

Annex real estate expertise with Yvonne O'Hara

Bidding wars have become a common occurrence in today's market. Also common are quick renovations and staging of properties to maximize marketability with the resulting quick sale. This practice has become commonplace because of the demand for "done" houses. Many buyers just don't want to deal with the headaches of renovating and frankly just wouldn't know where to begin.

If you are not this kind of buyer, you may not be content with someone else's renovations or tastes. You may also recognize that often they are not done well due to time constraints and budgets. Don't buy someone else's bad reno!

Often houses that are dated and in need of many repairs are overlooked. As soon as a house sits on MLS for more than a few days, it becomes suspect. Don't fall into this trap. These houses should be inspected. If the listing doesn't have pictures and seems reasonably priced, go and take a look. Pay attention to descriptions such as, "renovators dream" or "handyman's special". Be prepared to buy an ugly house!!

Narrow down your neighbourhoods, pay attention to the lot size and investigate the immediate surroundings. Remember that you can change almost everything when renovating but you can't change the location.

If you allow yourself the time to renovate your own home, you will spend many more enjoyable years there. The job will be done to suit your lifestyle, taste and will be completed, supervised by you. Take the time to find a reputable architect or designer as well as a known, trusted general contractor. Ask your friends, family and colleagues for recommendations. Then go and look at their work and talk to their past clients. Any professional who has nothing to hide will be more than happy to give you these references.

Be patient, be open-minded and reap the benefits, for there will be many.



FEATURED PROPERTY—28 Lola Road

A perfect example, a three bedroom, detached house in a vibrant neighbourhood. The lot is 28 feet by 107 and even widens towards the back. The main floor has a good sized living room with a fireplace, dining room, kitchen and a breakfast room. It has a great big yard and a detached garage. The basement is just waiting to be turned into a family room.

This house has a wide lot, good bones and has great potential with a fabulous renovation!

Yvonne O'Hara | Sales Representative | RE/MAX Unique Inc., Brokerage
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Learn about & support your local shops...

With six editions, distributed to 90,000 households, *Just Around the Corner* reminds you about your local shops and businesses every season. Sign up for our free e-newsletter for your chance to win great prizes from some of our participating businesses.

Visit our website to learn about shops in your favourite neighbourhoods, including Forest Hill, Rosedale, Yorkville, Bloor West Village, The Kingsway, Leaside, Davisville Village, Lawrence Park, The Annex, and Little Italy.

JustAroundtheCorner.ca

Get great easytime summer hair at Nilli Salonspa

It's summertime, a season known for easy living. Having great hair always makes life breezy and easy. It all starts with the cut. Nilli, of *Nilli Salonspa*, works with your natural hair tendencies, for a cut that enhances your features and also fits your lifestyle.

Nilli has been internationally recognized for her skill and creativity. Her talent is creating haircuts so easy to maintain that, even when left to air dry, they fall naturally into place. While Nilli can cut any length/style of hair, she is especially skilled at **short haircuts** styles.

As a long-time Nilli client we can tell you that Nilli has given us the hair we've always dreamed of—hair that is shiny, healthy and easy to manage.

Nilli uses a different process for colouring and highlighting hair, that actually conditions your hair and makes it healthier. Plus, they use all Kérastase products for everything—from shampoo, to treatments, to finishing/styling products. We're completely devoted to the Kérastase styling and product line, especially the new Age Premium line—it infuses our hair with body and suppleness. *Nilli Salonspa* is also devoted to helping you learn how to make the most of your hair with educational seminars. Call salon to learn more.

Nilli Salonspa is now open Saturdays and has late, extended evening hours. Call for details.

This summer visit *Nilli Salonspa* for a **cut and highlights (and/or colour)** and save **20% off** your entire bill. Offer expires July 15/11.

Nilli Salonspa | 521 Eglinton Avenue West | 416.487.1762 • NilliSalonspa.com



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INSIDE: The best of the season from your local shops plus home improvement & personal services
www.JustAroundtheCorner.ca

Julia West Home helps you enjoy the great outdoors

Enjoy the great outdoors this season in style with home decor and accessories by *Julia West Home*.

