

**Joy Chao** is the lead interior designer for John Henshaw Architect Inc., an architectural and interior design company specialized in high-end residential home and small commercial designs. In addition to the Greater Vancouver area, the company has significant projects in Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, and Dongguan.

**Joy Chao**在建築業界已有超過20年的經驗。她目前為John Henshaw Architect Inc.的主領室內設計師。John Henshaw Architect Inc.是溫哥華一所出色的建築及室內設計事務所，專門設計高檔位住家設計及小型的商業設計。事務所的設計案件大部份位於大溫地區，近年也括展到北京、上海、成都及東莞等地區。

## NOT ALL THAT GLITTERS HAS TO BE GOLD 家居搭配 靈感碰撞

計劃許久的夢想新居總算完工了，所有該有的好東西都放進去了——最好的材料，最新的技術：明亮大窗、優質硬木地板、大理石材、訂製廚櫃、名牌家電、水晶吊燈等等等等。最後的頭疼問題：家具擺飾該如何挑選？

Text by **Joy Chao**

作為一位室內設計師，我對這個問題最直接簡單的回答當然是找您的設計師幫忙。作室內空間規劃時，設計師就應該已經為業主設定了基本的家具擺放位置（Furniture Plan），在適當的時間導引您挑選風格合適的家具、配套的布料、窗簾設計、大小小小飾品配件，如桌燈等……這個最後裝飾部份所需的物件清單有時候很長很惱人。但是挑選時還是有一點訣竅的，我們經常會找設計中的元素其一作為起點，比如說一個特別的色調、一件業主想用或已有的家具、一張畫作、甚至只是一塊好看的布料，都可以作為靈感的來源。有了起點後，其它的物件裝潢就可以一層層帶入。

但是還是要記得「少即是多（Less is more）」的原則，即使我們在層層添加裝飾物件時，每個空間內仍須維持一個視覺的焦點，否則此空間很容易變得太過凌亂，毫無主題。

這期我們來看一下這戶建設在溫哥華克里斯戴爾（Kerrisdale）西區的獨立屋設計。此建築及室內設計以

Your dream home is finally constructed, packed with all the goodies and the latest technologies—large windows, hardwood floors, marble bathrooms, custom millwork and top of line appliances, crystal chandeliers, and so on. Then comes the million-dollar question, “How do I furnish this place?”

As a designer myself, the easiest answer would be to work with your designer who can do up a plan for the space and guide you through the maze of selecting suitable furniture, fabrics, window coverings, and accessories. The list could go on. But there are some secrets I can pass on about this seemingly impossible task. Firstly, find an inspiration as a reference point. The inspiration could be a particular colour, a piece of artwork, a piece of furniture, or even a piece of fabric. Once we find a reference point, then all other items can be added on, layer by layer. Remember though, “less is more.” Even as we layer things on, a focal point should still be maintained, otherwise focus can quickly go astray and even get completely lost.

The architectural and interior design of this Kerrisdale property was inspired by the estate homes in First



位於溫哥華第一桑拿斯區（First Shaughnessy District）的許多建於二十世紀初的歷史性豪宅為設計起點。我們將那個時代很常見的牆體鑲板設計安裝在正式的起居室及晚餐廳中，但不用傳統上習慣使用的深色原木作為板材，而將此元素更新——以白色半光乳膠漆粉刷，以取其更明亮、寬大、及現代的視覺效果；但仍維持其傳統歷史性的骨架。正式起居室中央吊上一比晚餐間略小的鑄鐵水晶燈，其切割水晶提供了漂亮的閃爍效果。壁爐兩側安裝正方形特別訂製設計的鑲嵌玻璃，並不要求其提供自然日光的功能，而是增加另一層視覺上的效果。

這棟房子是計劃完工後馬上要上市賣出的，所以我們和一家具佈置公司合作挑選可租到用於佈置的家具擺設。在正式起居室，以白橡木硬木地板為主，我們挑選以中性米色系的一對沙發作為主要家具，加上幾件同色系但較為深色的靠墊，給予層次感。需要小心的是如果一個空間裏擺置的全是中性色調家具，感覺上經常會變得太過沉悶死氣。此處我們用壁爐周邊所使用的雪花

Shaughnessy District (FSD) in Vancouver. We updated the much-favoured paneled look in the living room and dining room, traditionally often done in stain-grade wood. We used a semi-gloss neutral white this time, resulting in a brighter and more modern look while retaining the old world feel. In the center of the room, a wrought iron, candelabra-style chandelier with cut crystals anchors the space and provides some nice sparkles. The two small square windows flanking the fireplace with custom-designed art glass were more for visual interest than to provide light.

