



STORY **SYDNEY JAMES**
PHOTOGRAPHY **KELLY HORKOFF**
FLOWERS **FASCINATION FLOWERS**

AT HOME BY *Design*



Tucked away in the popular Ancaster community of Meadowlands, Ward and Diane Campbell have built their fifth home together.

Building beautiful homes is in their nature – Ward, past president of the family-owned-and-operated home building company, **Starward Homes**, founded in Hamilton more than 100 years ago. He recently passed the company to his son, Brandon. But this is the first house they've invested in as empty-nesters.

“Not many people have the opportunity to pick up and move like we have,” Diane says of their moves in the past. “This house is everything we need and want. It is cosy, and I just love being here.” Much of the

home's building materials were provided by the **Designer Showcase (Turkstra Lumber Company Ltd.)**.

Being the first to build on the street, they were able to choose their pie-shaped land and create a modest looking composition that conceals just how large the house actually is. The front exterior of the house suggests a footprint much smaller than 2,150 square feet.

From their experience in the industry, the Campbells understand the importance of a designer's role when building a home. For this

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OPPOSITE: A covered porch and poolside view brings indoor living outdoors. **ABOVE:** Krista Salter takes her clients' visions and makes them a reality. **RIGHT:** Lush landscaping, multiple lounging areas and a pool with a water feature create a true backyard oasis.





project, it was fitting for Ward and Diane to hire **Krista Salter**, Diane's daughter, who owns and runs the Hamilton-based boutique interior design firm, **KMSalter Design**. The homeowners knew Krista's design style and wanted to embody this aesthetic for their new home; modern, yet classically inspired, which is now reflected throughout the house.

"My design process begins with learning how my clients live and what inspires them," Krista explains. "I take that very seriously as it's a space they are living and investing in, not a space that is for me. I want to improve people's lifestyles by enhancing the functionality in their space, but with the right aesthetic."

For the Campbells, entertaining is important. They have four children, and with extended family, anywhere from 15 to 20 people come for birthdays, special events and the holidays. With an Italian background, a large family kitchen was high on Diane's list of priorities and in turn, made the kitchen her favourite room in the house. ("An entertainer's dream," Krista says.)

The kitchen, created by **dsk Kitchens Inc.**, features large, hutch-like cabinetry on one wall, a hidden coffee and cocktail bar and a pantry. A walkout to the porch with a built-in barbecue, designed for year-round use, is essentially a secondary cooking station for when the Campbells are entertaining.

To create a softer floor for a room that has a lot of foot traffic, Krista suggested installing cork flooring, which creates a warmer, more inviting area in which to both cook and entertain. Hardwood flooring runs through the entranceway into the living areas.

There is always a large amount of natural light shining through the home. Tall windows flank the great-room fireplace, styled with a black granite surround and clear crystal inserts. Coffered 10-foot ceilings decoratively finished by **Horrocks & Co.**, give definition to the spaces.

To keep the colours and design simple and timeless, Krista used a muted



ABOVE MIDDLE: A glass-enclosed stairwell reflects light. **ABOVE:** Art collected over the years is a lovely focal point in the dining room. **LEFT:** Cosy sofas and a big screen create a perfect place for recreation.



grey palette throughout the entire house. The trims are painted a colour one step down from the walls, subtly adding to the clean lines she envisioned.

The large wall along the dining area showcases the collection of artworks Ward and Diane have and continue to collect during their travels.

"I love the artwork that Diane and Ward have collected over the years," Krista explains. "Being that we are a combined family, there are pieces of art that reminds me of my childhood, similarly ones that remind my siblings of theirs. I think it's a nice mosaic of our family's past and present."

"I find most of my clients have wonderful pieces of art that are either in the wrong spot or need to be re-framed to give it a new life. I felt that this space needed the interest of the art. Being that she was so minimal

in her requests, we played off the geometric feel of the art grid and created a dynamic wall of both contemporary and traditional art."

One of Krista's biggest policies is classic design that her clients can grow with. Working with items people have as a jumping-off point – whether it's a collection of art, a rug or even just a pillow – she finds having that one piece helps guide her in her work.

"I also love to ask people to go through their old things; find boxes in the basement and let me look at what they may think is not worthy of being out on display," she says. "Playing with their old artifacts and collectables is often a fun and creative way for me to make the client's space feel like it's theirs. It's a joy for me to revitalize old pieces that they haven't seen for years." *Continued on page 24*

The master bedroom features a walk-out terrace that allows for easy access to a hot tub and pool, and a connecting staircase to the downstairs den and entertainment area.

The master bath, which has won an Outstanding New Home Bathroom award from the Ontario Home Builders' Association, features separate his-and-hers sinks, a stand-alone soaker tub and luxury shower. One of the most interesting features of the bathroom is the floor-to-ceiling tiles by **Via Roma Marble and Tile**, which creates a lavish, European spa-like feel.

"Ward and I have always had a good vision for how things will turn out," Diane says. With Krista's help it was easy to see the big picture for the home. "We would sit down and run ideas by each other. It was a great experience; we are very fortunate to have had her assist us with this – Krista made this all happen." **OH**



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TOP: His-and-hers vanities allow the couple to personalize their own space. **ABOVE:** The use of neutral colours in this bedroom creates a comfortable, organic feel. **LEFT:** A covered porch is a lovely place to read or enjoy the view of the beautiful yard.

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