Inside their large showroom is a wide selection of beautiful items, including table linens to complement your outdoor/garden dining. Also find bed linen lines, trendy aprons, soft home furnishings and accessories like great throws and wonderful pillows such as the often-requested Carpe Diem Pillow.

Julia West is famous for their trademark furniture such as their hideaway desk. It's an end-table... then it's a desk. And of course letterboards are available in dozens of designer fabrics, or made to order with your own fabric—they are perfect for keeping you organized.



Julia West's custom design service creates projects ranging from custom-made draperies or an armoire designed and made just for you, to whole room and whole home design build projects. Work directly with *Julia West* and the in-house design team for items perfect for you.

Since 1998, *Julia West Home* has been bringing the best of past design traditions into the present. Famous for furniture design and construction, **free parking** just south of their building makes visiting easy.

Visit, pick up a few new items for your home and cottage for summer, and instantly update your decor for the season. Mention *Just Around the Corner* and they'll pay the tax on your next showroom purchase!

Julia West Home | 140 Kendal Avenue | 416.324.7500 • JuliaWestHome.com

Tumi T-Pass bags make air travel easier, now at Taschen



Traveling with your laptop just got easier. Tumi T-Pass™ carry-on bags are designed to meet Transportation Security Administrations (TSA) check-point requirements, which allows you to pass through security without removing your laptop from the case*. Pictured is the Tumi T-Pass Expandable Laptop Brief, which has been customized with Tumi's "Accent Your Alpha" magenta colour package; and the T-Pass Business Class Brief, customized with green. Both are great gifts for dad!

There's lots of news at *Taschen's* flagship store, which now has two new shop-in-shop for brands Rimowa and Lacoste. The Lacoste shop-in-shop is the first of its kind in Canada for Lacoste bags and luggage. Beginning this summer all *Taschen* locations will stock hot Italian brand Piquadro in their stores, a line known for great functionality and design.

Also this summer find new seasonal collections from all *Taschen's* brands, which include famous brand names Tumi and LeSportsac from the USA; Bree, Porsche Design, Rimowa and Offermann from Germany; Bric's, Mandarin Duck and Roncato from Italy; and Lacoste from France.

Visit the store to see more of Tumi's new collection or shop *Taschen* online at www.taschen.net.

(*The TSA reserves the right to ask anyone to remove a Laptop from its case, or re-screen any laptop or case.)



Taschen | taschen.ca
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open your mind.

smart Centre Downtown 761 Dundas St., E. (416) 947-9000, toronto.thesmart.ca

© 2011 smart Canada, a division of Mercedes-Benz Canada Inc. *Lease offers based on a new 2011 smart fortwo pure coupé available only through Mercedes-Benz Financial Services on approved credit for a limited time. MSRP starting at \$13,990. Lease example based on a new 2011 smart fortwo pure coupé with cockpit clock and rev counter, MSRP \$14,150. Lease for \$228.33 (excluding taxes) per month for 36 months. Down payment, first monthly payment (up to a total of \$250 including tax), security deposit and freight/PDI are waived. A.P.R. of 3.9% applies. Total obligation is \$8,219.88. 18,000 km/year allowance (\$0.20/km for excess kilometres applies). Dealer Admin fee, Federal air-conditioning levy, Tire, Filter and Battery Stewardship fees, OMVIC fee, and PPSA are included in monthly lease payments. Licence, insurance, registration and taxes are extra. Offer may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. See smart Centre downtown today. Offer ends May 31, 2011.

COBS Bread—redefining the burger

Traditionally, a burger has been defined as a meat patty topped with cheese, lettuce and tomato sandwiched between a standard white bun. In more recent years, burgers have transformed to become a key element in a gourmet summer meal. This summer, *COBS Bread* is exploring the evolution and redefinition of burgers and encourages you to do the same!

Whatever your take on the burger, *COBS Bread* has the bun for you. Going healthy? Try whole wheat, country grain, higher fibre low GI or new CHIA white and whole wheat buns. Staying on trend? Try slider buns which come in traditional, white and whole wheat varieties. Sticking to the classics? Try white or traditional buns.