This property was built to sell so we worked with a well-known local staging company to select the furnishings. We started with the neutral tone of white oak hardwood flooring, and situated two large, flax-seed-toned sofas as anchor pieces. By adding a couple of slightly darker-toned cushions to each sofa, visual depth was created. The danger of furnishing a room entirely with neutral tones is that the space often falls flat. These black and white pillows, inspired by the dramatic grey veining of the fireplace surround’s statuario marble provided a much-needed visual “pop.” Notice that the pair of square stools in front of the fireplace are in the





白大理石上所有的大樣深灰色花紋為靈感，另加了幾件黑白大花的抱枕，提供視覺上所需的一個亮點。注意到壁爐前置的兩張矮凳，其色調和沙發上的深色抱枕是相似的，但是其正方的造型多加另一層視覺效果。

中央茶几、臨晚餐間沙發後的高桌、及桌燈的深棕色的鐵製結構和天花上掛的水晶燈鑄鐵燈架互相呼應。起居室靠走道邊的一對單位椅為深色絲絨布，另加鉚釘細節，求其視覺及質感之厚重。放置在中央茶几及壁爐上方的銀色燭台和水晶燈的閃亮互相呼應。因此空間其它家具風格傾向簡潔大方，置於起居室中的波斯地毯為這個區域內唯一有複雜設計的編織細節，其精緻的效果在此就跳躍出來，美麗優雅，再加為此空間定位。

注意到起居室幾乎所有的家具擺設，包括牆上的壁燈及壁爐兩邊的方型藝術玻璃窗皆為對稱設計擺定，但茶几上幾件花草植物裝飾是刻意以不平衡性安置，打破全對稱空間可能會有太過壓抑的感覺，提供一正式但仍舒適的環境。

一個好的房間總該有一些好的藝術作品。壁爐上的現代抽象風景原創是以海藍及沙黃為主色系，將溫哥華著名的海景自外帶入內部空間，鑄金的鑲框給畫作添加此空間所需的傳統質感。

此棟房子在上市後短期內就賣出，新屋主對新家十分滿意。

same tone as the throw cushions on the sofas. The variety of shapes adds another layer of interest.

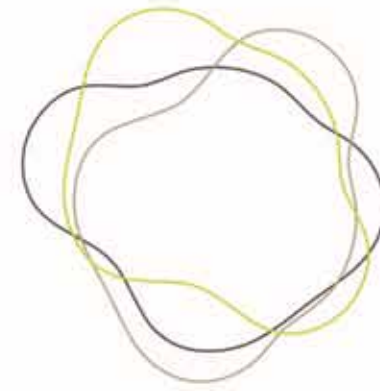
The oil rubbed bronze structural elements of the central coffee table, the occasional table behind the sofa and the table lamps echo the wrought iron details of the chandelier. The pair of occasional chairs in darker, velvet-like upholstery with nail head details were selected so that each chair looked heavy enough visually to stand alone. The silver candlesticks placed on the coffee table and the fireplace mantel mirror the sparkling effect of the chandelier.

The area rug placed in the center defines the space and its brown and red patterns deliver warmth to the room. It is the only piece with a very complicated design. Since the other furnishings and accessories are fairly simple, the intricacy of the Persian rug shines through.

Notice how the symmetry of the furniture parallels the art glass windows and the wall sconces, creating a very formal yet comfortable feel for this room. A completely symmetrical room can sometimes feel oppressive so we strategically placed accessories such as the floral arrangement and the small plants on the tables to break the stuffiness and lend some movement to the space.

No great room would be complete without at least one good piece of artwork. The abstract landscape in ocean blue and sandy yellow brings the outside in; a gilded frame imparts a traditional feel to an otherwise modern painting.

We are happy to report that the house was quickly bought by a happy new owner. All's well that ends well.



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## ENGLISH DALES, COME HOME

In the hands of John Henshaw Architect, Inc, traditional English details and imperfect materials turn a house into a perfect home.

### 溫馨英倫之家

——中國家庭的英式鄉村宅邸

在設計師John Henshaw的妙手打造下，貌似不夠完美的材料被融入傳統的英式家居風格之中，打造了一個理想的舒適家園。

Chinese Text by **Lei Chen** English Text by **Brett Price**







“My home is warm, simple and comfortable. A place my children can come home to and feel relaxed.”



