s-style mirrored console from Furniturland South, cowhide rug from Ikea and playful sheep sculpture from Chritz & Company comfortably coexist.

Coco

Chanel knew a thing or two about luxury. The iconic French fashion designer — who pried fashionable Parisienne women out of their uptight *tailleurs* and into casual pants, pearls and couture jackets cut with the ease of a sweater — famously said, "Luxury must be comfortable; otherwise, it is not a luxury."

It's a sentiment that infuses the effortlessly luxurious signature style of uberchic Calgary designer Nam Dang-Mitchell. So, when she was challenged by custom-home builders Paul Murray and Ryan Glover of Mission Homes to design interiors for a showhouse they were building that would "redefine what luxury means today," Dang-Mitchell didn't even bat a glamorous eyelash. Located in the Currie Barracks, a sought-after downtown neighbourhood, the classic, bungalow-style home — with architectural design by McDowell & Associates — was the perfect fit. (Funds raised from tours of the house will be donated to the Kids Cancer Care Foundation of Alberta.)

"We feel that the days of the ostentatious McMansion, with its sprawling rooms filled with stuff, are over," says Dang-Mitchell. "Luxury now means paring down to the things that make you happy. It's simpler and more restrained, with more quality-focused interiors that feel comfortable because there's no pretense and no excess." A successful design, she insists, is about your life — not a look.

And so this home is a perfect reflection of its imaginary occupants: "a well-educated, well-travelled couple whose children have headed off to college. They're at that point where they want to reinvent their lives, get rid of their larger home and all their stuff, move back into the city and carve out a new lifestyle for themselves."

The 2,300-square-foot, three-bedroom house is laid CONTINUED ON PAGE 138

A partial wall between the foyer and living room defines the spaces without enclosing them or hindering flow. "When you do something very minimal, you have to use a material that's really beautiful or compelling — there's a fine line between minimal and just plain," says Dang-Mitchell. So she covered the wall in travertine, installing it horizontally to give it a modern look. **Travertine, Nu-Way Floor Fashions; stool, Inmod.**



Symmetry adds a serene mood to the monochromatic principal bedroom on the home's main level. A mix of textures — the luxurious taupe mohair by Maxwell Fabrics on the headboard, soft silk-blend drapes and walls panelled in grasscloth from DWA Interior Furnishings — creates a cozy retreat. With its full-height headboard, which Dang-Mitchell had made by Calgary Interiors, the bed feels built right into the room. Ribbing on the headboard is repeated on the lamp bases for a level of continuity, and suzani pillows and an Asian bench inject an exotic touch. **Bedding, Laurie Kerkover; light fixture, Carrington Lighting.**



OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT: Simple tricks have big impact in the unassuming basement guest room. Wrapping the space in painted stripes adds rooms of style and architectural character. And hanging a yard or two of graphic fabric over an understated headboard makes it stand out. **Bed, chaise, lamp, Restoration Hardware.** BOTTOM RIGHT: Luxurious floor-to-ceiling drapes soften the principal bath's minimalist lines and make a normal-sized window feel like a wall of glass. Taupe limestone covers the floor, walls and shower, enveloping the space. A wood panel on the marble-topped floating vanity adds dark contrast.

WEB

Peruse our gallery of Nam Dang-Mitchell interiors at houseandhome.com/mar13.

SEE SOURCE GUIDE

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To make the mostly windowless basement inviting, the designer created a cocoon-like media room with a low-slung sofa from 4living, metal tables from Domaine, a bold collection of black and white photos and a bright, industrial-style light fixture from Chintz & Co.



Lots of luxe textures — from slatth walls, leather chairs, a Miniskn pouf, plush herringbone carpet — keep the media room's palette from feeling bland. Taken to the relatively high ceiling, a fireplace wall clad in metal-look tile adds elegance to the basement space. *Roue table, Crate & Barrel; leather chair, Maria Tomas; wing chair, Chintz & Co.*



A graphic wallpaper by David Hicks creates a focal point in this tailored basement guest room. A curvy chair from Restoration Hardware is a mod contrast, and classic wall art stocks from Neol stand in for a bench at the foot of the bed. *Bed, Crate & Barrel.*

OPPOSITE: Get the Look. Photographed by Holly McLaughlin/Tric by Mariana Ponzessari/Photography by Felix Wagwood/Trautwein, wallpaper: Griffin & Wong (decorative panels)



Polished limestone is a striking choice for lavish flooring and contemporary fireplace installations. Vein-cut travertine tile in Ocean Beige. 12" x 36". \$18.50/sq. ft. At Sattilo Imports.



A signature throw lends classic elegance: Avolon blanket. Wool and cashmere. 55" x 68". \$1,375. At Hermès.



Use a showstopping modern fixture to amp up the wow factor in an otherwise understated space. *Satellite chandelier. Antiqued brass and steel. 27" to 45" h. x 29" diam. \$1,898. At Anthropologie.*

Get the Look

OF THIS QUIETLY GLAMOROUS CALGARY SHOWHOME.



Panel a feature wall in scenic patterns in soft, feminine hues — an alternative to large-scale artworks. *Silk. 3' x 8". \$390 each. At Griffin & Wong.*

Bring balance to an elaborate principal bedroom with a simple but regal upholstered bed. *Chamber king bed by Mariette Himes Gomez. Ash. 56 1/2" h. x 86" w. x 94" d. From \$5,695. At Cocoon Furnishings.*



A plush sofa wrapped in a soft tone effortlessly breathes luxury into a room. *Slurred Elegance sofa by Barbara Barry for Henredon. Blendown, various fabrics. 32" h. x 91" w. x 41" d. \$7,600. At Studio b.*



Iconic bar stools in a rich, glossy finish can stand alone or look stunning in a crowd. *Series 7 bar stool by Arne Jacobsen for Fritz Hansen. Wood veneer; steel. 43 1/2" h. x 21" w. x 23 1/2" d. Approx. \$866. At Design Within Reach.*

A sleek dual-sided fireplace brings function and flair to a cosy den or basement media room. *L Series Fireplace by Montigo. Stainless steel. 34 1/2" h. x 42" w. From \$4,000. At retailers across Canada.*



Layer a palette of rich textures in soft, mostly neutral hues. *From top: Star Dust Silks wallcovering in Meteor Shower by Philip Jeffries, \$167/yd., at Crown Wallpaper + Fabrics; Queen Victoria fabric in Creme, \$150/yd., at Lee Jofa; June fabric by Kravet Couture, \$101/yd., at Kravet; Neroli handmade brocade in Ivory, \$6.95/1/2 yd., at Elite; Queen Victoria fabric in Toast, \$150/yd., at Lee Jofa.*