If you want to explore your options, *COBS Bread* allows you to mix and match your buns to suit the most creative burger connoisseur.

What's more, the white, whole wheat, country grain and higher fibre low GI buns have no added sugar or preservatives so they are better for you and your family.

Once you've mastered your burger, you can share your creation for a chance to win a Napoleon Ultra



Chef Grill, Travel Q Portable Grill and other prizes. Simply take a photo of your burger featuring a *COBS Bread* bun then post the photo and your recipe to the *COBS Bread* Facebook page (facebook.com/cobsbread). The contest ends June 30, so get cooking!

Visit www.cobsbread.com for full contest details.

COBS Bread • cobsbread.com
172 Baldwin St. | 416.977.5700
370 Bloor St. West | 416.924.9555

Make wine now, enjoy delicious cocktails this summer



The Wine Boutique has an exciting new product, perfect for the summer season!

The Lounge line of products simulates the taste of your favourite summer cocktails—at a fraction of the price and also with a lower alcohol content than the standard blends.

Each selection makes 15 bottles (750 ml) and costs just \$105, including taxes, labels, corks and shrink wraps (add \$10 for bottles). Choose from the following delicious blends: Cosmopolitan gives the taste of the standard cosmo, usually made with vodka, triple sec, cranberry juice and freshly squeezed lime juice; Mojito, a Cuban

classic summer cocktail, this blend simulates the traditional white rum, sugar cane and lime juice recipe, consider muddling with raspberries, mangoes or your favourite fruit; Pina Colada, the queen of tropical drinks, this blend captures the essence of the original rum, coconut and pineapple recipe.

The Lounge products take about four weeks to mature for bottling. They can be consumed immediately, or aged to allow flavours to blend. Make these cocktails now, enjoy them later this summer.

The Wine Boutique | 585 Markham St. (in Mirvish Village) | 416.516.9463

Get a white hot smile at Dental Hygiene on Yonge

A great smile is your best accessory this summer, and a whiter smile is a great way to give yourself a mini-makeover that can make you look up to ten years younger!

Statistics show that a confident smile can make a difference in how you are perceived. 87% of adults acknowledge that they remember someone with an attractive smile, and 92% of adults agree that an attractive smile is an important social asset.

Dental Hygiene on Yonge offers in-clinic whitening, in addition to at home whitening kits. This summer they are offering **in-clinic whitening for \$99** (a \$250 value, **60% savings!**) when you book a dental hygiene appointment. Call for details.

This new dental hygiene clinic is located on Yonge Street just south of St. Clair. They offer dental hygiene services—scaling and stain removal, and oral health assessment, including oral cancer screening.

Insurance accepted. Gift certificates available, walk-ins welcome or call to reserve your time. Get a whiter, brighter smile today.

Dental Hygiene on Yonge | 1386 Yonge Street | 647.345.9221 • StrongTeeth.ca



Speaking of Dogs—rescuing all breeds of dogs since 2001

Considering adopting a rescue dog? Perhaps you can't make the commitment but would like to help by caring for a dog short-term, in which case you might want to think about becoming a foster parent.

Speaking of Dogs Rescue, an all-breed rescue launched in 2001, is Toronto-based and always in recruit mode for responsible, caring people to become part of its foster parent team.

Dogs taken into the rescue come in all shapes, sizes and breed mixes, with the majority originating from shelters or puppy mills. More importantly, older dogs are welcomed at *Speaking of Dogs Rescue*; the senior citizens who have been abandoned through no fault of their own (often due to an owner passing) are often in need of a second leash on life.

Speaking of Dogs Rescue covers veterinary and medical attention, food and all the supplies needed for the dogs in foster care. Foster parents need to offer a safe environment along with heaping helpings of TLC; patience and understanding are also requirements. Fostering is a serious responsibility with unmatched rewards. It is a great option for people who travel south for the winter, have seasonal careers or even people who are considering adopting but would like to 'wade in' before making the plunge.