使用帶有木疤的材料來營造自然淳樸的質感。而當我們來到這裏時，房子的前門證明，John的想法確實被採納了。

「木疤越多越好。」這就是女主人對前門的要求。最終滿是木疤的楷木大門被安上了黑色的鐵把手，看上去無比親和。而地面上看似凌亂的，被刻意做出風化效果的石灰華地磚，其實是精心設計的結果。這樣的效果確實可以讓訪客們感到非常輕鬆自在，彷彿被告知，不用擔心鞋子上有泥，這裏的主人不會介意。

走進客廳，傳統的歐洲風格被加入了一些中式理念，具體說來就是如中國畫一般的大範圍留白。「我建議他們在牆上掛些畫，可他們非常喜歡現在這樣乾淨的白牆，不想把它填滿。」房子的主設計師Joy Chao說。此外，房間裏還放置了一些來自東方的裝飾品。可這些東方式的含蓄表達，完全無法遮蓋整體濃重的英格蘭調子，從家具到窗簾依然遵循著房子最初的設計方案。

穿過過道，來到最大的房間，這個長方形的大廳幾乎等同於整個房子的寬度，這裏使用的木料同樣疤痕纍纍，這些原本會被丟棄的廢料，在技工們的巧手製作下煥發了新生。配合溫暖的地磚、大理石檯面和有著厚厚柔軟坐墊的椅子，構成了最有家的感覺的用餐畫面。當然烹飪用的頂級家用電器同樣不可或缺，並且被安置地得心應手，體現了設計師老到的比例掌握。

「我的家是如此的溫暖、簡單和舒適。」女主人

was just how much she would love it. His whole team was surprised since Chinese people usually prefer smooth surfaces and near-perfect wood grain. The front door is a perfect example of what Emily wanted instead.

“Put as many knots in it as you can,” she told them about the alder door. Its hardware is heavy, black iron but smooth to the touch. Tumbled travertine tiles fill the entryway, seemingly in random arrangement. The fact that there are eight tile sizes in a repeating, custom-designed pattern is a small but vital detail that gives the rustic materials a grand air. Standing on the weathered-looking tiles, the visitor simply has a sense of ease. “Don’t worry if your shoes are muddy after a walk in the countryside,” they seem to whisper, “we won’t mind.”

Traditional European style gets a Chinese treatment in the Chu’s formal rooms. “I keep telling them they can put art up but they love the white panelled walls so much, they don’t want to,” Joy Chao, the home’s lead designer, says. Smaller tables and ornaments come from the Orient but the broad brush strokes like the furniture and window coverings harken back to England.

Beyond the breezeway, the great room awaits. This rectangular hall, running the complete width of the house, hugs the kitchen, the breakfast table, a sitting area with overstuffed leather chairs and the hearth. Knotted lumber, usually picked through and discarded, is deftly elevated through craftsman-like flourishes, nearby top-of-the-line appliances and beautiful, well-proportioned architecture.

“She wanted a stone fireplace,” Chao explains. Oversized river rock runs from floor to ceiling and exactly resembles a hearth in an old cottage. “We even sourced this salvaged wood for the mantel.” The dark, distressed wood beam jutting out of the grout is just the sort of authentic detail that Emily’s friends admire and relax beside.

在位於溫哥華Point Grey區的一條安靜街道上，一所看似像是英格蘭老宅，實際卻僅僅建成四年的房子，總是不經意地吸引著人們的目光。這裏便是一對喜愛英倫風情的中國夫婦以及他們兩個孩子的家。

自從離開中國之後，他們走遍了世界各個角落，最終選擇這個被大海環抱的地方，作為自己的家。他們委託John Henshaw Architect Inc.來設計自己心目中的家園，那應該是一個優美與閒逸，現代與傳統，舒適與華麗和諧並存的完美空間。

設計伊始，設計師John便制定了一個傳統英式村舍的方案，正當他對自己的想法還有些猶豫不決的時候，女主人擁有的一把粗糙又鄉土味十足的椅子，讓他打消了疑慮。John知道，這兩位新顧客和大多數喜歡完美光滑木料的中國顧客有些不同，他相信他們可以接受自己

On a quiet street in the peaceful University Endowment Lands of Vancouver, surrounded by sea, a house that has stood for only four years incorporates materials that help it feel like an old cottage on a rolling green hillside in England. The Chu family, Emily and Patrick, and their children Victor and Serena (names changed), left China eight years ago, and, of all the streets in all the cities in the world, they wanted to live on this one. They asked John Henshaw Architect Inc. (JHA) of Vancouver to design their perfect abode: it was to be beautiful and relaxing, modern and traditional, cozy yet grand.

