



FULL CIRCLE *by the lake*

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The circle motif consistent throughout the home is reflected in the intricate wrought-iron staircase.



The 1,000 gallon salt-water aquarium brings the incredible natural aquatic setting of the home indoors.



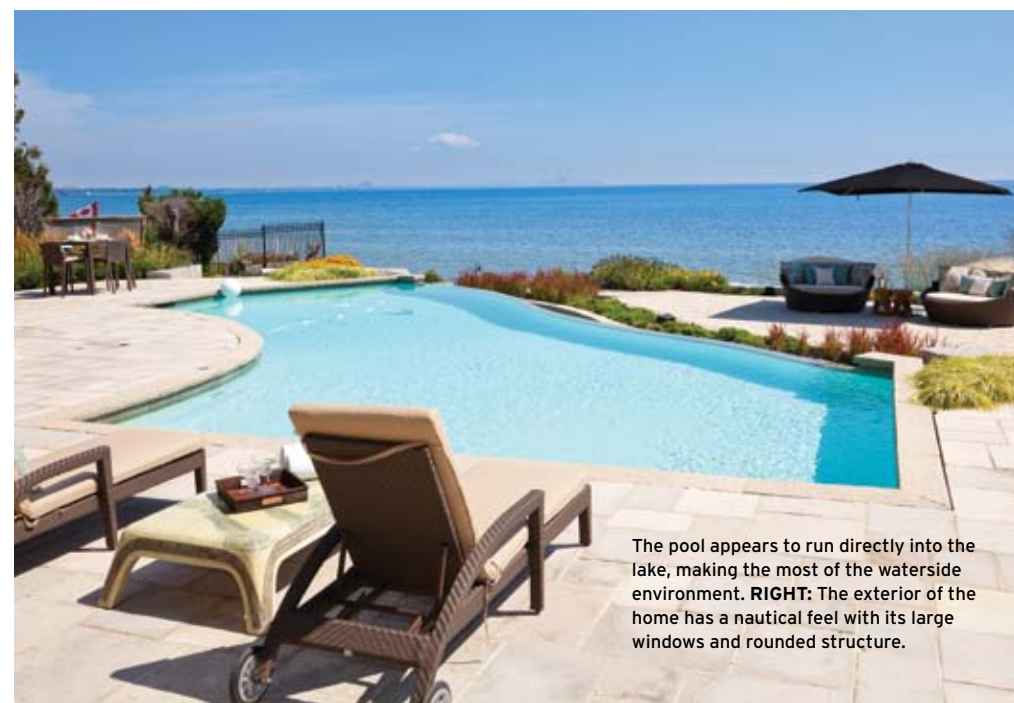
The formal living room features custom-crafted mirrors that reflect the circle theme and add a contemporary element to a beautifully classic room.

“Design is a funny word. Some people think design means how it looks. But of course, if you dig deeper, it’s really how it works.” Steve Jobs, founder of Apple and author of the quote, would likely have agreed that designing a home’s interior is not so different. Most of us know good interior design when we see it. What we may not know is how to achieve it.

That’s where hiring a designer comes in. A good designer is like a road map. A designer finds out exactly where we want to go with our design, navigates the inevitable bumps in the road and makes sure we arrive at our final destination with a wonderful sigh of satisfaction that signals, “we’re home.”

“Finding inspiration was not difficult on this lakeside setting; quite simply, it was the lake, visible from almost every vantage point,” says designer **Tina Singh** of Mississauga’s **Lionsgate Design**. Inspiration also came from architectural details. Singh wanted the eye drawn to

both, without décor stealing the show. “My feeling was to go with earth tones, sand and jewel colours,” she says. Singh was brought into the project after the house had been built, after the palette of colours including tiles, floors, millwork, cabinetry, trim and paint had been chosen and were already in place. Oakville Architect **Richard Mann** and builder **Scott Bachly** of **Bachly Construction** had created a structurally beautiful canvas. Singh’s role was to paint it with the brushstrokes of home, right down to choosing the linens and dishtowels. *Continued on page 38*



The pool appears to run directly into the lake, making the most of the waterside environment. **RIGHT:** The exterior of the home has a nautical feel with its large windows and rounded structure.





LEFT: The expansive grand foyer is set off by the unique wood and glass doors that bring natural light and surroundings indoors. **BELOW:** The kitchen is a chef's dream with a double gas oven and range, custom cabinetry and natural stone. **BOTTOM:** The open-concept main floor is divided into distinct living spaces that each serve a unique function. **OPPOSITE TOP:** The majestic metallic ceiling creates an elegant atmosphere for formal dining. **OPPOSITE BOTTOM:** The large kitchen is bright and airy with seating that's appropriate for a casual family dinner, or large party.



