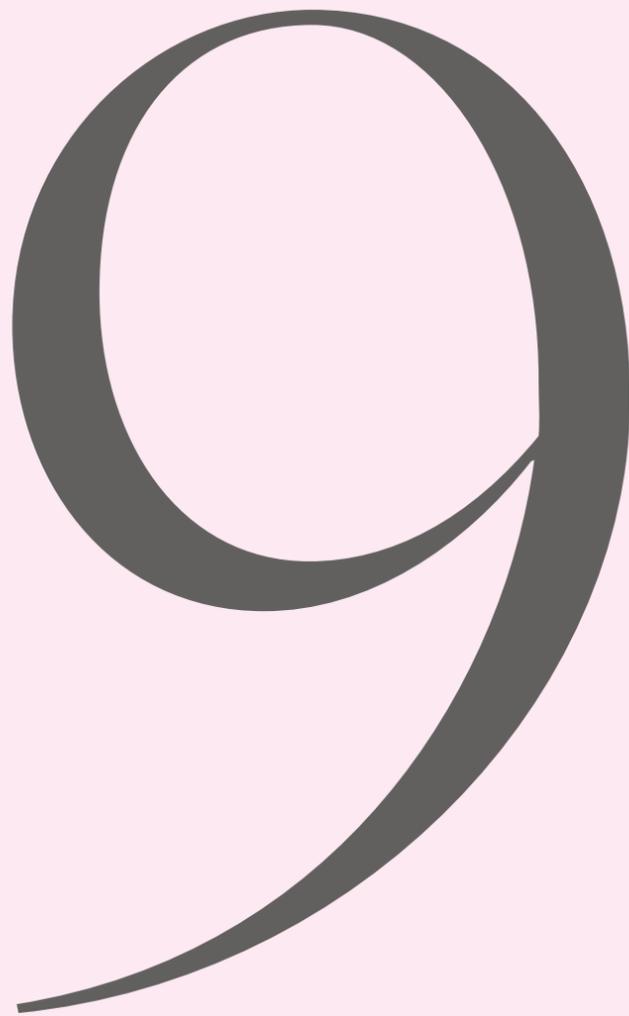


On Cloud



INTERIOR DESIGN BY MAIA
ROFFEY, BLACK SHEEP
INTERIOR DESIGN

CONSTRUCTION AND PROJECT
MANAGEMENT BY ANDREW POLISCHUK,
ALAIR HOMES FOREST HILL

FURNISHINGS AND
DECOR BY CLARISA
LLANEZA

THEIR THIRD COLLABORATION WAS A GRACIOUS CHARMER FOR TORONTO DESIGNER MAIA ROFFEY AND HER CLIENTS. TOGETHER, THEY CREATED A DREAM HOME FROM A CENTURY-OLD BRICK MANSION THAT NEEDED SOME LOVE.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
LAUREN MILLER

98
FALL 2023

STYLING BY
STACEY SMITHERS





TEAM EFFORT

With interior designers Maia Roffey of Black Sheep Interior Design (left) and Clarisa Llana of Clarisa Llana Studio leading the charge on interior finishes and furnishings, no detail was overlooked.

In the kitchen (*previous page*), a prized La Cornue range is the centerpiece of the space, framed by an expansive bespoke plaster range hood by Lime & Thistle Plastering, honed marble countertops and backsplash with dramatic veining. (It's Calacatta Corchia from Cava Surfaces.) "The dramatic hood also conceals the bump-out of the dining room chimney," Maia says. "With that unevenness hidden, we took advantage of having enough depth for cabinets housing spices, oils, and vinegars." The plumbing fixtures are Brizo; the lighting is by Hinkley. For decor, Clarisa added stools by Mjöl and accessories from Montana Labelle Lifestyle.

