

ONTARIO, TORONTO

With the help of art consultant
Caryln Moulton from the Oeno Gallery,
these selections were made

This home is a gallery



Bold, graphic works by Ivo Stoyanov and Lis Mellikov Gare punctuate the transitions from one level to the next.

The owners of this new home in Toronto's Bridlepath area worked with Douglas Design Studio to meet the aesthetic and comfort requirements of a professional couple with young children. "There was real work involved," they say. "Once items such as layout, furniture, lighting and wall treatments were sorted out, our next challenge was to find art that suited our design and that reflected us. This is really the finishing touch in a home, but there are an infinite number of works of art to choose from."

Over three months, and with the help of art consultant Carlyn Moulton from Oeno Gallery, the selections were made. Today, a whimsical wood sculpture by Ontario's Don Stinson is an organic counterpoint to stainless steel, while a powerful painting by Alice Teichert brings energy into the living room and provides a warm contrast to the cool modern aesthetic of the fireplace. Glass sculptures from Canadian artist Catherine Vamvakas Lay's "Pomegranate Series" and by Australia's Eileen Gordon punctuate the space.

The kitchen presented a special challenge: the wall is only 18 inches wide and 10 feet tall, but it is visible from many different points. It also receives strong sunlight throughout the day. Toronto artist Nancy Zboch was commissioned to create a mosaic glass/metal sculpture. "The interactive process with the artist was very positive," says designer Jeffrey Douglas.



Glass and wood sculptures, coupled with a richly coloured abstract painting by Alice Teichert, bring warmth to this contemporary family room.

"We often do work together. She captured the mood exactly and the clients were delighted with the end result."

The centre of the house is diffused with soft light from a skylight above the stairs. A bold canvas by Ivo Stoyanov and four of Stoyanov's more delicate works on paper fill the space with colour and movement.

"Many people don't have the time to spend visiting various galleries, and the choices really are endless—the process

can be overwhelming," says art consultant Carlyn Moulton. "It can be very difficult to find the right pieces to suit individual physical, aesthetic and budgetary considerations. That's why we pre-select pieces by good artists that have value, but which we also know will work in the specific situation. When we bring them to the client's home, it is a much less stressful process. Everyone can relax, have a glass of wine and sit back and consider which pieces they really want to live with."

And the end result? "The artwork has a very impressive initial visual impact," say the owners. "But as we become accustomed to the works, they seem more and more to be a part of the house. When we look at certain works in certain parts of the house we wonder how we could have imagined anything else being in that particular space—they really do 'belong' there and are now an integral part of the home." ■

The harmony and tranquility of the master suite are enhanced by Doug Robinson's marble sculpture and the soft palette of Rachel Ovadia's painting.



Architect: Richard Wengle
Designer: Douglas Design Studio, www.douglasdesignstudio.com
Builder: Teddington Homes
Art Consultant: Oeno Gallery, www.oenogallery.com
Photography: David Whittaker

Art Credits:
Alice Teichert, Solar Water Way (above fireplace)
Ivo Stoyanov, Interventions series/Poppy series (stairs)
Catherine Vamvakas Lay, Pomegranate series (table)
Eileen Gordon, glass sculptures (nook)
Rachel Ovadia, bedroom
Nancy Zboch, commission (kitchen)