



Mix Master

Known for the art of mixing old and new with high and low to create extraordinary spaces, Yanic Simard's design spectrum is anything but narrow.

As founder and principal of Toronto Interior Design Group (TIDG), Yanic and his talented team extend this transitional design philosophy into every innovative space they create, with styles ranging from minimalist and modern to elaborate and traditional.

"I believe that simplicity is the ultimate in sophistication," says Yanic. "Keeping a visual flow between rooms and creating interest in each space

with one or two key furniture pieces (which could be priced high or low as long as they're visually interesting) is so important."

Drawing on his design theories and sources of inspiration, Yanic's timeless creations evolve from monochromatic schemes that are punctuated with colour or interesting elements. From there, he works to declutter spaces of small and inconsequential items, while making best use of functional pieces and mainly useful accessories that have



Yanic Simard

Above: Use unexpected design elements, such as this digital print on canvas headboard. It will add interest and personality to a room.

Photography: (Top) Ted Venocoul; (Portrait) Branson Barre

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meaning or a personal history. "No fluff, just the real thing," advises Yanic.

Designing is about listening, seeing and feeling – it requires all the senses. And so, he aims to include design elements like colour and texture, which help to ignite the visual and tactile senses. Inspiration can be found anywhere, whether it be in nature or even the hustle and bustle of a big city.

"Every designer has a definite point of view, but what it really comes down to is: where is the home, who are the people, and what do they honestly like?" declares Yanic. His design work reflects the people who live in the space. "Strive for balance, address the basic function of a space and then infuse it with style/design choices that are easy to maintain and do not compromise the

space's intended use."

More than anything, Yanic notes, "There's nothing better than creating spaces where you know people will have fun gathering with family and friends, feel great and be happy. I really like my work to encourage that." ■

Yanic Simard is featured in many Canadian and international publications and is a frequent design expert on CityLine TV.

You can catch Yanic at the 2011 National Home Show in Toronto on the main stage, sponsored by Miralin Industries Corp. and Antica Stone & Tile. His advice and helpful tips for designing small spaces is perfect for downsizers and anyone looking for creative solutions to maximize their living space.

Visit tidg.ca to view Yanic's stunning portfolio of designs.

Meet Yanic Simard at the
RENO & DECOR booth
during the
2011 National Home Show,
February 18 - 27

SOURCES

BEDROOM:

Digital headboard, Prismaflex,
prismaflex.com

LIVING/DINING ROOM:

Curtain fabric: Robert Allen,
robertallen.com

Suspension light fixture: Elte, elte.com

Fireplace marble facing: MC Stones,
905.761.6767

KITCHEN:

Custom cabinetry: Toscana Kitchen,
416.741.0890

Marble countertop Calcutta Oro:
Marble Trend, marbletrend.com

Photo: Leni Johnson



We spend at least 70 per cent of our time at home in the kitchen area. Make it splendid and functional. Storage is paramount to keep the visual appeal.

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Think about combining functions in one room but don't compromise on quality. For instance, living and dining rooms that can be easily combined.

Photo: Ted Yarrowood