

# Touching composition

"The materials you use in your kitchen will affect its décor in several ways. A rich palette can give tonal and textural contrast, demarcate specific work areas, and create a sense of solidity and permanence."

*Eric McClelland, Fleur De Lis Interior Design*





## Varied menu

This kitchen's diverse material palette provides contrasting tones, practical counter surfaces and an easy division of workspaces

**C**reating an interior from a diverse material palette requires a careful touch. The various materials need to work together in terms of texture and tone, but it is also important that cool surfaces, such as metal or stone, and warm surfaces, such as wood, are visually balanced.

For this project, Eric McClelland and Peter Lunney from Fleur De Lis Interior Design were asked to create a practical space with clearly defined work areas, using a variety of materials. There are a number of surfaces featured in the kitchen and



*Previous page:* This kitchen by Eric McClelland and Peter Lunney celebrates a variety of materials, brought together by a contrast of tones, textures and temperatures.

*Facing page:* Cool stainless steel, concrete and granite are played off against highlights of warm wood finishes.

*Above and left:* To the left and right of the oven, pullout chopping boards add extra work space to the kitchen. When not in use, the chopping boards slide on rollers back into the kitchen cabinetry.





finding a balance between warm and cool was central to the design, says McClelland.

"Silver automotive paint, chosen for its sherry, reflective quality, features on the kitchen cabinetry," says McClelland. "This cool, metallic surface tones in with the stainless steel appliances, the black and white speckled granite countertops, and a feature concrete slab."

This slab acts as a divider between the workbench and breakfast area, and echoes the use of concrete elsewhere in the home.

Balancing these cool surfaces are

warmer elements, including sycamore wood on a large feature wall, the wood breakfast table and cabinetry base finishes. The sycamore panel corresponds with the dining area in the open-plan space.

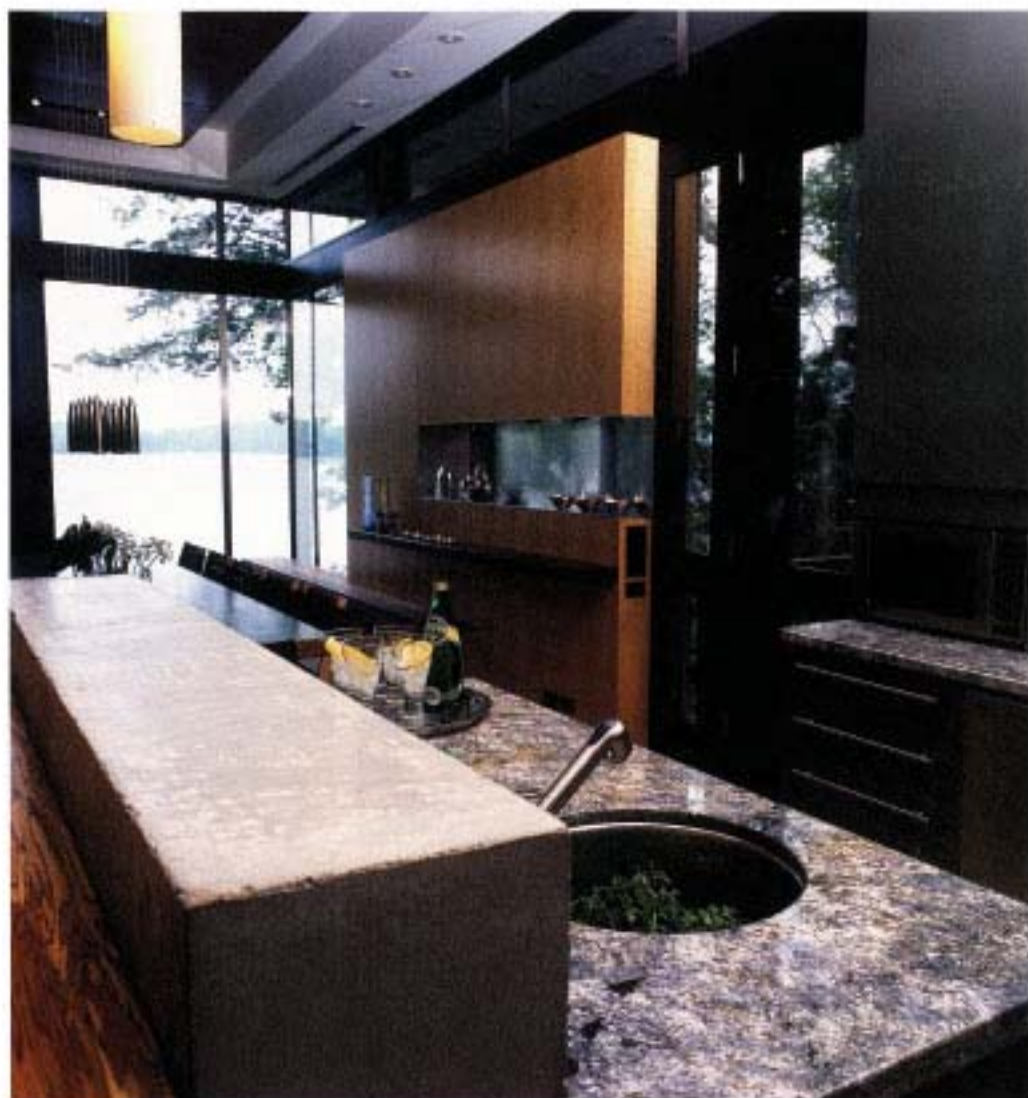
An unusual, warm-toned Pece limestone is used on the sideboard in the dining area and repeated as a ledge running along the sycamore wall. Its dark tone is due to an asphalt component running through it.

The breakfast table is made from paralam, a composite wood used traditionally for structural purposes, such as joists. This

light-toned, textured wood is set against the cooler concrete slab, the granite countertops and the table's metal base.

On the floor, Jatoba African hardwood lines up against limestone tiles. These two materials define areas of use within the kitchen. While the hardwood marks out the workspace floor area, the limestone tiles define the eating space around the beverage bar and breakfast table.

"This kitchen's material palette is like a Mondrian painting," says McClelland. "Scale and proportion are all-important."



**Interior designer:** Eric McClelland ARIDO, NCIDQ, Peter Lunney ARIDO, NCIDQ, Fleur De Lis Interiors Design (Toronto)  
**Architect:** Munkiani Design (Toronto)  
**Main contractor:** Tamarah North Construction  
**Cabinets:** Custom made with silver automotive paint finish from Middle Brook Woodworking  
**Windows:** Custom Spanish oak from Timberwood Industries  
**Flooring:** Jatoba hardwood, limestone tiles  
**Countertops and backsplash:** Arctic Char granite  
**Sideboard countertop:** Pece limestone  
**Island:** Beach  
**Cooltop and dishwasher:** White

**Refrigerator:** GE  
**Microwave:** Panasonic  
**Beverage center:** GE  
**Faucets:** Nicholas in stainless steel  
**Furniture:** Bar stools: Vitabooks in black and natural; dining table: Custom Pavilion beams in stained gray  
**Lighting:** Sunlite, Eurofase  
**Window treatments:** Timberwood Industries

**Photography by:** Elaine Kilham

**Facing page:** Urntrose floor tile delimits area of pedestrian flow in the kitchen. Jatoba hardwood defines the kitchen's work areas, used primarily by those preparing or serving meals.

**Above:** Wood, marble and concrete provide a solid but contrasting material palette. The concrete divider here is a reference to the exposed concrete surfaces that have been raised and celebrated throughout the home's decor. The sycamore panel will run the length of the dining area.