

SUMMER 2014

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# ourhomes

VAUGHAN AND THE TOWNSHIP OF KING

POOL-SIDE  
MUST  
HAVES

SIZZLING SUMMER  
STYLE PICKS

TILE INSPIRATION

ADD A SPLASH  
OF COLOUR

2 BEAUTIFUL  
HOMES  
WITH REFINED DESIGN



# TIMELESS AND *traditional*

STORY GINA MAKKAR  
PHOTOGRAPHY SANDY  
FLOWERS JENNIFER'S FLOWERS



**ABOVE:** The formal living room boasts lots of interesting details, from the custom drapes to the gold accents. **OPPOSITE TOP LEFT:** An impressive entry reveals a little of all the home has to offer. **TOP RIGHT:** The powder room's double-stacked crown moulding is an eye-catching feature. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** An elegant formal dining room provides a wonderful space to enjoy a family meal or entertain.

When Virginia and her family set out to build a bigger home, they started their search for the perfect lot in the Richmond Hill area. "We'd looked there for years. We liked the open space and the bigger property. We had a nice lot in our old home but we wanted more privacy."





A friend recommended **Belmonte Homes**, and after connecting with owner **Fausto Savonarota**, they knew they had found a builder they could partner with.

**Luisa Maringola** and partner **Marisa Lupo**, owners of **Lumar Interiors** first met the family over 20 years ago. "She called on us to help her with all the custom drapery for the home she was living in at that time. Over time, we eventually designed and provided custom furnishings, upholstery and drapery for every room in her home. We developed a wonderful working relationship," says Luisa.

When the family embarked on their new-build journey, they called on Luisa once again to assist in the design and furnishing of the new 10,000 sq. ft. space. "I like traditional and things that don't go out of style," says Virginia. "Modern can be beautiful, but I don't want to replace things every year. I love neutral colours and things that are timeless."

Together, Virginia and the Lumar Interiors team discussed colour and style preferences and came up with a traditional look and feel for the home. "We were involved from the ground up," says Luisa. They spearheaded choices on colours, finishes, custom drapery and furnishings, floor plans and accessories while taking into account the family's lifestyle and how they'd be using the space.

"The goal is to always help the client achieve the vision they have for their home." *Continued on page 20*





## home & builder

After working with Virginia for many years, the design team was able to anticipate what colours, fabrics and styles would largely appeal to her, making the selection process virtually seamless. One of Virginia's largest concerns was making sure the colours coordinated throughout the home. "There was a running joke with Virginia and her family while we were working on the design of her home," says Luisa. "If Virginia wasn't sure about something, her kids and husband would say 'Call Luisa.' I took that as a compliment, knowing she trusted the advice and guidance we offer her."

Virginia also says their symbiotic relationship with the builder helped achieve the beautiful end product they had envisioned. "Fausto was also very good when he suggested things," she says. "He'd point out

what was in and what might work. He's a nice gentleman to deal with."

From the magnificent exterior, an oversize, solid wood door from **Doorland Group Inc.**, opens and grandeur awaits. Inside the spacious entryway, elegance abounds with high ceilings and large marble tiles from **Interstone Marble & Granite Ltd.** laid on a diagonal by **Global Tile & Contracting Inc.**

The entrance is flanked with a spacious living room and dining room. Rich gold details in the intricate mirror, custom drapes and glass coffee table blend with a fireplace mantel by **Multi-Cast Design Inc.**

In the dining room, layers of millwork in the ceiling trim and deep crown moulding create a luxurious space to dine and entertain.

A staircase with open risers leads to the upper hallway.







Chestnut-coloured hardwood from **Weston Flooring Ltd.** runs throughout the home and warms the space with a vintage and timeless look.

The spacious kitchen, one of Virginia's favourite spaces in the home, was custom designed by **Villa Kitchens & Fine Cabinetry** and houses everything a culinary aficionado can think of. Task lighting, funky red stools tucked into a granite-topped island and lots of space to store pretty kitchen treasures make it beautiful and functional. Candelabra-style chandeliers add elegance.

Windows throughout the home from **Ostaco Windows and Doors** provide plenty of light, especially in the family room where the ceiling soars and the windows enhance the height and dimension of the space. *Continued on page 22*

**LEFT:** The kitchen is made fun with pops of colour in the counter stools and ballooned drapes. **ABOVE:** The grand ceiling and extra high windows draw the eye upward in the family room.

## ASK A DESIGNER

OUR HOMES speaks to Luisa Maringola and partner Marisa Lupo, owners of **Lumar Interiors**.

### What do you love about design?

We love working with beautiful fabrics, patterns and materials. When we get new samples, it's like Christmas! We truly believe your environment affects you emotionally and psychologically. Making it comfortable and beautiful is important. Why do we wait for a two-week vacation to enjoy some beauty? We should smile every time we walk through the door. Our homes are havens. Let's make them beautiful.

**What is the best part of starting a new project?** The excitement the client feels when we start showing fabrics, colours, furniture selections – that is the best part. We always show two to three options or combinations of materials and we love seeing our clients get excited about one of them. Then, we build on that until it comes together.

Marisa and Luisa







Upstairs, a tray ceiling, four-poster bed and cosy sitting area create a beautiful master suite. A small hallway to the master bath is fitted with a hidden gem – an elegant makeup vanity.

