

POSTHOMES

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BEFORE LISTING

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panel should be
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Grab some pencil crayons and create your version of Whitehaus' Yonge and Eg. *Story, Page PH5*



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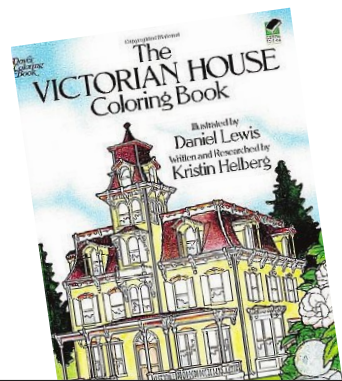
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GIFT SUGGESTION

CALLING ALL COLOURISTS: DIG OUT THE OLD LAURENTIENS AND START DOODLING



Adult colouring books aren't strictly about mandalas, animals and gardens. House lovers can opt for books on everything from Victorian to Mid-century house styles, that also contain interior spaces, furnishings and even gardens, or go bird's-eye with detailed city architecture in something like Fantastic Cities. Said to be a great stress reliever and method of "self-care," filling in these grown-up designs helps keep hands occupied while watching TV, monitoring homework or waiting for dinner, and helps calm the overworked brain at bedtime (yay, it's not technology!). They can have a practical purpose as well, by allowing an old-school exploration of different palettes for interiors and exteriors similar to your current (or dream) home. Search "adult colouring book" on chapters.indigo.ca or amazon.ca. *National Post*

BY IRIS BENAROA

Six months ago, Brian Brown was at an Indigo bookstore when he witnessed something unusual: adults colouring in books.

Seated around a table, they happily shaded in the outlines of elephants and mandalas and Monarch butterflies. So it was that in a very 1982 moment that afternoon, paper prevailed over technology.

"I picked up one with tattoos in it and started colouring, too," says Brown, the vice-president of Lifetime Developments, referring to the 20 or so colouring books on display. "It was really cool — something I could do myself or share with my kids."

Brown believes adult colouring, praised as a stress reliever and a refreshing distraction from digital devices, "is the next Sudoku." (Here's hoping the crafty trend lasts because who doesn't love a grown man holding a Crayola?)

Sales of such books certainly suggest they aren't going any place soon: Johanna Basford's gorgeously illustrated Secret Garden has sold 6.8 million copies worldwide, and the books are officially cool since George R.R. Martin released a colouring version of Game of Thrones.

Now you can add a condominium-marketing campaign to the list of adopters. The connection between stories you colour and storeys you live in may seem tenuous, but Brown feels otherwise. "When Andy (DeSantis, the creative director) of Montana Steele pitched a colouring-book theme, we thought, yes, the concept is great. It reflects the tenants we want for this space."

He's referring to the 29-storey Whitehaus Condos, a building being brought to life on Yonge Street, a block and a half north of Eglinton Avenue, by Lifetime Developments and Knightstone Capital Management. The design is by Diamond Schmitt Architects with interiors by Cecconi Simone. Occupancy is set for 2019 (whitehaus.ca).

"The tagline 'Colourful living at Yonge and Eglinton' or 'Living life between the lines at Yonge and Eglinton,' has double meaning," Brown says, "because it allows people to add their flavour and impression to the building, and it refers to the bisecting lines of the Eglinton Crosstown LRT transit system."

The LRT in question is part of an \$8.4-billion investment by the province — the largest transit expansion in the history of Toronto — that will make the intersection a major transit hub. To cap it off, RioCan just revitalized the once-shabby Yonge Eglinton Centre on the northwest corner with a \$100-million upgrade to service both locals and newcomers moving into all those new condos, so if it's liveliness you're after, you've come to the right place.

Designer Anna Simone says the units at Whitehaus will also touch on the colouring-book theme by featuring kitchen backsplashes you can write on. "The creative process is about engaging. When you have a creative thought, you want to put it on paper," she says, noting "there will also be vertical space (such as a pantry) conducive to writing."

As for the palettes, these are all about classic contrast. "One is about reflection and one about absorption," Simone says obliquely. "So kitchens

A BLANC CANVAS

Whitehaus, a new condominium with a colouring-book theme, draws buyers to the vibrant Yonge and Eglinton neighbourhood



HANDOUT

Whitehaus will sit just north of the Yonge Eglinton Centre.

are either black or white and then you can select from a hint of colour in the island."