Emily owned the rough-hewn, battered but sturdy-looking seat outside the front door before this house was built so when Henshaw suggested rustic-looking materials and a traditional English-style cottage home, he knew his Eurocentric idea was not out of the question. What he didn’t expect

Photography by Hugh Zhao





「我的家是如此的溫暖、簡單和舒適。是一個可以讓孩子們感受到濃濃親情和輕鬆自在，可以讓我在數週緊張的商務旅行之後，卸下滿身包袱，靜養生息的地方。」

告訴我們：「是一個可以讓孩子們感受到濃濃親情和輕鬆自在，可以讓我在數週緊張的商務旅行之後，卸下滿身包袱，靜養生息的地方。」事實上夫婦兩人在溫哥華擁有幾處房產，他們也想過要搬到一個更寬敞的住處。「不過最終他們沒有離開這裏。」Joy無意中為我們透露了房主對這所房子的喜愛之情。

同許多中國人一樣，女主人希望家中的陽光要充足，面向南方的一面牆壁被安裝了六扇玻璃門，這樣不僅有利於室內採光，還打通了室內與戶外游泳池的空間連繫。院子裏的園藝依然是英國鄉村風的鵝卵石、青草地，石板間的縫隙裏也被頑強的綠意填滿。環繞著形狀獨特的游泳池，幾把椅子被隨意擺放著，讓人期待在一個陽光明媚的午後，享受一場優雅的英式下午茶。

回到房子裏，我們沿樓梯拾階而上，天花板上開設的天窗正大度的讓陽光自由湧入，空間非常的通透明亮。來到臥室，最觸動我的是經典的，如童話般的窗座設計。想像在一個清新的早晨，坐在窗臺上飲著咖啡，手中拿著一本最喜歡的書，任由斑駁的樹影灑在身上，所謂幸福的一天也就是這樣開始的吧！

當來到浴室時，我們終於感受到，原來自己是在一個現代的奢華之家，從天花板到瓷磚檯面，精美的潔具和淋浴設備，這一切都被安置在一個非常廣闊的空間裏，「這個浴室是總統套房級別的。」Joy說，而且這種水準被放在了家中每一個浴室的設計中。

其實，如此迷戀英倫風情的女主人從未到過英國，可是在設計師的協助下，她終於實現了自己的夢想——一個舊式的、舒適的、鄉村風格的美麗家園。

“My home is warm, simple and comfortable,” Emily tells me. “A place my children can come home to and feel relaxed. A place where I can return after weeks of corporate travel and just have quiet, not worry about anything.”

The Chu's own multiple properties in Vancouver and Patrick thought it would be nice to move to a larger place. This “cottage” home is 5,500 square feet. The one waiting for them was nearly 8,000. “She said no, she wouldn't go,” Chao said about Emily's decision. “She really loves this house.”

Emily lights up especially bright as she peers out the south-facing doors of the great room. All six doors fold open to connect the backyard pool to the family area. Painterly, bright green ground covering fills every sloping nook and cranny around the slate stepping stones and flower beds. The effect is utterly English countryside (and conveniently low maintenance).

Upstairs, the comfortably-sized bedrooms fan out from a small landing that offers plenty of visual interest in the sky-lighted ceiling. A classic, fairytale touch is the window seat in each bedroom. I could almost see the Brontë sisters sitting there, chatting away, writing or getting lost in a book.

But this is a modern luxury home, after all; nowhere is that more clear than in its bathrooms. Intricate, floor to ceiling stone work, fine fixtures, custom lighting and ample space give the master bathroom an air of grandeur, “presidential,” as Chao put it. All others, though smaller, received similar treatment.

Of all the Chu's, only Patrick has been to England. Emily's visited only in her dreams, but somehow, in the snippets of conversation, the swatches of fabric, in the stones, the wood, the window seats, and with Chao and Henshaw's help, she found what she was looking for: an old-world, cozy, country respite.



Photography by Hugh Zhao