If you are interested, contact www.speakingofdogs.com for a foster package that is chock full of everything you need to know to get started! An application can be sent to you by emailing lorraine@speakingofdogs.com.

Visit *Speaking of Dogs* at **Woofstock** on Sat. June 11th & Sun. June 12th in the St. Lawrence Market Place. Get more info at www.woofstock.ca. They also need walkers and pledgers to support them in the Woofstock walkaton. Visit www.speakingofdogs.com to learn more.



Photography session to fit any budget

Natural light photographer Holly Sisson captures you and your family as you really are—relaxed and at play, not posed and stiff in a studio. Holly gets you outside in a more natural setting—the local park, schoolyard, beach, or even your own backyard. She captures your family having fun together—everyone is happy and it shows on their faces.

Schedule a private session or you can host a **photography party**. Invite your friends and their families...every group has a turn with Holly. Photography parties are a perfect way to get fantastic family pictures, without the cost of a private session. Parties must have a minimum of three groups participating, and cost \$250/per group, for which they get a 30 minute mini-photo-session with Holly and four digital images. The host of the party gets 40% off (\$150 vs. \$250), a 45 minute session and an extra digital image (five digital images total). For weekend parties add \$25/per group. Visit website for full details.

Give yourself the gift of photography, contact *Holly Sisson Photography* today to book your photo session.

Holly Sisson Photography | HollySissonPhotography.com



Summer 2011 collection features classic and edgy shapes

The Oliver Peoples Summer 2011 Collection focuses on an exploration of love, chemistry and sexuality in contemporary society. It is inspired by early American Broadway and Vaudeville productions and features both classic and edgy lens shapes, retro detailing, thick, rounded plastic cuts and a variety of options for all wearers.

The consumer is a confident intellectual with a progressive sense of fashion, and appreciates discoverability and quality without sacrificing expressive style. Discreet branding means remaining recognizable only to those "in the know". Oliver Peoples is the choice of many Hollywood elite, framing the faces of well known celebrities.

Oliver Peoples is available at *Yonge Vision*, where opticians Michelle Axler and Isaac Abenheim are committed to combining how well you see with how well you look. Visit *Yonge Vision* to discover your new look today.

Yonge Vision | 1881 Yonge Street | 416.932.9086 • YongeVision.com

In House Home Improvement every job done well, on time

Investing in a home renovation, no matter the size, is an important decision that will affect the value of your home as well as the quality of your life. *In House Home Improvement* does not take that decision lightly.

It has been a life long dream of Shaun Salikin to own his own business, and *IHHI* has been in operation since 2008. Shaun has been in the construction business since 2001, beginning as a tradesman for *Cityscape Developments* in the historic Distillery District. In 2003 he was hired by *Urban Innovations Custom Homes* where he was soon promoted to site supervisor, and then to project manager, where he oversaw new home construction, and existing home remodels and renovations.

The skills and experience Shaun gained led him to open his own renovation and home improvement business. Courtesy and craftsmanship are the foundation of *In House Home Improvement*. With the introduction of their **Green Seal Renovation Program**, there is great excitement for the future of the company.

Shaun works throughout the G.T.A., but he has a strong connection to The Annex, having lived in the area for many years. *IHHI*'s services include painting and staining (interior/exterior), drywall and insulation, fine trim carpentry, basement waterproofing, masonry, window & door installation and roofing, to name just a few. *IHHI* is licensed and certified in plumbing, electrical and HVAC. *IHHI* is fully insured. A full list of services is available on the website at www.ihhi.ca.

Testimonial: We are happy to provide references to Shaun's skill, craftsmanship, project management and courteous service. Shaun worked on a condo we bought in June 2010. He worked in extremely tight time constraints, and handled unexpected additional work added to the job. Shaun and his team were excellent. Everything was done as promised, they arrived promptly in the morning and seldom even stopped for lunch. In addition, they cleaned up the job at the end of every day—a really nice touch. Shaun even picked out the subway tile for our kitchen backsplash (and did a great job), after we made a last minute change in plans. We feel tremendously lucky to have found Shaun to work on our first property. We are happy to provide a more detailed testimonial on request. Email us at info@justaroundthecorner.ca.