But given the exciting amenities spaces, it doesn't sound like residents will be holed up in

their condos. "We wanted a white canvas, hence the name Whitehaus, for the residents to express themselves and to be creative in how they used the spaces," Brown says.

He hopes, for instance, that when people congregate to common areas — which are getting special focus here — they'll explore their own creativity. They can discover their inner Picasso on easels set up in the third-floor studio, which is also outfitted with large tables that can be used for dining or just hanging out.

The same level also has a park for Fido, as well as a restaurant with its own entry, separate lobby, elevators and a large outdoor terrace affording a prime, people-watching view of Yonge Street. Then there's the ping-pong room with three tables and flat-screen TVs. Those who never quite excelled in the jock department can finally participate in a sport.

"New condominiums are supporting such social activities and socializing in general like never before," Brown says.

The statement has never been truer: Now that condo units across the board have gotten noticeably smaller, developers have been creating better common zones as an extension of a buyer's home.

Even the lobby at Whitehaus is not just for grabbing mail before zipping upstairs but as a social scene as welcoming as the local coffee shop, complete with café-style communal tables. "It's much longer and larger than most of the lobbies in our buildings," Browns says of the lobby, which is wrapped in double-height glass to create a strong link to the street.

Says architect Donald Schmitt: "The whole frontage is a half a block long on Yonge Street turning onto Helendale Avenue with a (considerable) retail configuration, both on the grade and upper levels. So it's got a major retail presence,

much more than a conventional condo might have."

Whitehaus will also captivate above. "It's literally white with different transparencies of glass and facade panelling. It evokes a sort of white modernism of the Bauhaus," he says. "It's a fresh, bright counterpoint to the other towers, which are grey concrete precast, more muted and a bit dated."

The building is also lucky enough to back onto the busy Northern District branch of the Toronto Public Library. "We've partnered with (them) to develop a mid-block pedestrian connection that is a pretty interesting shortcut," Schmitt says, of the passage that will run between the buildings, from Helendale Avenue on the north through the edge of the lobby space and "will link in with new landscaping and public spaces being developed at the entry to the library, which fronts on Orchard View Boulevard to the south."

The hope is that Helendale Avenue will be so engaging and pedestrian-friendly it will temporarily be closed to traffic so farmers' markets and fall and Christmas festivals can be held on it, Schmitt says.

Such holistic thinking about condominium buildings is always exciting. It translates to a life beyond the confines of the individual unit. But as Simone suggests, the ultimate onus for a successful condo community is with the buyer.

"The colouring book is really an analogy. There are a series of lines and when you start to colour them in, life starts to come into the picture. Whitehaus is not dissimilar. Whitehaus is nothing without the people inhabiting it."

National Post

FOR SALE

CALEDON
8396 Finnerty Sdrd. (Caledon)
Asking price: \$980,000
Taxes: \$2,829 (2015)
Bedrooms: 4
Bathrooms: 3
MLS# W3333869



RETREAT FOR THOSE CRAVING PRIVACY
By the time you get to the end of the long driveway and glance at the magical views, the stress of the day is gone. This almost-47-acre treed property is the ultimate retreat for someone focused on privacy, says listing agent Khalen Meredith.

"Outstanding trails lead across rolling landscape and into the forest. Everyone shows up for tobogganing parties and it's an excellent property for biking, cross-country skiing or all-terrain activities," she says. The trails are also great for horseback riding. The barn has

three stalls and a workshop. The original owners built the four-bedroom, three-bath home in 1973 as their family home. "They raised their children here," Meredith says. The bungalow has an open floor plan. The living room overlooks the pool, while a

walkout from the dining room leads to a deck. A walk-in closet and a five-piece ensuite bathroom in the master suite and a main-floor laundry room are other highlights. Listing Broker: Engel & Volkers York (Khalen Meredith)

DENLOW
33 Nomad Cres. (Bayview Avenue and York Mills Road)
Asking price: \$3.388 million
Taxes: \$13,823 (2015)
Bedrooms: 4+1
Bathrooms: 5
MLS# C3317326



BACKYARD GREAT FOR CASUAL ENTERTAINING
A builder's own custom home, this brick residence is perfectly appointed for grand entertaining and gracious living, says listing agent Ellen Schneidman.

The four-bedroom, five-bathroom home has large principal rooms, nine-foot ceilings and a wealth of windows that allow the owners views of every season.

