

CANADA'S HOME IDEA BOOK

In the
kitchen with
ANNA
OLSON

RENO&DECOR

colour and PATTERN

*in all the
RIGHT
PLACES!*

**DRYWALL
THE UNSUNG
HERO**

**BEST OF
THE BEST
AWARD-
WINNING
RENOVATIONS**

**SEGUE INTO
SUMMER
SIZZLING IDEAS
FOR INSIDE + OUT**

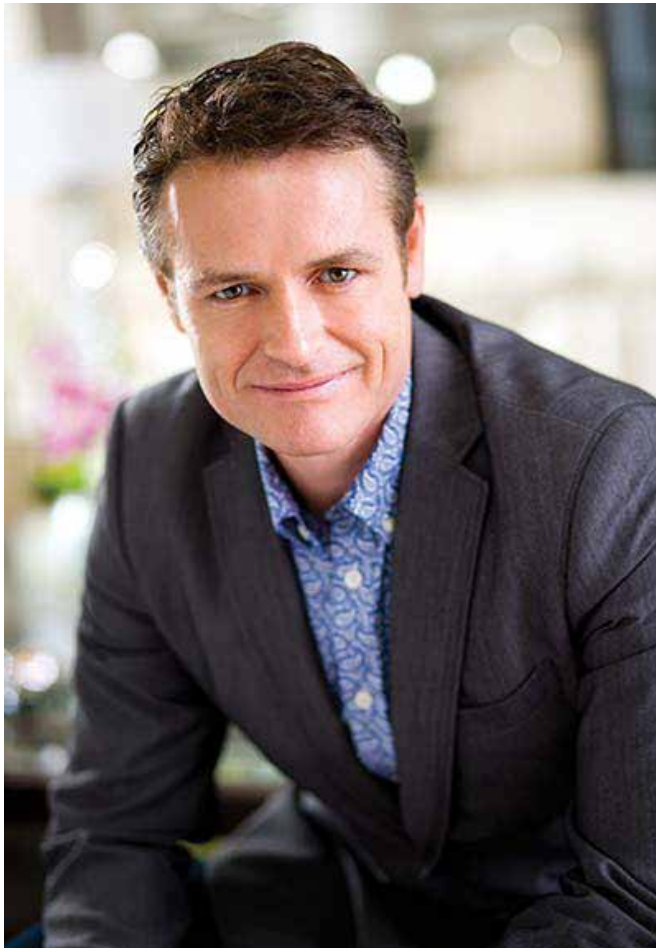
JUNE/JULY 2013 \$4.95



renoanddecor.com

PRODUCT SHOWCASES: paint & wallcoverings, appliances

summertime AND THE LIVIN' IS EASY!



Now that the warm weather is here, I'm sure you want to make the best of it. In fact, when it comes to creating outdoor living spaces, statistics show that more outdoor furniture is purchased in Ontario than any other North American city.

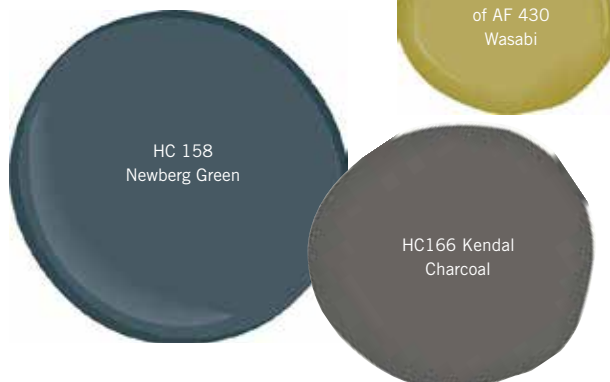
Living with nature is a fantastic source of inspiration on so many levels, even renovating. So when I say "Stop and smell the flowers," be sure to look at them with an eye to understanding what it is about their colour, shape, texture and function that appeals to you. And don't limit yourself to your own backyard. Take a nature walk and observe the differences in leaves, tree trunks, grasses, rocks, water formations, and so on. For me, the combination of a midnight blue post sunset, in contrast to the mustard yellows in the garden, have me thinking of drapery and furniture fabrics!

This issue offers great ideas so you can bring summer style to your spaces – indoors and out, including garden advice to shape up your perennials. With the resurgence of wallpaper and the effect that colour and pattern have on your home, you can make nature-inspired choices here too. And, be sure to read the drywall article; that's the background for all of your wall-based design work.

