

**OTTAWA**  
magazine.com

# City Home

ALL NEW  
2016  
EDITION

## Living in Style

Inspired Ideas From the Experts

*Featuring*  
**DESIGN ADVICE  
FROM THE PROS  
ROOMS WE LOVE  
DESIGNER  
HOUSES**

*Where to Find*

## **OTTAWA'S BEST**

**Vintage Furniture, Kitchen and Bath Stuff,  
Bedding and Linens, Home Accessories,  
Lights, Wallpaper ... AND MORE**

BY SARAH BROWN

PHOTOGRAPHY BY  
JUSTIN VAN LEEUWEN

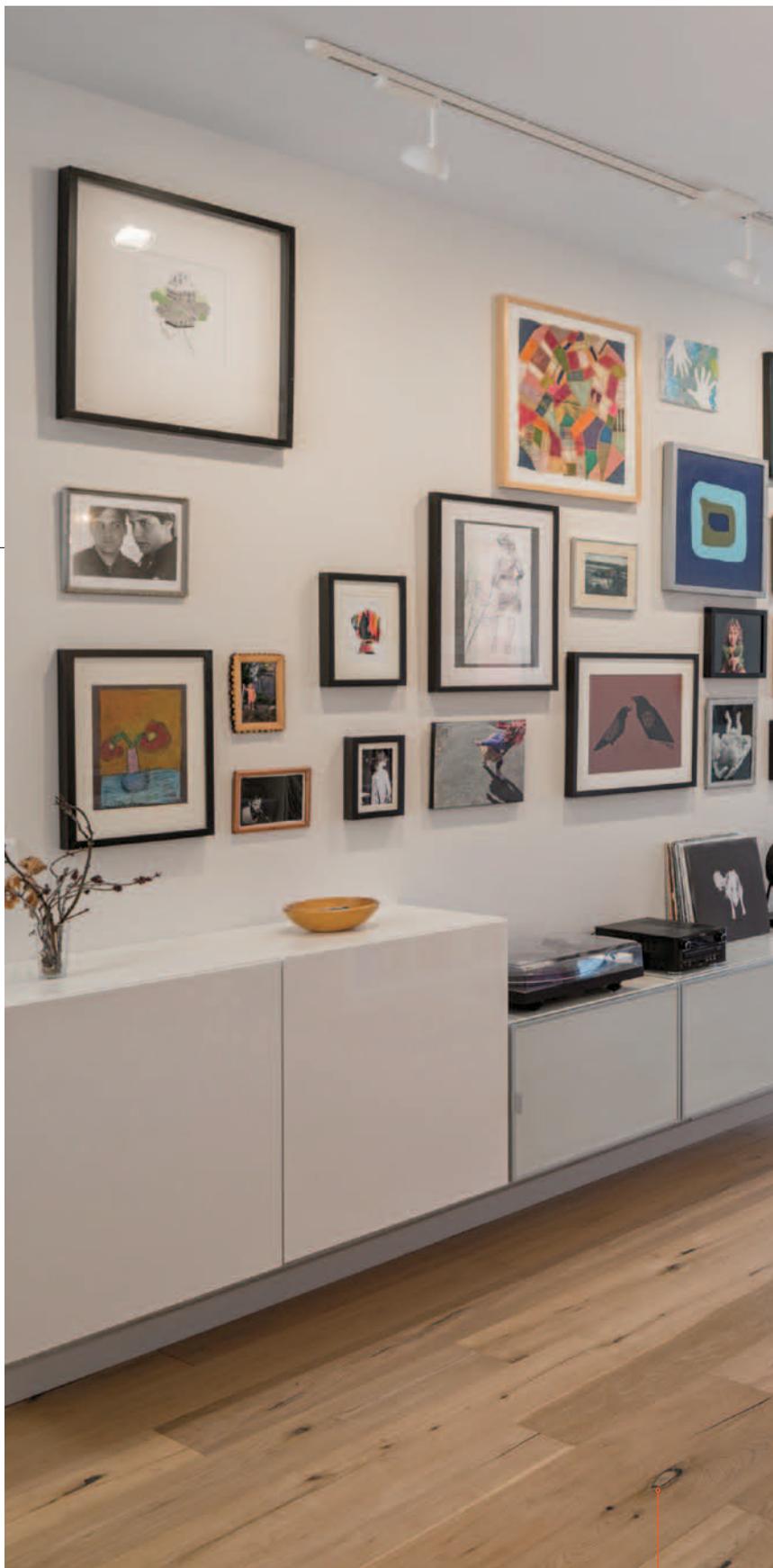
## SUNNY INFILL

A design-builder sets down roots in Hintonburg with a compact family home on a vacant side lot

**D**esigning and building was his destiny. When asked how he got into the business, Konrad Gates says simply that he was surrounded by construction from childhood. “My dad was one of the early ‘flippers’ — he has been renovating and flipping since the 1970s.” And so Gates grew up learning the tricks of the trade, launching his own business in Almonte 15 years ago before moving to Ottawa a few years later. His company, Built, specializes in urban infill — smart, modern singles and semi-detached houses that match the character and scale of older neighbourhoods. His own home is a tidy two-storey single built on a narrow side lot in Hintonburg, a compact house perfectly suited to a busy family of four.

“The tight lot forces you to build a certain way,” he explains as he surveys the main floor, in which a sunny open-concept living room, dining room, and kitchen flow from front to back. Building codes restrict the windows on the sides of the house, so Gates installed floor-to-ceiling glass at the front and back to bring in light. Today, he refers to the living room window, which faces the street, as “our giant TV,” while the kitchen window looks out over the backyard where his children play, meeting up with neighbourhood friends through Hintonburg’s leafy back lanes.