The home has more than 7,000 square feet of living space on three levels. Crown mouldings and a woodburning fireplace create a cosy living room. The formal dining room is ideal for elegant entertaining. The gourmet kitchen has a breakfast area. The family room offers a view of the backyard, which has a pool, a hot tub, a waterfall and a cabana. It's the ideal space for casual gatherings, Schneidman says.

The home also has a library, and a master suite with a



custom dressing room and a nine-piece ensuite bathroom. The 85x125-foot property is in the Denlow neighbourhood close to schools, parks and

other amenities. Listing Broker: Slavens & Associates Real Estate (Ellen Schneidman and Brian Schneidman)

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<p>\$5,900,000</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/5341a</p> <p>Custom built 5 bedroom, 5 bath bungalow featuring approx 9,000 sq ft of living space on 88 acres.</p>	<p>\$4,500,000</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/123k</p> <p>Prestigious Mineola. Premium 105 x 200 ft mature lot. 5+1 bedrooms, 7 baths. Granite saltwater pool.</p>	<p>\$3,288,000</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/934L</p> <p>Lorne Park. Waterfront property with riparian rights. 105 ft of rare waterfront. Move in ready.</p>
<p>\$3,200,000</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/1499g</p> <p>Lorne Park beauty. Private 90 x 207 ft mature lot. 4+1 bedrooms, 5 baths. 7,133 sq ft of luxury living.</p>	<p>\$3,175,000</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/248i</p> <p>Gordon Woods. Main floor bedroom with ensuite. In-ground pool & waterfall. Control 4 automation.</p>	<p>\$2,688,000</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/2060d</p> <p>Architectural masterpiece. Gordon Woods. 5+1 bedrooms, 7 baths. Finished basement. In-ground pool.</p>
<p>\$2,658,800</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/2272g</p> <p>Gordon Woods. 5+1 bedrooms, 7 baths. Approx 6,000 sq ft of luxury. Rare 3 car garage.</p>	<p>\$2,050,000</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/92p</p> <p>Mineola West. Custom built. 4 bedrooms, 6 baths. Hardwood. Finished walk-up basement.</p>	<p>\$1,899,000</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/14b</p> <p>2 Acre lot. Backing onto greenspace. Approx 7,000 sq ft of living space. In ground pool. Tennis court.</p>
<p>\$1,699,000</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/15L</p> <p>Panoramic views of Lake Ontario. Custom built. 50 x 265 ft lot. Riparian rights. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths.</p>	<p>\$1,500,000</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/1060v</p> <p>Lorne Park. Meticulously maintained. 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. Hardwood. Finished basement. In-ground pool.</p>	<p>\$1,388,888</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/616m</p> <p>Secluded court. 3+1 bedrooms, 4 baths. Hardwood throughout. Finished walk out basement.</p>
<p>\$1,299,000</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/6g</p> <p>OPEN HOUSE Saturday 2-4:30 pm 6 Glenroy Road, Hamilton</p> <p>A country property boasting 2 homes on a scenic 10+ acres. Ideal for 2 families or as an investment.</p>	<p>\$1,298,800</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/1677w</p> <p>Lorne Park. Hardwood throughout. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Granite. S/S appliances. Finished basement.</p>	<p>\$1,198,800</p> <p>mcdadi.ca/1033g</p> <p>A completely renovated legal triplex with each unit boasting 2 bedrooms, 1 bath and laundry.</p>

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SAM MCDADI
REAL ESTATE INC. BROKERAGE
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DIRECT
416.801.2400
Sam@McDadi.com

OFFICE
905.502.1500
1.866.707.0061

Sales Representatives: Abraham Azraq, Alvin Tung, Amer Hassanein, Andrew Campian, Anthony Nguyen, Ashkan Khatelghi, Ben Szidley, Bill McFarland, Craig Yaffe, Fadi Abou-Challa, Isiah Bayley-Hay, John Athanasiou, JT Bhadra, Julie Jones, Kayla Le, Lisa Lee, Marcello Marchese, Mark Powell, Marwa Nadir, Marzena Ciecielag, Michelle Delemos, Mike Azraq, Nikita Wadia, Norm Wilkie, Obie Khwaja, Raied Hassanein, Sean Johnny, Shannon Bowen, Sue-Maya Hawass, Susan Campian, Zaher Shaw. Brokers: Harry Nairda, Jim Yurchuk, Leonard Howell, Kamrvi Ahlawat, Sabrina Nagar.