

Beauty

BY THE WOODS

STORY MARY HATT PHOTOGRAPHY JASON HARTOG

Mike and Milena Harasym of Harasym Developments Inc. like to apply the adage, two heads are better than one. Together, this building power couple promises stylish architectural components and functional interior design. Their plans never fail to check all the boxes: plenty of storage, scads of built-ins and layouts that make practical sense for today's family.



TOP LEFT: The dining room's wallpaper mural seems a nod to nearby wildlife in the Warbler Woods. **LEFT:** The carefully curated fireplace surround is the family room's focal point, featuring millwork by North Pole Trim & Supplies Ltd., wall in Newburyport Blue (Benjamin Moore) and a painting by Milena Harasym. Sofa, loveseat and custom glass-topped coffee table by Austin & Taylor. **ABOVE:** Artist and decorator Jane Kewin, left, worked with Milena and Mike Harasym.



The 3,400 sq. ft. *Rochelle* model home in Warbler Woods has an open plan that starts with a practical side entry from the double garage to a well-kitted mudroom and adjoining two-piece bathroom. Along the back of the house, the light-filled kitchen (windows by **Dashwood Industries Inc.**), dining room and great room roll effortlessly into each other. And, when family members want to get away from it all, there is a small living room and den at the front of the house plus a master suite sitting area upstairs.

The Harasym's opted to locate the *Rochelle*'s laundry room on the upper floor where a busy family generates most of its wash. And each of the three secondary bedrooms features an en suite, a touch of functional luxury.

The *Rochelle* was designed with entertaining in mind. The front door opens to a light-filled foyer running the length of the house past the striking black-spindled stairway (**Roes Stair Corp.**). Off the back portion of the foyer is the dining room, detailed with a striking Audrey Abstract wallpaper mural, tiered ceiling and elegant chandelier by **The Lighting Shoppe**. Here, dinner can be served after drinks have been enjoyed around the fireplace in the great room or two islands in the kitchen, a one-of-a-kind space featuring wrap-around cabinetry by **Woody's Premium Cabinetry**. *Continued on page 22*

ABOVE AND LEFT: The kitchen's showstopping feature is deep blue cabinetry by Woody's (in Evening Dove by Benjamin Moore). Milena kept things bright and open with contrasting uppers in Silver Elm Wood Recon Veneer and smoked glass fronts, and white quartz countertops from Progressive Countertop. Black light fixtures (The Lighting Shoppe) add bold beauty.

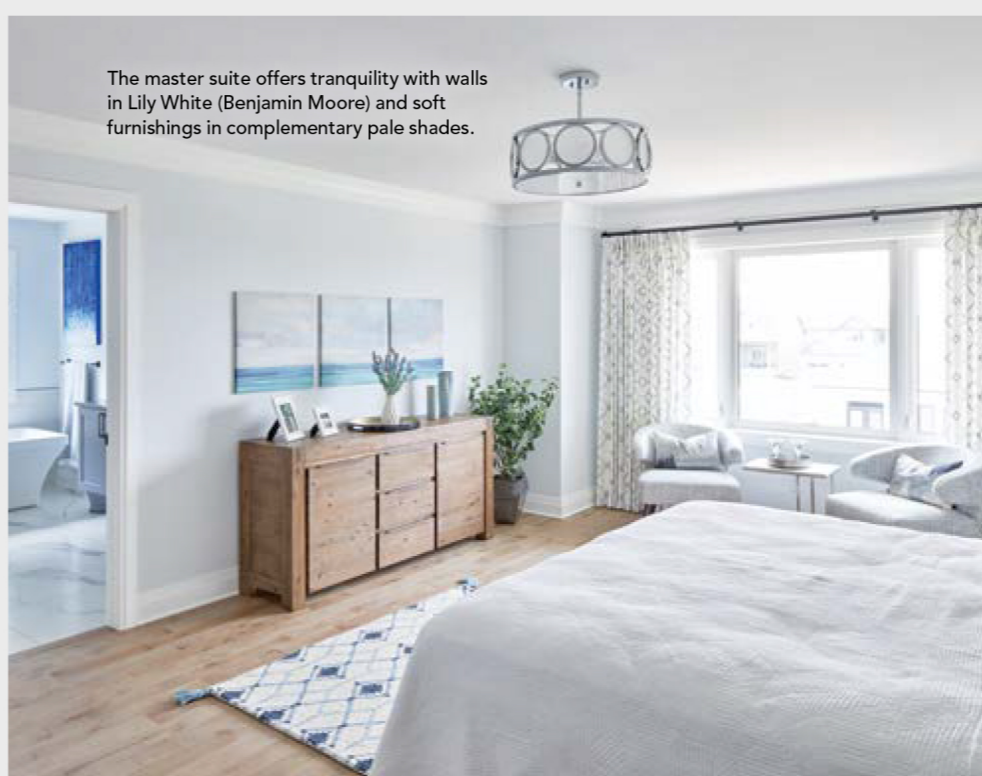


LEFT: Glass-panned double doors (North Pole) open to a small office that is bright and fresh thanks to white wall panelling (North Pole) and contrasting walls in Newburyport Blue (Benjamin Moore). **ABOVE:** A fanciful choice for wallpaper in the powder room. **BELOW:** Soft blues and taupe in the living room include walls in Beacon Gray (Benjamin Moore).

The kitchen colour palette was a starting point for Milena and artist and decorator **Jane Kewin**, who joined the Harasym's on this special project. "The rest just came from there," Jane says. "We wanted a cohesive home where every room spoke a common language."

Throughout the *Rochelle*, pleasing and practical design elements bring spaces to life. Milena and Jane created layers of richness in details such as linen-blend drapes and blinds in a variety of complementary patterns by **Creative Fabrications**, whimsical wallpapers and bold, beautiful colour.

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The master suite offers tranquility with walls in Lily White (Benjamin Moore) and soft furnishings in complementary pale shades.

Mike likes to add his own special touches to a home, making sure it includes the hot buttons many mindful buyers are looking for. These include energy efficiency features that go well beyond what's required, like the *Rochelle*'s Lifebreath heat recovery ventilator to filter the air and a full radon gas protection system below the basement slab. There are also the latest techie trends, like the home's WiFi refrigerator. With it, your smartphone will let you know your milk has reached its best-before date!

Milena sums up the *Rochelle*'s double-duty living spaces. "They are perfect for family time, and ideal while cooking when entertaining a group of friends." She adds, "There is plenty of space to spread out, or cosy up." **OH**

BELOW LEFT: Roes Stair Corp. built the side stairway, where bold striped drapes take advantage of the light-filled landing. Low sheen maple flooring (Huron Flooring Ltd.) adds warmth throughout the home.



The master bathroom features tiling from Centura London and London Flooring Canada. Woody's built the vanity and Progressive supplied the dramatic countertop. Painting by Amanda Harasym.