

FALL 2010

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our homes

T H E C I T Y O F M I S S I S S A U G A

Entertaining
in LORNE PARK

MODERN
FRENCH
COUNTRY

plus
AN OWNER
CRAFTED
CUSTOM
HOME

SOFAS YOU
CAN SINK INTO
and
GAMES ROOM FUN

ELEGANT ENTERTAINING

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STYLING BY ANN VENCHIARUTTI

Luxurious, yet welcoming; sprawling, yet cozy. It's a place to gather with family and friends, or sit back and relax in peace. Walk into this Lorne Park home and you'll discover elegance that is also a true family affair, in more ways than one.

Bimal and Anne are dedicated parents who were looking to build the ideal home for their three growing children. They met their match in **Marc Venchiarutti**, whose love of building dream homes stems from his own family ties.

"My father was a builder, and his father was a builder," the owner of **Venchiarutti Builders** says. In fact, the long Venchiarutti family tradition of building began in Canada in 1909, when Marc's grandfather, Tony, came to Canada from northern Italy. In 1911, the stonemason and bricklayer crafted the walls of Casa Loma for Sir Henry Pellatt. In the 1950s, Marc's father Silvio grew the construction business, building homes and apartments in the Kingsway area, Mississauga, California and Florida. *Continued on page 28*



Bimal and Anne's home sits nestled on a 200 foot wide forested lot. The steeply pitched roof, lavish stone and ornamentation were inspired by French chateaux.

LEFT: This home built for entertaining wouldn't be complete without a free-form swimming pool. Once the evenings are too cool to enjoy it, a balcony walk-out is there just to sit back and enjoy the view.



Marc knew this was his calling. “Even as a child I knew I would do this,” he says. “I grew up on job sites!”

Bimal and Anne spent several years looking for the perfect plot of land before choosing this forest-like setting on a quiet cul-de-sac. The lot is more than 200 feet wide, just what the couple needed to build their 11,500 sq. ft. paradise.

“We just loved the trees,” Anne recalls. “There was so much nature around.”

Architect **David W. Small** worked with the couple to create a palatial French Country home that perfectly complemented the wide lot. The home’s facade features a stunning combination of details, including copper eaves troughs and accent roofs by **Mile Roofing and Renovations Inc.**, and classic stonework by the masons at **M. Gasparetto Construction**.

The curb appeal continues right up to the home’s magnificent entryway, as Bimal swings open the nine-foot high arched solid mahogany double doors.

The hallway’s creamy Turkish limestone floor tiles with intricate inlays dazzle when bathed in the light streaming down from the skylight. A curved staircase with ornate wrought-iron railings by **Ideal Railings** leads up to a balcony area, overlooking the main floor.

The home features a formal drawing room, but the family room is what your eye is drawn to. It’s warm and welcoming, with its stunning two-storey fireplace. The fireplace also serves to divide the space from the kitchen, and has a unique waterfall feature above the mantel. High overhead, the ceiling is framed with reclaimed wood beams that perfectly match the stain on the wide engineered maple floorboards by **Aspen Wood Floors**. *Continued on page 30*



The great room, located at the front of the home, is an opulent but cozy space for tea or quietly reading a book.

LEFT ABOVE: The kitchen is huge with lots of counter space for food preparation, but for any real feast, an extra prep kitchen is located just behind it.

INSET: From Left to Right Anne, Bimal, Builder Marc Venchiarutti and wife Ann.

LEFT BELOW: The grand foyer showcases tile laid with intricate designs and original commissioned artwork.



As in most true family homes, the kitchen is the heart of the action for Anne and Bimal. Their many family gatherings start out with a glass of wine served at the massive centre island with its one-of-a-kind bronze and black veined marble top. Creamy antique white and dark-stained cabinets from **Bella Kitchens Inc.** are everywhere, including in the adjacent servery area. A second, smaller kitchen is just perfect for cooking a big feast to be served in the classically-styled formal dining room. There is even an elevator close at hand to help transport a steady stream of party food down to an entertainment area in the basement.

