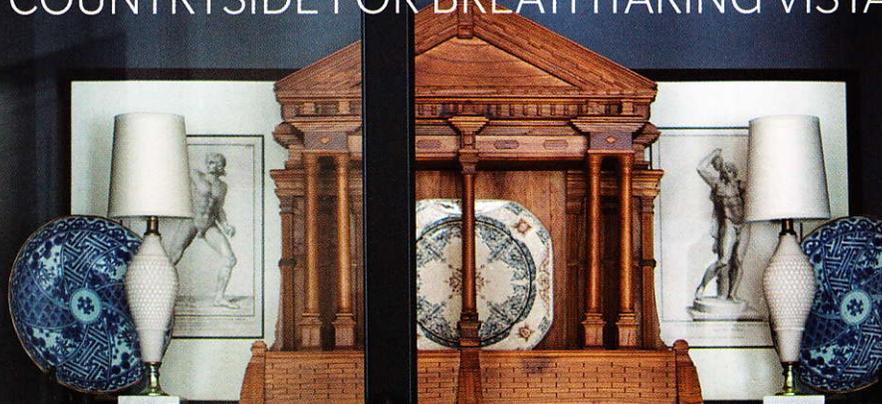


OPEN-DOOR POLICY

MONTREAL DESIGNER AND *H&H* FAVOURITE SCOTT YETMAN UPDATES HIS 1950s BUNGALOW WITH A LAYOUT THAT RIVALS THE SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE FOR BREATHTAKING VISTAS.



Text by ALISON GARWOOD-JONES | *Photography by* MONIC RICHARD



Simple pale upholstered furniture highlights the living room's more decorative items: a recovered antique French armchair and the Old-English pine mantel, originally from an 18th-century home. Interior designer and homeowner Scott Yetman and his partner, Jean Michel Lavoie, added the large coffer in the 9½' ceilings for drama. The wood Sans Souci sign (meaning "without a care") was found at an antique store nearly 15 years ago. Scott told the vendor, "When I have a

house in the country, this is what I'll call it." **Interior design**, Scott Yetman Design; **sofa**, Celadon; **peacock fabric** (on pillow), Scalamandré; **mantel**, Milord Antiques; **rug**, Red Carpet; **flowers** (throughout), Bramewood. **OPPOSITE**: The bottom of the living room cabinet hides a dumbwaiter that brings up firewood from the basement. A wood Palladian-style model from Italy sits up top. **Cabinet**, Ebénisterie Classique; **cabinet colour**, Off Black (57), Farrow & Ball.



Knowlton — or the Knamptons, as its residents call it with a wink — is a prosperous town of 5,500 in the Eastern Townships, about 100 kilometres southeast of Montreal and a half-hour drive from the New England border. It's also where Montreal interior designer Scott Yetman of Scott Yetman Design and his partner, Jean Michel Lavoie, head when they lock up their city apartment, passing lavender fields and vineyards on the way. Shortly after a client and friend introduced the two men seven years ago, the couple soon set about making their country home in Knowlton the culmination of their combined interests and obsessions. In short, their ultimate weekend retreat.

United Empire Loyalists established the town in 1802, and their mark is still evident. "We're on a street in the centre of town dominated by large properties with Federal-style homes," says Scott, pulling into the circular driveway of the five-acre property. True to the town's heritage, a handsome Federal-style home once stood on the Yetman-Lavoie lot, too, but it was destroyed by fire in the 1930s and replaced in 1957 by a 4,000-square-foot ranch-style bungalow designed by Harold E. Shorey and S. Douglass Richie, prominent Montreal architects responsible for a number of classical banks and low-rise office buildings still gracing the city's downtown core. "At first glance, our new place looked like the *Brady Bunch* house," says Scott, recalling the yellow bricks and '50s picture windows. But he and Jean Michel, a brand manager for a major pharmaceutical company and former gallery owner, both loved the shape of the house, with its prominent central gable book-ended by chimneys. Inside, they marvelled at the sense of space: the large principal rooms and big kitchen — a must for two accomplished cooks and avid wine collectors — are connected by the sweeping centre hallway.