Her guidelines from homeowner Jasbir Gill, while minimal, were etched in stone. "I told Tina the focus had to be the lake, with a water theme incorporated. I also wanted the open concept accentuated with décor that would still be in vogue years from now," recalls Gill.

Beginning with the massive circle in the mahogany front door, circles are a consistent architectural theme. They are hinted at in the welded wrought-iron staircase, the French doors off the master and the archways on the main level. Working with **Quality and Company**, Singh had furniture custom-made to continue this theme. In the kitchen, stools feature small circles carved into the backrests. In the area separating the

kitchen from the family room, leather hassocks are topped with creamy bolsters with a sand-coloured circle pattern. Cutouts on the table's base reinforce the theme. In the living room, dramatic Marge Carson curio cabinets and mirror entertain filigree circles. Throughout the house, in every room, the circle motif is subtly evident.

Area rugs from Toronto's Elte are a precious blend of wool and silk upstairs and for resiliency, all wool on the busier lower levels. Despite neutral colours and soft, subtle patterns, the rugs are a stunning statement set against the dark, tight grain of the Santos Mahogany Brazilian hardwood. *Continued on page 40*





OPPOSITE TOP: The master bedroom is a dramatic space with a soaring cathedral ceiling. **OPPOSITE BOTTOM LEFT:** The windows in the master en suite, trimmed in dark wood, create a luxurious but rustic look. **OPPOSITE BOTTOM RIGHT:** The spa, accented with light wood, has a zen feel. **RIGHT:** Classic cabinetry and finishes in the home will have timeless appeal. **BELOW:** Interesting and artistic elements, like this bath faucet, add a little contemporary to the classic finishes. **BOTTOM:** A splash of tangerine in this guest bedroom draws the eye to the focal point – an ultra comfy bed.



Window treatments are fabric – light, airy and, like the rugs, chosen for their subtlety. The architectural nature of blinds would have broken the views whereas drapery softens the millwork without compromising the spectacular vistas. In the kitchen, the cheeky angle at which drapery is hung suggests the nautical aspect of a canvas sail. Every rod in the house sparkles with a touch of Swarovski crystal bling by Robert Allen Design.

The 16-by-20 foot dining room is Singh's favourite. Supremely elegant, its walls are painted in Benjamin Moore's Ashley Gray, contrasting beautifully with the faux-finish metallic coffered ceiling, which, glowing like a night sky, adds depth and dimension. A Marge Carson dining room table seats 10, its striking gold-coloured insets complement the style of the overhead lamp from [Concept Lighting](#). Both lamp and table base repeat the circle motif. A semi-circle of Swarovski crystal pot lights makes late-night dining both intimate and dramatic. *Continued on page 42*





Who wouldn't love to fall asleep to the sound of waves and a view of the Toronto skyline silhouetted against the night sky? In the 20-by-20 foot master bedroom, such luxury is an every night affair. Adorned with Benjamin Moore's Hancock Gray on the walls and Willow on the coffered ceiling, this room is a true retreat. Fine metal strands woven into the cotton drapes pick up the mirrored crackle finish on the side tables in this intimate space for a homeowner with a very busy life.

Despite the relaxing ambience, drama is very much alive in this home. In keeping with Gill's desire for a water theme, a 1,000 gallon salt-water aquarium is a focal point on the main level as is a 45-foot water feature by **Solar Aquatic**, backlit at night and running from the top floor to the lowest level. The skylight, originally designed in a traditional size, was super-sized when during a business meeting Gill looked up at the atrium and in a burst of inspiration said, "That's what I want in my house!" He went home, called the architect and the skylight was redesigned to run from the front of the house to the back.

Gill, a die-hard James Bond fan, wanted a "man-cave" with a Bond theme. Behind the window in the cave is a garage housing his pride and joy, a Casino Royale Aston Martin. Striking burgundy is found in the custom pool table cloth, leather stools around the bar and in the magnificent hand-painted James Bond mural by **Linda Holmes** of **Design illusions**.

Decorating is all about beautifying and creating a space that is both functional and relaxing, according to Singh. In this luxury home, on its spectacular waterfront setting, the lake does the talking while the timeless aspect of the décor allows us simply to relax and listen. **OH**



TOP: A window in the man-cave exhibits an Aston Martin Casino Royale on a lift which brings it down from the garage. **ABOVE:** A James Bond mural sets the scene for cocktails and cigars.



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