The kitchen is the heart of the main floor, anchored by a generous island whose functions morph as the day progresses. While it starts the day as a bustling breakfast spot, it quickly transforms into a workstation for Gates and his wife, Theresa Hurtubise, who set up computers and get down to work once their children leave for school. From there, it becomes a dinner prep centre and, finally,



The engineered floor, of **hand-scraped white oak**, has a pleasing texture for bare feet and is also very forgiving of scrapes and dents



The **You Make It chandelier** from Lindsey Adelman Studio allowed Theresa Hurtubise to design her own custom configuration, then order the parts and assemble it when they arrived in the mail

The **floor-to-ceiling window** provides a connection to the street, with the owners likening it to "a giant TV"

A classic **Eames table** boasts a resilient laminate top



Chosen by Hurtubise, the rich gold of the **upper cabinetry** complements the deep brown of the walnut used for the lower cabinetry

Minimalist **pendant lights** were selected to ensure a clear view from the front to the back of the house

Gates built the **kitchen cabinetry** on-site, choosing rich walnut to contrast with the light oak floors



Stacked **Ikea storage units** keep the hall tidy and books and games accessible



Fashionable and functional, the simple **wooden hooks** were made by Gates

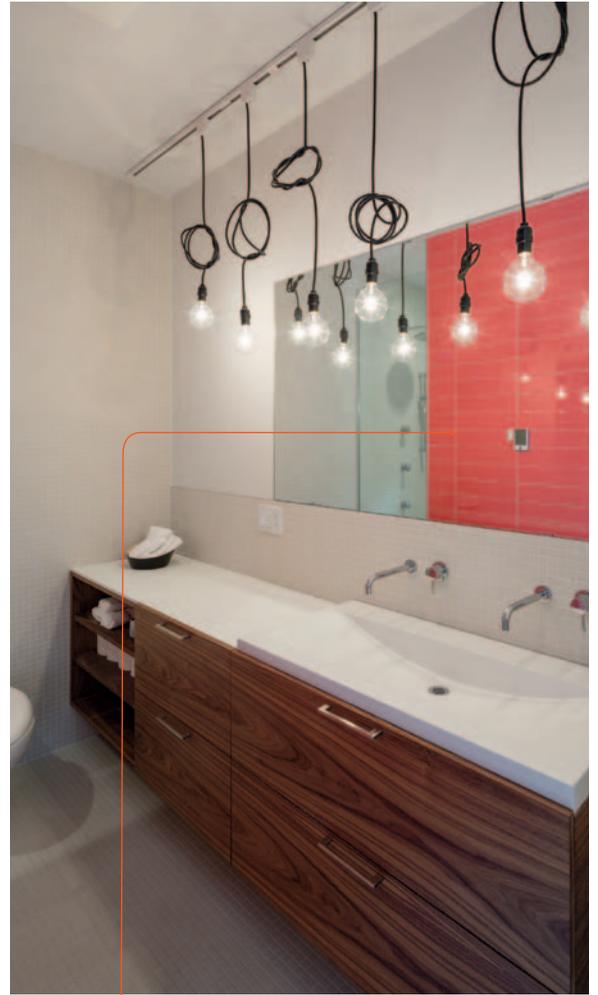


a place to do homework and craft projects. Gates calls the kitchen a “throwback,” noting that he built all the cabinetry on-site before installing it — just as he remembers his father doing when he was a child. Here, warm walnut cabinetry contrasts beautifully with the lighter hand-scraped white oak floors, the gold of the upper cabinets providing a pretty pop of colour. Now look up. Hurtubise, a lover of fine lighting, created the original pendant lights in the kitchen and dining room, crafting them from DIY lighting kits that she sourced online or re-jigging fixtures to function in new ways.



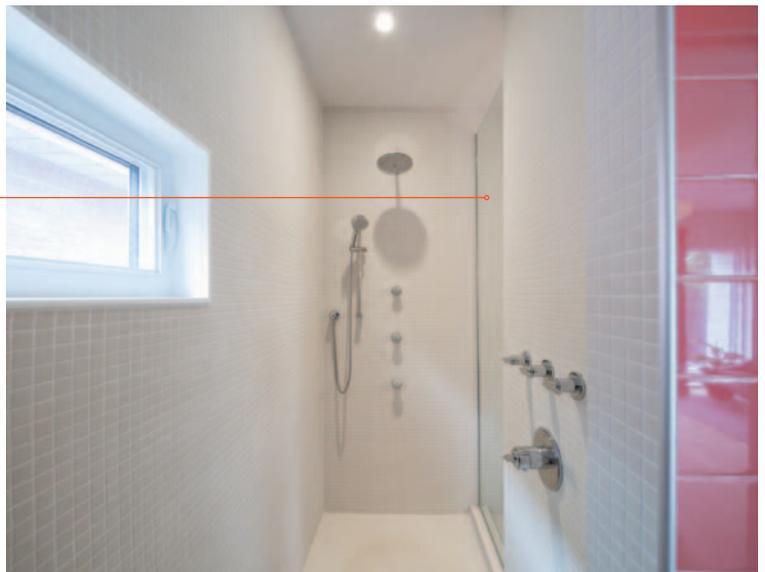
The couple's two daughters chose the **fun tiles** for their bathroom

Hurtubise built her own **lights**, using parts sourced through Color Cord Company, an American DIY lighting firm



**Coral tile** adds a punch of colour and reminds Hurtubise of her grandmother, whose kitchen featured Arborite counters in a similar shade

Light flows into the bathroom through a **glass-sided shower**



In the dining room, a picture wall is a simple way to display a changing array of artwork and photography with sentimental value — here the couple paired fine art with family heirlooms, kids' drawings, and family photos. The look is both elegant and comfortable, reflecting the sensibility of a busy couple who appreciate design and beauty while understanding that a house should be lived in and loved.