They moved here in September 2010 after leaving a smaller place down the street. Scott is friends with the former owner and had been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 190



25 Scott Yetman was first featured in *H&H* in October 1997 for his own home in Montreal.

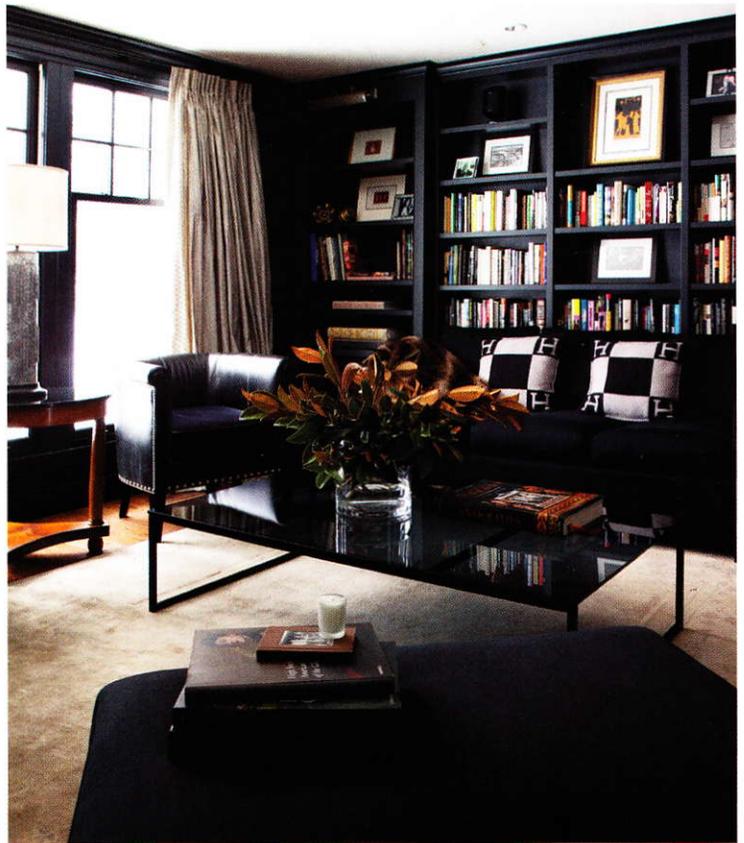
In the dining room, Scott combined a contemporary light fixture and a Regency-style table with reproduction white chairs upholstered with black leather and blue gingham fabric. An early-19th-century portrait by the French artist Pigalle hangs on the wall. "I love antiques, but I wouldn't want a house full of them. It would make the place feel old." **Dining table**, Milord Antiques; **pendant**, chairs, Celadon; **wall colour**, White Tie (2002), Farrow & Ball; **artwork**, Randall Tysinger Antiques. OPPOSITE TOP LEFT: Jean Michel (seated) and Scott in their living room. "The whole idea for this house is transparency," says Scott.

BOTTOM: Scott picked up the large Chinese ginger jar on one of his antiquing adventures and showcases it on the hammered-metal and waxed-wood coffee table. "I love blue and white," he says. The cabinet also holds an assortment of blue and white pottery, for a sense of continuity, and ink drawings. **Coffee table**, Holly Hunt; **cabinet design**, Scott Yetman Design. **TOP RIGHT**: Set back from the road behind a stacked stone wall, the property features a sweeping front lawn with century-old Norwegian spruce trees. **Door colour**, Off Black (57), **masonry colour**, Wimborne White (239), Farrow & Ball.



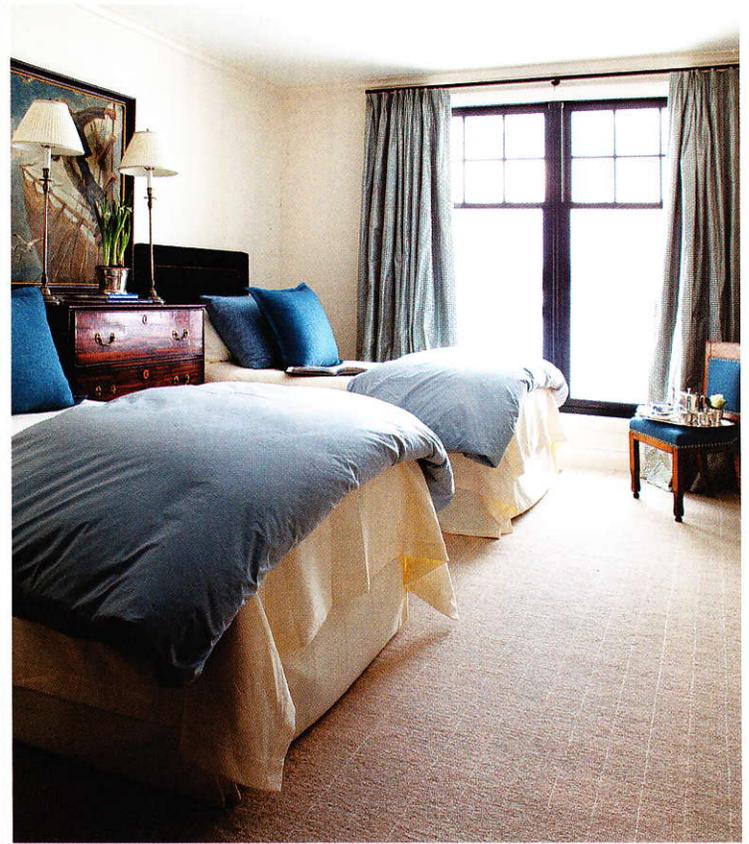
French doors in the spacious central hallway lead out to the back garden. Scott bought the matching tables during a 24-hour layover in Atlanta. He designed the antique-nickel ceiling lanterns and had ash floors installed throughout the house. *Julian Chichester walnut table, Celadon; flooring, Bousada Interiors.*





