

HOMES

Back in black

It's bold for walls but stunning when done right, Page 8



Feeling the warmth

Fabulous fireplace surround has quite a history, Page 2



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THE OTTAWA CITIZEN, SECTION I

'We put a lot of blood, sweat and tears into this place over the last two years.'

TERRY JOHAL, who, with his wife, Angela, built their dream home



ABOVE: The home Victoria builders Terry and Angela Johal built for their own family is an 8,000-square-foot beauty.

RIGHT: European Beaux-Arts wrought-iron banisters form the artistic heart of the grand house and were handmade by a local ironsmith. The builders wanted the house to have the feel of an estate home of the late 1800s.

Style with bling

Custom builder aims to capture Old World look in his own grand estate



PHOTOS BY ALEC WATSON

THELMA FAYLE AND TED GRANT

When Angela and Terry Johal set out to build an 8,000-square-foot mansion in the upper-class Victoria neighbourhood of the Uplands, they imagined it would have the feel of an estate home that might have been built in the late 1800s.

Villa pavers with inlaid mandala, or circle, patterns in the expansive driveway provide a welcoming, old cobblestone feel. The formal landscaping, the finely chiselled white granite entrance and several

Swarovski crystal chandeliers are only the first few features you observe as you enter a home like few others.

"My dad was a prominent builder in Victoria, and I tagged along with him when I was a little kid," Terry says with a broad smile and an easy laugh.

"I have been around home-building my whole life."

"My family never built one, but I liked homes," Angela adds, "and I really enjoyed seeing it all come together after Terry and I built our first place."

Little did Angela know 10 years ago that her social-work goals would take a back seat when she became interested in form-

ing a company with Terry to build high-end homes. "We never thought it would take off the way it did," Angela says.

Having built 50 custom homes in Victoria, Terry and Angela set out to create a unique home for themselves based on the best of what they had learned so far.

"We put a lot of blood, sweat and tears into this place over the last two years," says Terry, who is only 34 but says he feels 64 at the moment.

"The biggest challenge in building this home was managing alongside the schedules of our 3½-year-old and 20-month-old sons," Angela says.

She is happy to be taking care of the boys

and company business in the home office while Terry is usually on-site at one of the three or four jobs they are managing at any time.

The Johals purchased the vacant land for their home four years ago, started the design process right away and moved in just a few months ago.

Construction of the house went smoothly and was well co-ordinated, with tradespeople who have worked with Terry for years. "It really does take teamwork for something like this to come together," Terry says.

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The white granite entry features Swarovski crystal chandeliers.



The opulent home office in the Johals' Victoria home has both a fireplace and an impressive view of the outdoors. All wainscoting, crown mouldings and Colonial-style columns for the home were built on site.