

# OBJEKT



INTERNATIONAL

10 LIVING IN STYLE

**CREATIVE  
MADNESS**

**GENTLE  
MONSTERS**

**HORSE ON  
A ROOF**

**HIT THE WAVES  
IN STYLE**

**KITCHEN  
PRINCESSES**

**SPLENDOR  
OF NATURAL  
STONE**



## ROSEMARY'S DREAM



THE HOUSE WAS BUILT IN A TRADITIONAL GEORGIAN STYLE IN FOREST HILL, IN THE CANADIAN TOWN OF TORONTO. THE ARCHITECTURE THROUGHOUT NEIGHBORHOOD IS DOMINATED BY TUDOR AND GEORGIAN STYLES, BESIDES FRENCH COLONIAL HOUSES WITH TERRA COTTA TILES AND ENGLISH COUNTRY MANORS WITH SWEEPING LAWNS. THE OWNERS HAD BECOME 'EMPTY NESTERS' AND HAD TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO. INSTEAD OF MOVING TO A CONDO THEY DECIDED TO RENOVATE. THEY ASKED ARCHITECT MICHAEL TAYLOR AND DESIGN CONSULTANT WILLIAM FULGHUM TO REDESIGN THE HOUSE INTO A WARM MORE MODERN AND OPEN STYLE.



production:  
OBJECT USA-CANADA  
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Left: the living room at the front side of the house with a sofa by Vladimir Kagan, chairs by Minotti, Venini lamps designed by Monica Guggisberg and Philip Baldwin, tables by Sebastian Heckner, a silk woolen carpet by Elite and a floor lamp designed by Roll & Hill. This page: the front façade of the Forest Hill House on Rosemary Road in Toronto which was transformed into a modern warm style by architect Michael Taylor and design consultant William Fulghum (far right).





These pages: the dining room with a table and chairs by Minotti, custom made bronze sliding doors by Reale Born and hand blown glass sculptures by Dante Marioni. The fragmented color mirror is by Françoise Turner Lucade and the chandelier by John Pomp.



"The house was built some twenty years ago in a Georgian style. Inside it had very detailed moldings, inlaid floors and it was furnished with formal furniture. Every room was different in colors and finishes. After the children had left the house they had the choice to move to a condo or stay in their house. They loved the neighborhood so they decided to keep the house and renovate. The only thing they were wanted to change the interior to be more contemporary with the feeling of a loft," according to design consultant William Fulghum.

The clients approached architect Michael Taylor and William Fulghum to transform the house.

The owners: "We had built our Georgian style house, which was traditionally decorated, in 1994. After more than 20 years, we considered downsizing but loved our home. We decided to stay and change the interior to a more modern style. With the skills and talents of the architect and designer, our surroundings were transformed and we are delighted with the more minimalist lines and décor."

The original thought of the owners was to just remove the wall-

paper and trimmings of the more formal interior, and then painting everything white. But after further discussions and some client 'homework', it became apparent that the space needed to be completely reworked and opened up. The design directive was established with an open plan living as the solution.

Fulghum: "Most important was to make the house more open on the inside and to give it a more casual/lofty feeling. We took it from there, designed a new floor plan and opened all rooms. The rear wall was rebuilt to accommodate a set of large glass windows and doors."

the owners agreed to replace all of their furniture except some family pieces. This way the designers had the opportunity to start from a blank canvas: new furniture was brought in as well new artworks and new finishes to create a warm yet modern atmosphere.

The most drastic intervention was the reconstruction of the staircase in the foyer. For the new design the entire foundation had to be reinforced. They had to dig deep into the ground to strengthen the floors. The addition of support beams

Left-hand page: the Master Bedroom was designed so that both owners of the house had their own en-suites and dressing rooms. The bed is by Minotti, the carpet is by Elte and the custom Walnut panels are by Caladen Woodworks. The light fixture is designed by Christopher Boots. The bathroom has a chandelier by Moooi, a shower by Zuccheti and a bath tub by Silk. The powder room was made into a jewel box, with an illuminated onyx wall with bronze detailing. The onyx wall is by Clot & Reale Born. The silk wall covering is by Holland & Sherry.

Left and right-hand page: the foyer became a gallery, with the addition of an art piece by Jacob Hashimoto. The ring lamps are by Henge. The wall is decorated with Jerry Pair leather panels. The floors are covered with European white oak by Moncer. The Moltzen-Dada kitchen at the rear of the house with chairs by Flexform, a table by Cassina and a mobile lamp by David Weeks. Right: the study at the front side of the house with chairs by Wittmann, a table by Minotti, a chandelier by Henge, a carpet by Elle and wall scones by Le Deun.



and concealed columns allowed for the load of a new floating limestone staircase, as well as the sliding bronze gates and glass dividing panels.

Furthermore the designers renewed all fireplaces into gas-operated ones. During the process they corrected and straightened up the walls. Upstairs they redesigned the master bedroom and opened it up while keeping the Georgian feel of the architecture in the main floor study. It took in total 15-month to complete the transformation. The front façade of the house

was kept intact because the owners did not want a change in street presence. Only the landscaping was cleaned up and modernized.

The designers: "The house now feels like a warm lofty space: A beautiful big loft with a garden. It is modern but with a lot of details to give it a classic touch in line with the architecture, yet simple and clean. What stands out is that we created a calm luminous and unified flow of spaces."