The stately master bathroom gleams with roman columns, a large soaker tub, and finely honed marble and mosaic tile. Red window treatments throw a splash of colour into the mix. “My bathroom is just so beautiful,” says Virginia. Plumbing throughout the home was done by **Riva Plumbing Ltd.**

Though Lumar Interiors is one of the most long-standing interior decorating companies in Richmond Hill, they started as a home-based business offering custom window treatments and eventually evolved to offer a full range of services. “We can provide as much or as little as the homeowner needs to complete their decorating project,” says Luisa. With a large library of decorating resources in York region, clients can find anything they need to suit their taste and budget. “We have established a loyal client base as we believe in building long-lasting relationships with our clients.” The result of their latest collaboration with Virginia speaks for itself. **OH**

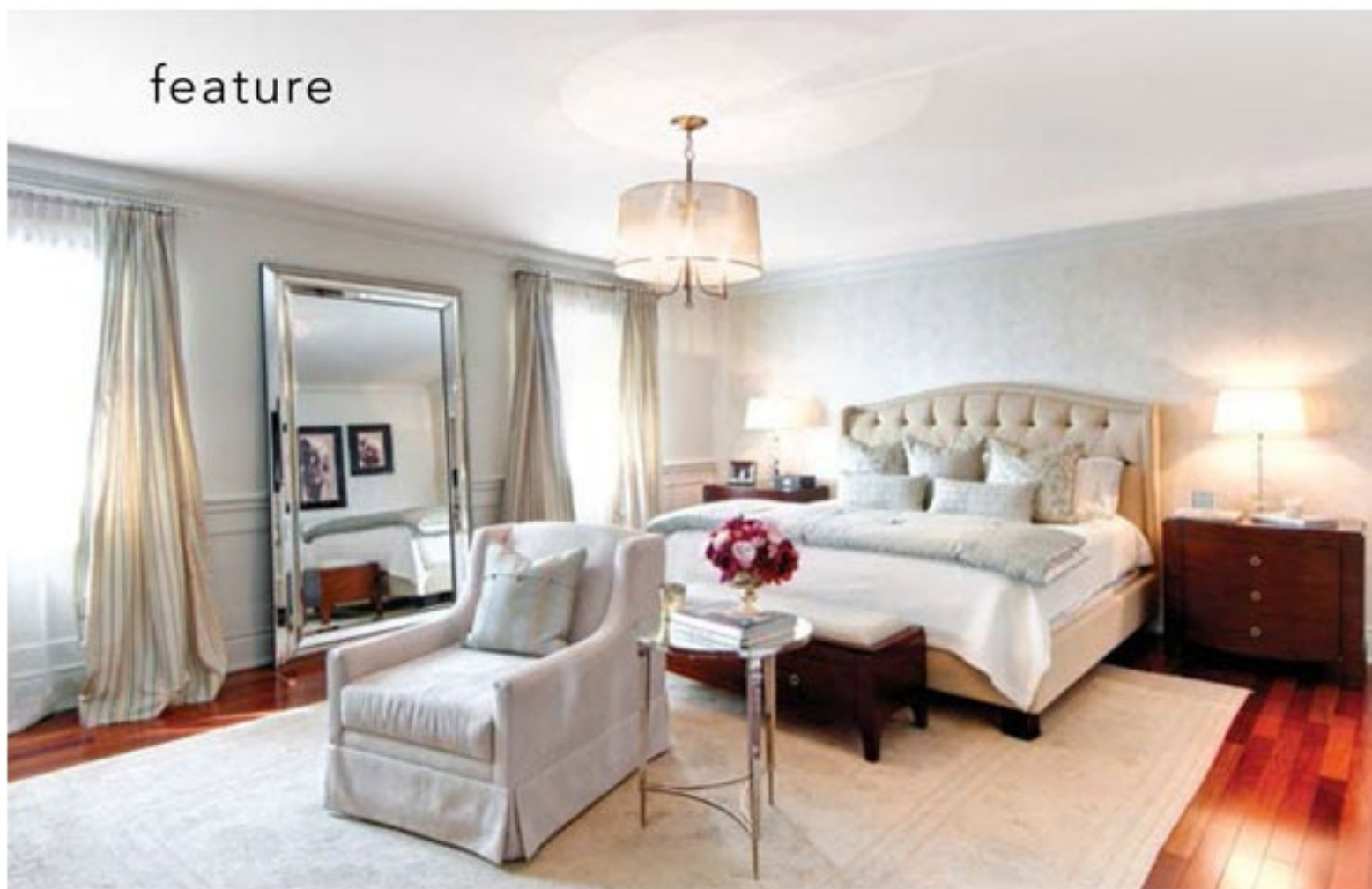


**TOP LEFT:** The makeup vanity is fitted with pretty crystal knobs and soft pink accents. **ABOVE:** A tray ceiling with recessed lighting makes the master bedroom feel more spacious while adding a little drama. **RIGHT:** Gleaming marble and stately columns that frame the tub add luxury.





## feature



**LEFT:** The soft, dreamy quality of the finishes continues in the master bedroom.

**BELOW:** New flooring, counters and window treatments customize the master en suite.

**BOTTOM LEFT:** A little girl's room is made pretty with beadboard, an upholstered headboard and soft pink drapes.

The couple upgraded the home's bathrooms by replacing the existing flooring with marble tiles and adding higher end vanities, mirrors, lighting and fixtures to each space.

Wall panels add depth and dimension in the foyer and hallways to provide yet another custom detail that makes this home stand out. A large framed painting set off with a picture light in the stairway draws the eye upward.

Outfitted with collectables, artwork, custom drapery and chandeliers from her store, Sondra and Robert have also incorporated beadboard and custom shelving to create magical bedrooms for their two young daughters and a relaxing retreat for themselves in their master bedroom suite.

A house, whether a new build or not, will only acquire a personality once the homeowner has added their individual touch and style to the space. Not being afraid to break a few design rules and using the resources at her fingertips, Sondra has created a distinctly unique home now bursting with personality. **OH**