Publisher, *Just Around the Corner*

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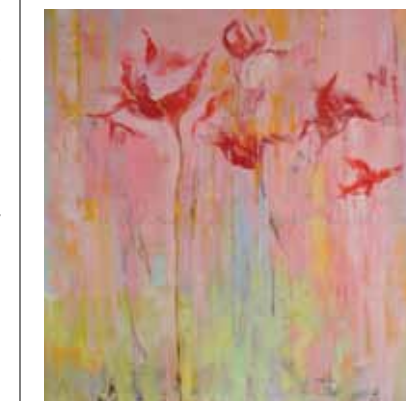
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This summer at STUDIO VOGUE GALLERY



Mihaela Gongescu, *Storm*



A. Medvedeva, *Blossoming Time*

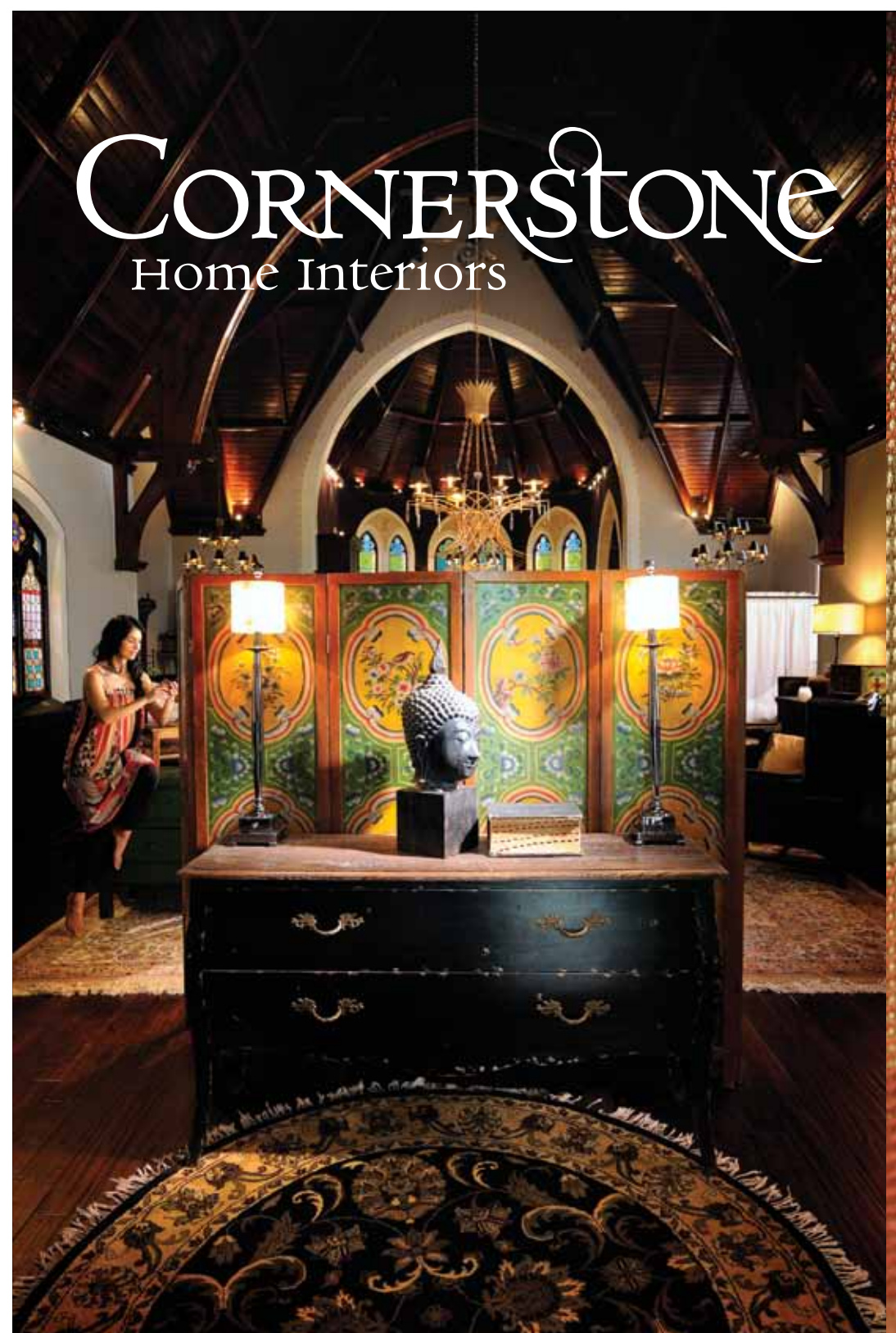
From June 1 to 22, *STUDIO VOGUE GALLERY* presents *Inspirations*, an eclectic exhibition featuring Anette Walther Fassing from Denmark, and Mihaela Gongescu, Jackie Ramo, Darlean Morris, Ray Brandolino, all of Toronto. Reception Thursday June 2 from 6 to 8 PM.