As you tackle your next project, whether it be inside or out, I encourage you to get professional design and renovation help before you start. Do-it-yourself projects are fun to do, and satisfying, but it's important to know your limits.

With every season come a few changes and a sense of gratefulness. It is with mixed emotions that *RENO & DECOR* acknowledges that Jackie Glass has left to concentrate on her very busy design firm. Jackie spent many years with *RENO & DECOR* and added so much to the magazine. While we are sad to see her go, we are happy for all her success.

MY FAVE COLOUR COMBO OF THE MOMENT (ALL BENJAMIN MOORE)



GLEN PELOSO
EDITOR

I look forward to hearing from you and welcome your feedback. Do you have a reno or decor question for our team of experts? Email editorial@renoanddecor.com



In the bedroom shown here, we used lace-like wallpaper to create a focus on the headboard wall.



WALLS *that work*

A dynamic medium that offers endless creative possibilities

GLEN PELOSO EDITOR • PHOTOGRAPHY BY LARRY ARNAL

The use of wallpaper spans centuries. It became popular in Britain in the late 1700s, predominantly used in the most established family homes where silk fabrics, tapestries, velvets, murals or hand-painted scenes were affordable. However, wallpaper was not yet accessible to middle-class Britain, at that time.

When the printing press and the invention of a continuous roll of paper made the creation of wallpaper marketable to the masses, it gained huge popularity. In the Americas, Philadelphia became the centre of wallpaper production around the start of the 19th century. And, as the middle class grew everywhere, wallpaper became a way of emulating the upper classes.

CREATING A MOOD

While wallpaper is considered a background for the art and furniture that is to come in to the room, it also offers an excellent way to create a mood. Available in an endless number of patterns and textures, adding wallpaper to a room can make it feel formal, rustic, funky or sexy, before you even bring any other elements into the space.

PLAYING WITH TEXTURE

Some of the papers that are available provide a definite three-dimension feature, making walls look as though they are carved. The advantage of this extra texture is the way the light plays with the surface, creating highlights and shadows. I often



A more graphic wallpaper, as seen in the dining room, lends a retro feel to the space.

select a paper that has a variety of sheen values to get the benefit from different levels of reflection from the paper.

ONE WALL AT A TIME

If you are not completely comfortable wallpapering an entire room, then a feature wall is a great way to play with papers. In the bedroom shown here, we used lace-like wallpaper to create a focus on the headboard wall. The wallpaper provides the room with a touch of “sexy”.

A more graphic wallpaper, as seen in the dining room, lends a retro feel to the space, which suited this particular client very well. Had the choice been a damask pattern or the pressed pattern of a tin ceiling, the room would have had a completely different essence. Additionally, both of these papers give a sense of fabric, which is a very elegant way to deal with a wall and much more affordable than actual fabric.

EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS

An endless supply of wallpaper can be found online and in many paint and decorating stores. I often look to the Wallpaper Republic website for inspiration (wallpaperrepublic.com), and I find that Prime Walls (primewalls.com) offers a pretty vast selection, right here in the GTA.

We are also seeing wall tattoos, which are large-scale vinyl images that can be adhered to the wall in just one spot like an oversized single paisley pattern, for example. Murals are also popular and can transport the room to a different location.

ONCE REMOVED

We have all had that horrid experience of trying to remove wallpaper from an entire room, in what feels like one square inch at a time. In order to make the wallpaper affordable in the past, the backing of pre-pasted products was the consistency of toilet paper, and we know how that dissolves.

What you need to look for when selecting wallpaper is a “non-woven” backing. This backing is more the consistency of a tea bag. It can maintain its

structure when wet or dry, so it removes in one piece. Now, changing the feeling of a room by switching up your wallpaper has become a simple process.

Another benefit of today’s wallpaper is that they are much more durable and washable than they were before, providing a great alternative to a painted wall for a busy family.

We often speak of the power of colour alone. Yet, when you think about it, wallpaper is a triple threat because it provides the power of colour, imagery and texture all in one medium. Used wisely, you can take a flat, lifeless room and transform it into a truly uplifting experience.



SOURCES:
WALLCOVERINGS: PrimeWalls, primewalls.com;
FURNITURE: Julien Armand, julienarmand.ca;
LIGHTING: Living Lighting on King, livinglightingonking.com