Forget your typical basic wet-bar and rec room in the basement. This home features a custom-designed party playground for the entire family. A walk-in wine cellar, billiards room, sauna and home theatre means there is something here for every member of the family and all of their entourage.

“Every weekend the kids are down here with all their friends and our friends too. Everyone always wants to come here, so we never get to go out!” Anne jokes.

One look around and it’s easy to see why. The bar area features dark brown cabinetry topped with thick black granite that dazzles with jewel-like flecks of silver and copper. The bar’s metallic-tiled backsplash provides some contemporary bling. A dance floor, complete with disco lights, has a powerful sound system with built-in speakers. *Continued on page 32*



TOP LEFT: The lower-level bar and dance floor is the life of the party. A professional mixer and sound system means as much bass as you can handle, and the best part is the walls in this home will withstand it.

TOP RIGHT: The family room has a large floor to ceiling window that lets natural light flood the home.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The master en suite contains stone-vessel sinks that bring a bit of the outdoors in and provide a natural elegance.

home & builder

A sunken lounge provides the perfect place to curl up in front of the fire and watch TV. But for a blockbuster movie, a step away is the home theatre, designed by **Devine Audio**. It's the one room that breaks with the earthy warm tones in the rest of the house; it's a sophisticated but fun blend of colourful carpeting and luxurious red leather stadium seating.

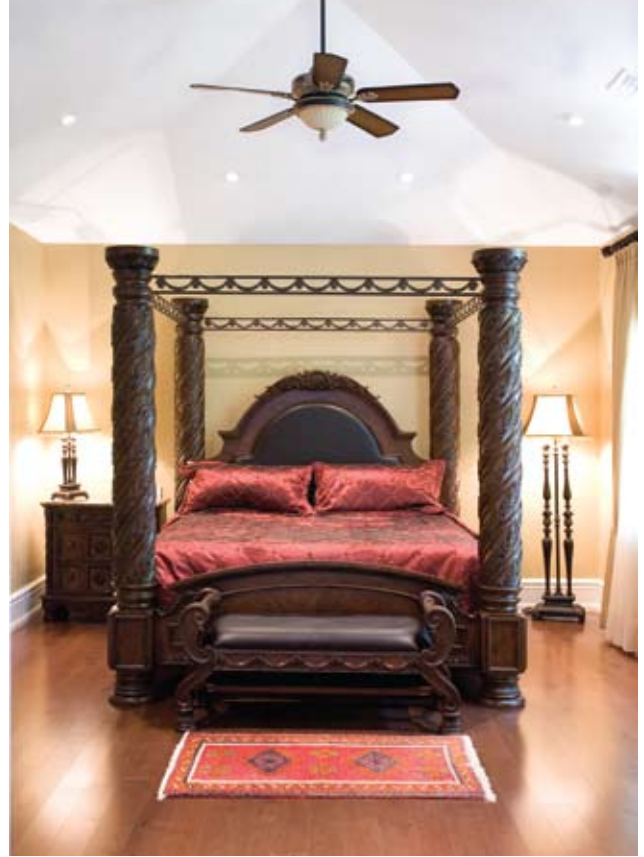
And with four spacious bedrooms in the basement, a big problem for Bimal and Anne might be trying to get guests to go home.

The top floor features the master bedroom and a bedroom for each of their children. Each of the children's rooms has its own walk-in closet and en suite bathroom, one of the main reasons that Bimal and Anne wanted to build a custom home. The master suite is secluded across the walkway so Bimal and Anne can get some sleep while noisy slumber parties ensue. A gorgeous wall of windows by **Pella Windows** leads to the private balcony looking over the backyard trees, making this an oasis.

"We worked on this for two years," Bimal recalls. "For months I came here every day after work. It was my dream to build the house exactly the way I wanted."

And helping to make that kind of dream a reality is Venchiarutti's goal.

For Anne and Bimal, he got it just right. "This home is fantastic, it's cosy and we can relax here." Bimal says, contentedly. "It's exactly what we wanted." **OH**



A lower level living room sits aside a billiards room, cedar sauna and fully-stocked wine cellar.

ABOVE: The master suite is located at the opposite end of the home from the other bedrooms, offering a quiet retreat and privacy.