

CELEBRITY SPACES

Changing people's lives through design

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Interior designer Dvira Ovadia was born in Israel. When she was three months old, her family moved to Brussels for business, where she grew up.

As a child, she loved spending time at book stores and galleries with her mother. Travelling through most of Europe by her early teens introduced her to architecture and design.

"I always loved everything to do with colours and materials," she says. "As a young kid I remember decorating my friends' bedrooms and my own home."

Ovadia studied Architecture at U of T from 1998-2002 and earned her Masters in Interior Design at the Pratt Institute in New York in 2003.

In 2005, she was a contestant and won on the show, *From the Ground Up* with Debbie Travis. Her prize was a contract to design ten model homes for Tribute Communities. From there, she won the coveted position of designer for HGTV's

Income Properties.

Ovadia dreams about opening her own "prepared food shop serving healthy foods for busy families."

In the meantime, her schedule (info@dvira.com) is booked with "several large home renos and a few commercial projects."

And the best part of her job is "changing people's lives through design."

Ovadia invited *Celebrity Spaces* into her home.

Q: How would you describe your home in a few words?

A: Modern with global influences.

Q: Tell us about your home.

A: The exterior of the home is a classic Toronto Tudor style home that was renovated in a warm style. The home is about 2,400 sq. ft., on three floors with a finished basement. The interior of the home (I designed) is open concept. The kitchen rests in the centre of the home flanked by a dining room on one side and a sunken family room and study on the other side.

Q: What attracted you to this

space?

A: The home was on a great street, in a respected neighbourhood, and its setting was lush for a small city home.

Q: Who shares this home?

A: My husband and two children.

Q: How much time do you spend at home?

A: We spend very little time at home these days due to our hectic work schedules.

Q: What is your favourite room and why?

A: I adore my kitchen. I'm a big foodie and always wanted to design a generous kitchen for myself. I can truly have my cake and eat it too in this space!

Q: How would you describe your decorating style?

A: I love modern pieces but I also find myself falling for eclectic and antique finds. Doing everything in one style feels too mundane and rudimentary, I love mixing styles, finishes, materials and unexpected elements.

Q: What is your fondest memory in this home?

A: My daughter's third birthday. She sat centre stage at the kitchen island while our friends and family all gathered around to watch her blow out her birthday candles.

Q: What's the one item in this house you can't live without?

A: My Lignet Roset TOGO sofas. They have followed us since we left Brussels 25 years ago. And of course my Nuheat floors!

Q: Weekends at home, what are we most likely to find you doing?

A: Making pancakes with the kids every Saturday morning and if we're not out and about, we are hanging out in the family room, playing games, reading or watching TV.

Q: If your walls could talk, what would they say?

A: This home is a fine balance between old and new, modern and classic; and is a reflection of artistic expression shared by practical architecture and design.

— photos by
Stephanie Buchman



Celebrity designer Dvira Ovadia loves to mix styles, finishes and materials; and has a preference for eclectic and antique pieces.

