

LIFESTYLE

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# Designing on Selwyn: *A Creative's Tale*

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**W**hy didn't I think of this sooner? I moved my business into a little house. What better way to work comfortably and give my client's a practical, and beautiful visual on what can be done in their own home. In the fall of 2022 after several years in a gorgeous Southend loft I decided to move the five of us to a "full of potential" little house in Myers Park on Selwyn Ave.

I have been driving by this little house since, and this will age me, the early 80's. Fast forward to 2022 and it was on the market. I pulled the trigger. The location was perfect, the interior, not so much. Circa 1930, it was full of character with it's original front door and plaster walls but that was about it. Extremely dated I knew I needed to gut it and create something that not only I wanted to work in every day, but a place that showcased the craftsmanship of my favorite sub contractors and vendors.

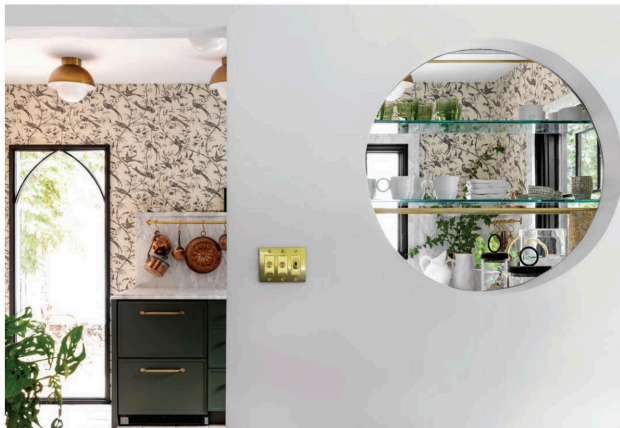




As I do with all my projects, I immediately started creating my own design plan with every detail, then began ordering things, knowing my new windows would take forever. With a game plan in place the tear out began. One of my favorites, John Waller arrived with his sledge hammer.

By the Spring of 2023 it was transformed. Walls out and relocated, a completely new bathroom and my new British inspired (thanks to the amazing vision of deVOL kitchens out of Loughborough in the UK) kitchen. I went as far as painting the entire walk up attic with it's vaulted ceiling white and loaded it with shelving for the perfect storage place for all our client's curtains, pillows and lamps. Two offices, an entry with dining room turned conference area and the main reason I purchased this place - a large garage with work space over top filled with sample books and a very long, lay it out, table for space to work on projects.

This entire little home is all me. The style I love, the colors I love, loaded with different textures from it's ribbed marble tile mixed with bottle green Mexican tile and an eye catching brass vanity in the bathroom. The kitchen, well, have to say, is by far my favorite space. Impact Design built my cabinets and painted them a most gorgeous dark green while Harkey Tile topped them with Carrara Marble. I was really focused on the details and





wanted the perfect counter edge, backspace and fittings in, you guessed it, unlacquered brass. A new but vintage feeling wall paper, and a brass shelf by Josh Utsey that is visible through the new "porthole" we cut in the wall to the dining room. Lastly I found an amazing old tile from a sidewalk in France to place all this pretty on. Sounds crazy fancy and expensive ? Well the fact that it's only about an 8 x 10 size room I was able to do all this ! Small but mighty in style for sure.

The entire little 1500 square foot home is full of inspiration, plastered fireplace by Polly Doolittle, new, custom large metal window by 2dash1 and some pretty amazing wall papers and accessories. Driving down Selwyn this deep charcoal painted house, perfectly landscaped by Pothead does catch your eye I have heard !

What I love the most, the cozy feeling and being such a visual person I love nothing more than surrounding myself with a vibe and look that helps my creative side with every project I work on. From a warehouse in 1998, to a big ole building on East Blvd, to a Southend loft and now a house, I know I'm done moving. This is the best one of all.

