

# LIVING LUXE

## WARM UP THE SEASON



### JONATHAN ADLER

The American icon speaks to Jeanne Beker

### ON TOP OF THE WORLD

A look into the perfect pied-à-terre in the sky

### STRAIGHT SHOOTER

The incomparable photography of Neil Dankoff

Winter Issue — Holiday Gift Guide — Canadian Fashion — Stunning Watches — Modern Design

Everything about this coveted scotch room belongs to the custom LMD luxe intensity, from the spectacular art deco-inspired cabinetry to the plush furniture and wall treatments. High-gloss lacquer and brass cabinetry with mirror backing illuminates the space with a golden glow seduction and offers a dramatic façade to showcase vintages and cherished collectibles. Statuesque, twinning "Lion" armchairs with matching ottomans, from the Lori Morris furniture collection, are draped in luxurious black velvet with gold piping detail and emblazoned with brass lion-head accents, giving new meaning to sexy, elevated luxury.



# ON TOP OF THE WORLD

## VW

This ultra-opulent, super-sexy downtown pied-à-terre in Toronto, done in blacks and golds and creams with a splash of colour for personality, was brought to life by design icon Lori Morris

By Lisa van de Geyn  
Photography by Brandon Barré



Take an elegant front-row seat immersed in this custom LMD culinary experience of sophistication. Classic cream and black cabinetry is reimagined with chevron and brass design features, adding unique personality with a glamorous appeal. The palette continues with an impressive marble-clad island, striking a racy pose while playing functional eye candy. Graceful brass chairs covered in mossy green leather invest a punch of colour with an orchestral soothe echoed in the rhythmic light fixture trio above, elevating the cosmopolitan feel of this glamorous space.

# “WE CAN TRANSFORM ANY COLOUR PALETTE INTO OUR SIGNATURE STYLE OF ELEGANCE AND SEXINESS.”

Master designer Lori Morris possesses a gift that knows no bounds. The incomparable artist is so bold and sophisticated, she emanates an intense passion when speaking about her life’s work; she truly excels when designing spaces full of rich elegance with a panache that some design professionals can only dream about. An exquisite artist whose fans of her work have come to know and love, Morris is the epitome of versatility in each of her styles and colour palettes. Her signature look is flawless and sexy — attributes that define the House of Lori Morris Design. She’s an inimitable icon in her field — for 34 years she continues to transform even the most mundane space into a sublime masterpiece. Morris is an incomparable talent who — like her designs — exudes all things opulent, chic and splendid in style. “Whether a client is interested in a pastel paradise by the sea or a chic, monochromatic cream-and-black downtown condo, we can transform any colour palette into our signature style of elegance and sexiness,” she says.

The latter is precisely what Morris and the House of LMD produced with this sophisticated condo in the sky, on a top floor of a downtown hotel residence. This remarkable suite is perfectly situated for a successful young businessman: “He loves the Lori Morris

look and we transformed the Lori Morris style of sexiness and elegance into this condo, making it feel like home, complete with beautifully textured walls, metal elements and stunning millwork and cabinetry we’re known for,” says Morris.

The intention was to add glamour to this pied-à-terre, utilized a couple of days a week to do business in the city. The client wanted to feel as though he was in a posh hotel when in the space. “It functions perfectly for his lifestyle. He wanted it to feel like a hotel but wanted furnishings and finishes specific to him and his needs, which we accomplished,” she says confidently and enthusiastically. Entertaining guests was high on his wish list, so Morris designed a spectacular scotch room, fully appointed with refrigerator drawers and a display area for beautiful vintages. Stunning glass doors that slide closed were added for comfort and privacy. Black-and-cream pinstriped-suit-like fabric walls and black velvet sofas with cream piping dress the space with Morris’s signature lion-head details. “The cabinetry is adorned in black high-gloss lacquer and brass framing, showcasing a beautiful black enameled light fixture.”

The nucleus of this residence is the living and dining rooms, which feature wine and tasting areas. One can select a coveted bottle of wine from the ▶

client's personal collection, enjoy a beautiful meal or gather for an evening of entertainment, surrounded by a magical panoramic view of the city. The fireplace wall in the living room provides its focal point, enhanced by the back-painted black glass wall with brass strapping detail. Here, Morris opted to showcase a stunning graphic painting with a perfect black background. "It really gives a 'bullseye' effect to the centre point of the room. We flanked each wall with gorgeous black velvet striped panelling — our signature style — and added benches for additional seating that can be cozy or part of the whole entertaining space," she says. A custom 20-foot semi-circular sofa, symmetrical to the fireplace, encourages gathering and conversation. "It was set up for entertaining and parties, and done for a hotel-style lifestyle, and we've achieved the look and feel with the placement and scale of the furniture, as well as the textures that were used throughout."

Morris always excels when it comes to infusing her magic with opulence and shimmer. In this case, the client wanted a Baccarat chandelier, so Morris found the perfect spot in the dining room, above the impressive glass table and custom-designed chairs. "We always have to have dancing crystal because a room is not complete without any kind of different colours and metals and crystals. It's the sparkle and the excitement that adds the personality to the space," she says. "And the way we design ▶



Always hitting the high-style mark, this sleek-and-chic, everything-custom LMD living room plays the consummate host for entertaining and compelling conversation. Black and cream set the tone for a formal yet inviting ambience infused with a myriad of juxtaposed accents and textural interest. Custom-built banquettes covered in sumptuous black velvet with matching upholstered wall panels flank either side of the marble-clad fireplace accented with brass detail. This design feature lends its dramatic composure to ground the space, highlighting a pair of classic cream velvet tufted chairs partnered with a curved, contemporary sofa surrounding a brushed metal and mirror-top coffee table. Overhead a large glass and brass light fixture shimmers its weight in optic glass and brass for a truly spectacular effect.

# “OUR OVERALL INTENTION IS PURE ELEGANCE WITH A CHIC SOPHISTICATION.”

and the way we decorate, there always has to be elegance because that's our overall intention — pure elegance with a chic sophistication. But the playfulness of the sparkle is what brings in the personality.”

And, of course, it wouldn't be a couture House of LMD design without another magnificent infusion of personality — this time from colour used in the kitchen. “When a client wants a monochromatic look, we use 85 percent of the decor — colour, style and texture — all in the colour palette, which in this condo is all cream and black with brass detailing, but it's always nice to add a bit of colour because, of course, I'm a big fan of colour as it adds the personality,” she says effusively. “It's not that a cream-and-black kitchen isn't gorgeous — because it is — but just that shot of green that we added brings another level of personality and a bit of a dance step into the space.” That's the striking unexpected sensibility of a Morris masterpiece.

The entire condo radiates the Lori Morris super-elegant style, but it's the entry that really speaks to the essence of who she is as an artist. The foyer has everything she's known for — grandeur, colour, sparkle, drama and vivacity. “To make a grand entrance,” she tells me, “black and white is always a classic. It's timeless and super-chic. We've done this here in an all-over framed design of black and white, then enhanced it with beautiful lacquer furniture, Murano glass sconces and black lacquered archways, giving this bold condo — with exceptional views of Toronto — the presence and weight it requires to truly make a statement.”

A grand LMD entrance combines classic architectural details with contemporary polish in a graphic black-and-white marble floor. Amber, high-gloss shine and metallic assortments elevate the luxurious integrity of this concise space while setting the tone in anticipation for the magical LMD encounter that awaits.