She had designed their first condo and next a starter home, then Maia Roffey, founder and principal of Black Sheep Interior Design, was tapped by the clients to take on their forever home—a stately brick residence that was ripe for renovation. "Although this century-old house was livable, it didn't meet their functional needs or aesthetic," she states. "Collaborating with Alair Homes Forest Hill for construction and Clarisa Llana Studio for interior furnishings and decor, we undertook a gut renovation, encompassing everything from basement excavation, new layouts, total custom cabinetry, as well as an exterior refresh. Throughout every level of the house, our vision was to harmoniously blend contemporary elements with the home's traditional style; bringing it into this century without losing its essence."

The historic red-brick home is in Rosedale, one of Toronto's oldest and most coveted neighborhoods. "Many Rosedale mansions were built from the mid-1800s to the 1910s in a mix of Georgian, Victorian,

Tudor, and Edwardian styles," Maia shares. "In our commitment to highlight this home's heritage, we designed the residence with a few historical details, incorporating elements like ornate plaster moldings and reproduction mantels." One construction win was the ability to restore the original radiators—which look like antique showpieces. "They have the most incredible pressed details and we only lost a few to corrosion," she recalls.

As with many old homes, there were certainly a few speedbumps during the two-year renovation. "To start, every floor was unlevel due to over a century of shifting and settling...along with some dubious 'upgrades,'" Maia recalls. "Each story had to be jacked up to level, reinforced, and then the same would be done the next floor up." But step by step, the home was restored to its original glory and then some—not to mention, a home the family will be proud of for generations to come. "All of our projects are unique because they are so client driven. I love the process of learning about a client—their needs, their lifestyle, their tastes—and then putting that all together into a custom design just for them."



SENSE OF SERENITY

The primary suite has a cocoon-like feel thanks to Farrow & Ball Diminuty on the walls. Clarisa's furniture plan included a custom headboard and bedside tables, the latter of which was built by Etherington Designs. They're joined by a Studio 321B rug. In the ensuite, a marble mosaic floor tile from Saltillo meets up with Euro Tile on the wall. The stone is polished Taj Mahal marble from Cava Surfaces. Adding to the luxury is a tub by Victoria & Albert fitted with Graff fixtures. The hardware is by Emtek.

CLEVER DETAILS

The foyer shows off Clarisa's ingenuity thanks to a vintage console she found on Instagram via one of Bettencourt Manor's weekly sales. "We cut it to fit the space," she says. A vintage Murano chandelier (not pictured) and sculptural mirror were sourced from 1st Dibs. "We set the perfect warm antique tone with Farrow & Ball's Wimborne White, which wraps throughout the main floor and up the lovingly restored staircase to the second and third corridors," Maia says.



A PIECE OF HISTORY

"We were able to save two butter-yellow, enameled cast iron sinks that we found in the basement," Maia says. "We used them in both the mudroom and laundry room and I find it delightful that something so functional has been in use in this house since before it likely had a telephone."

In this room, character was returned to the home with millwork by Wheelers Studio that is painted in Farrow & Ball Studio Green. The countertop is Caesarstone's Organic White and the faucet is by American Standard.



SET THE SCENE

"Our goal was to create a calm and engaging traditional envelope to house decidedly modern furnishings," Maia explains. "The soothing monochrome of the living room allows the scale of the architectural elements to take center stage. The fluted plaster crown and medallion highlight the height of the space, as do the nearly floor-to-ceiling windows."

Clarisa reupholstered the family's sofa in a dusty pink—Threadcount's Alo linen in Pino. "We had purchased the Montauk couch with the clients on a previous project, so I was glad to see Clarisa recover it," Maia says. The custom coffee table was fabricated by MaxSpace Stoneworks in gray Monet marble from Marble Trend; a vase from The Caza Project sits on top. The Cross easy chairs from Phantom Hands and a rug from Armadillo balance out the room.



WRAPPED IN LUXURY

A specialty of Black Sheep Interior Design is ensuring every corner completes the picture of opulence. A corner of the primary suite boasts a spacious walk-in closet that provides plenty of storage—there are even drawers built into the baseboards for out-of-season items. As in much of the house, the millwork was done by Heritage Kitchens. (Here, it's painted in Farrow & Ball Joa's White.) The hardware is Lee Valley; the carpet is Nourison.