From July 6 to 27 *Poetic Verses* will feature the unique and fascinating three dimensional mixed media works of Danish artist Mette Glassy in her first Canadian exhibition. She is joined by Anna Medvedeva, originally from St. Petersburg, and whose work, while reminiscent of the great Russian masters, is decidedly her own. Reception Thursday July 7, from 6 to 8 PM.

STUDIO VOGUE GALLERY is one of Toronto's most eclectic galleries. Their program of exhibitions, group as well as solo, offer visitors an opportunity to enjoy many styles of art in a warm and relaxed environment.

Mention *Just Around the Corner* and they will pay the HST on your next purchase or custom art commission. Open Wed. to Sat. 11-6; Tues. by appointment or chance. Visit www.studiovoguelgallery.com to learn more.

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D.O.T. Furniture opens Toronto flagship showroom—*D.O.T. Elite*—in the heart of Rosedale



D.O.T. Elite at the corner of Dupont and Davenport in the designer district is the newest addition to *D.O.T. Furniture* family. The large space (three floors) features a large selection of patio furniture in stock, that can be delivered immediately so that you can start enjoying your summer.

Setting outdoor spaces as outdoor rooms is a trend that continues to grow. *D.O.T. Elite*'s new collections have so many options to choose from to make your outdoor room a true reflection of your indoor style.

Resin wicker continues to be the hottest trend and *D.O.T. Elite* has many new and exciting styles and designs including dining sets, conversation sets and sectionals. The newest being the ease and comfort of sling fabric combined with resin wicker for a new contemporary look that can easily transition from outdoors to indoors.

Cast aluminum garden furniture may well be the ideal choice for many backyards. *D.O.T. Elite* has an extensive array of patterns and styles; this furniture is well suited to most anywhere. From intimate bistro sets perfect for balcony, veranda or secluded garden nook, to larger dining suites, cast aluminum is an easy choice for gatherings large or small.

Wood continues to be a classic in outdoor furniture. At home in the city or the cottage, *D.O.T. Elite*'s wood furniture collections will complement most backyards and landscaping.



Other popular elements include: **Fire pit tables**—a great way to extend the season even into the cooler evenings as besides warmth, the fire also creates the perfect ambience for outdoor entertaining. Umbrellas—are available in a variety of sizes and colours. A **freestanding gazebo** can add that extra sheltered space on the lawn and is perfect for romantic dinners. **Custom cushions** are available to make your backyard feel like a true extension of your home.

Mix n' Match Your Set Your Way Create your own personalized garden & patio. *D.O.T. Elite* makes it fun with all the exciting furniture and accessories.



In addition to outdoor furniture *D.O.T. Elite* carries exclusive designs including Ashley Furniture, Calvin Klein carpets, Vera Wang Mattresses and *D.O.T. Furniture*'s own Casazisi Collections.

Bring in this issue of *Just Around the Corner* to *DOT Elite* and receive a **free gift**.

**D.O.T. Elite | 146 Dupont Street
416.927.7847 • dot-canada.com**