TOP LEFT: Scott creates small vignettes with furniture, art and accessories. This mahogany chair in a main-floor hallway is a late-19th-century copy of an English Regency design. The portrait was a gift from Jean Michel. TOP RIGHT: The couple call this Ralph Lauren-inspired den their “winter room.” Scott designed the sofa and had it covered in a nubby charcoal linen. The chair is upholstered in distressed leather with a mohair seat. Black bookshelves and dark window treatments help create an ultra-cosy hangout. **Sofa, chair, coffee table, lamp, Celadon; pillows,**

Hermès; bookshelves, Ébénisterie Classique; windows, LePage. ABOVE LEFT: A glass enclosure turns the kitchen’s cherrywood wine cellar into a handsome design feature. **Millwork, Guy Roy, Aux Bois d’Oeuvres.** ABOVE RIGHT: Ample cabinets keep countertops clear for rolling pastry and chopping vegetables from the garden. The island stores recycling, a small fridge, a second oven and a microwave. A drawer at the end hides electrical outlets. **Appliances, KitchenAid Architect Series; stools, pendants, Celadon; island, cabinets, Treebone Design.**



TOP LEFT: The principal bedroom was the only major addition (the original bedroom is now the bathroom and dressing room). The vaulted 12' ceiling is balanced by the room's warmer touches: soft grey wool carpeting and a king-size bed that evokes an oversized wing chair. A traditional cherrywood sofa is extra-plush in striated velvet. *Julian Chichester chandelier, sofa, crystal lamp, Celadon; linens, bedding (throughout), Toile sur Rendez-vous; Rose Cummings pillows, Primavera; Donghia drape fabric, Télio; lampshades (throughout), Liv-Smart; carpet, Red Carpet.* TOP RIGHT: The powder room's pagoda-print wallpaper is a fun nod to the couple's china collection. For the vanity, a fluted china sink was built into a

chest, then topped with marble. *Christopher Norman Collection wallpaper, Télio; Julian Chichester chest, Celadon; countertop, Ciot; mirror, Encadrements Marcel; Kohler faucet, Batimat; Devonshire collection toilet, Kohler.* ABOVE LEFT: An antique French First Empire chair in the guest bedroom was reupholstered in blue flannel and serves as a spot for holding a tea service. *Teacup, Antiquités Pour la Table.* ABOVE RIGHT: The guest bedroom's fabrics and finishes were inspired by men's tailoring: the grey wool carpet has thin white pinstripes and the drapes are blue and grey gingham. A dresser functions as a nightstand and divider between the twin beds. *Dresser, Celadon; drape fabric, Kravet; carpet, Red Carpet.*



The freestanding cast-iron French-style bathtub is perfectly centred beneath the wide double window in the principal ensuite. The floors are heated Calacatta marble. An ornate 18th-century Italian stool looks spa-fresh covered in a striped seersucker fabric. *Recor tub, Batimat; stool, Milord Antiques; Donghia stool fabric, Primavera; Barbara Barry lamp, Celadon; marble flooring, Ciot.*

AT HOME IN HOLLYWOOD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 133

that Tobey Maguire, Keanu Reeves and Leonardo DiCaprio all live down the street. But I never see them!

