

OUR LATEST FLAMES

FIRE FROM **G1**



Left: Integral to the design of Ha2's Royal Twins semi-detached units, this clean, linear fireplace serves as a grand gesture when you enter the sitting area and showcases precious possessions, says Houry Avedisian. She used drywall for the surround and quartz for the hearth. "You can picture all the little kids sitting there at Christmas," she says. Thanks to the shadowed bottom alcoves, fireplace flames are visible even when daylight floods the room. This home won the exterior details and multi-unit custom urban home awards.

Below: A finalist in the category of single, detached production homes, 2,000 square feet or less, Tartan's Sawyer model bungalow shows that country-style stone fireplaces still have a place in design. The model is in Russell, so a mix of rustic and modern is fitting, says Kelly Maiorino of Unique Spaces, which designs Tartan's models. "We were trying to create a different look (from linear), a little more classic."



Above: An expansive marble fireplace wall anchors the main-floor layout and serves as a room divider in this award-winner for contemporary custom urban home, 2,401 to 3,500 square feet. Its colour also blends with the white walls and ceiling, making it appear surprisingly light. "It's one of those classic materials that looks good anywhere," says Jason Flynn of Jason C. Flynn Architect, who credits Clear Interior Design for designing the wall. The walnut mantel picks up the home's other woody elements.



Left: The original fireplace left only a four-foot passage into the living room of this 1960s home. So Chuck Mills of Chuck Mills Residential Design & Development lopped off the left side of the surround and replaced the wood with a gas-burning design. "The fireplace became an island, and that helped open up the room. We also put an electric fireplace on the foyer side for ambience," says Mills. The fireplace is part of an award-winning renovation with Patterson Homes.



Above: A generous firebox with a ceiling-high marble surround encapsulates the contemporary urban tone of this single detached home by Richcraft, a design finalist. The linearity of the marble blocks echoes the shape of the adjacent windows while the contrasting colours of the fireplace reflect the kitchen's white base cabinetry and dark charcoal uppers.



Above: The master bedroom in this 5,951-square-foot custom home by Brenmar Construction features a sleek, see-through fireplace that ups the cosy quotient of both the sleeping and sitting areas. Interestingly, the fireplace in the covered porch is a traditional, massive stone affair that suits the home's natural location beside the Rideau River. Brenmar's project won the custom home award for dwellings over 3,501 square feet.

Left: "This is a minimalist house, so we went with a simple drywall box with a fireplace sitting inside it," says Christopher Simmonds, who partnered with Maple Leaf Custom Homes on this house. "We used a nicely proportioned matte-black steel panel that wraps around the corner. In doing it this way, we left room (above the fireplace) for the owner to put a piece of art when they decide what they want." This living-dining space was a finalist in the any room in the house category. *DOUBLESPACE PHOTOGRAPHY*