H&H: *What's one of your most favourite personal items in your Hollywood house?*

MB: One night right before Lu moved in, I was hanging out with my musicians and others, like Ryan Seacrest and my friend Ryan Kavanaugh, who owns a movie-production company, Relativity Media. Kavanaugh said, 'Where's your piano? Can we get somebody to play?' I admitted I didn't have one and he couldn't believe it. The next morning at 8, there was a knock on the door and he'd bought me a piano! That was a pretty special moment.

“Tobey Maguire, Keanu Reeves and Leonardo DiCaprio all live down the street. I never see them!”

H&H: *What do you do for fun when you're not on the road?*

MB: I would much rather have my friends over and cook a big, beautiful dinner with some nice wine and play Scrabble than I would go out to a loud club.

H&H: *Wait — so not only do you sing but you also cook? Is that something you and Luisana like to do together?*

MB: Very much. We actually fight over what we're going to cook and who's going to get to cook it. She won yesterday.

H&H: *What are your go-to dishes when you're entertaining?*

MB: Tonight, I think I'll make asado, which is Argentine barbecue. You use what looks like an old-school pizza oven and put sides of beef and chorizo over hot coals for three to four hours. It's incredible — one of my favourite things right now. We also love to make empanadas — you can even have chocolate

ones. So that's here in Argentina. When I'm in Vancouver, I'll make a vegetable risotto with some roasted chicken or pot roast. In L.A., we tend to eat out more with friends we don't get to see as often.

H&H: *Let's talk style in general. How would you describe your own?*

MB: I used to say that when I looked back at photos, I never wanted to say, 'What the hell was I wearing?' So I try to make classic choices. I've got a great stylist named Holly Russell and I look to her to keep things modern and fresh. Because if it were up to me, I'd just keep wearing the same sort of suits.

H&H: *So what do you like to wear when nobody's around to see you and you're just hanging out at home?*

MB: Nice pair of jeans, T-shirt, a pair of Converse ... pretty casual. When you have to dress up in a suit every night, it's a nice change.

H&H: *OK, last question: if you had to give a 25th anniversary toast to House & Home, what would you say?*

MB: It's been a pleasure being part of the celebration, and thanks for guiding us and inspiring us all these years! **H&H**

OPEN-DOOR POLICY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 148

coming to cocktail parties and dinners at the three-bedroom, three-bathroom house since the late '90s. Every time he walked through the front door, he would exclaim, 'What a great space!' So when the owner decided to downsize, the property changed hands and the transformation began. The yellow bricks disappeared under several coats of white masonry paint, while the old picture windows were replaced with black-framed box-sash ones. To open up the interior even more, Scott instructed the contractor to raise the eight-foot ceilings by a foot and a half. He then installed taller doors he'd sketched himself. 'The doors are almost to the ceiling, so instead of being the standard 80 inches, they're eight feet tall. It's such a small thing,' he says, 'but the feeling of opening a tall door is amazing.'

Equally dramatic is the home's crisp dialogue between black and white. The

exterior and main hallway doors are painted black to match the dark window frames; inside, the walls are a warm white. Instead of splashing the home with colour, the couple revels in the effect of great art and sharp contrasts. 'Every room should have black in it,' muses Scott, who is also the principal buyer for Montreal's Celadon, a luxury furniture showroom. 'You add black somewhere and pow!'

“Every room should have black in it. Add it somewhere and pow!”

Books on Regency England fill the shelves and were a direct source of inspiration for the duo's style. Trips to London and tours through their favourite royal residence, Clarence House, also provided ideas. Regency-era architecture was dominated by white-painted exteriors, black doors, classical mouldings, box-sash windows and vertically striped fabrics and wallpapers. And not surprisingly, Scott and Jean Michel's home is filled with crisp stripes and seersucker fabrics on seat cushions and drapes. Classical mouldings also abound, from the coffered ceilings — 'I'm all about 3-D,' says Scott — right down to the moulded bases on the toilets.

At night, a golden twinkle from the custom-designed antique-nickel lamps illuminates the main hallway, where dinner parties often finish. Scott points out a side room where he and Jean Michel stash the walnut table in the hall during larger soirées (their most recent garden party was attended by 170 guests), then moves over and turns on the subwoofers built into the wall of the hallway. Out blasts the thumping beat of mixed tracks from La Voile Rouge, a famous beach club in Saint-Tropez. 'Here's where we dance after dinner,' he says, breaking into a groove. Looking down the long hall, he notes how every corner of the house has been touched by friends and family. From weekend to weekend, in this happy place dubbed Sans Souci ('without a care'), dust never has a chance to settle. **H&H**