

All the home is a stage

Townhouse in the heart of Yorkville merges city bustle with tree-lined tranquility, all on the site of local theatre history

CAROLYN IRELAND TORONTO

94 Belmont St.
TORONTO

Asking Price: \$2,649,900
Taxes: \$10,066.00 (2019)
Lot Size: 70 feet by 20 feet
Agent: Carl Langschmidt
(Property.ca Inc.)

THE BACKSTORY

In 2006, a row of tall, brick townhouses rose on Belmont Street on the site of a former pentecostal church. To most of the city's residents and visitors, the rather creaky old church was better known as the venue for the Toronto Truck Theatre's production of Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*, which ran for more than 26 years.

Theatre patrons sat in the wooden pews of the former house of worship, which was so cramped that when the actors exited stage left, they had to go outside and run around the building to enter again stage right.

The Mousetrap was the longest running play in Canadian history before the final curtain came down in early 2004. The box office was an economic casualty of the 2003 SARS outbreak, which saw tourism and theatre attendance plummet in Toronto.

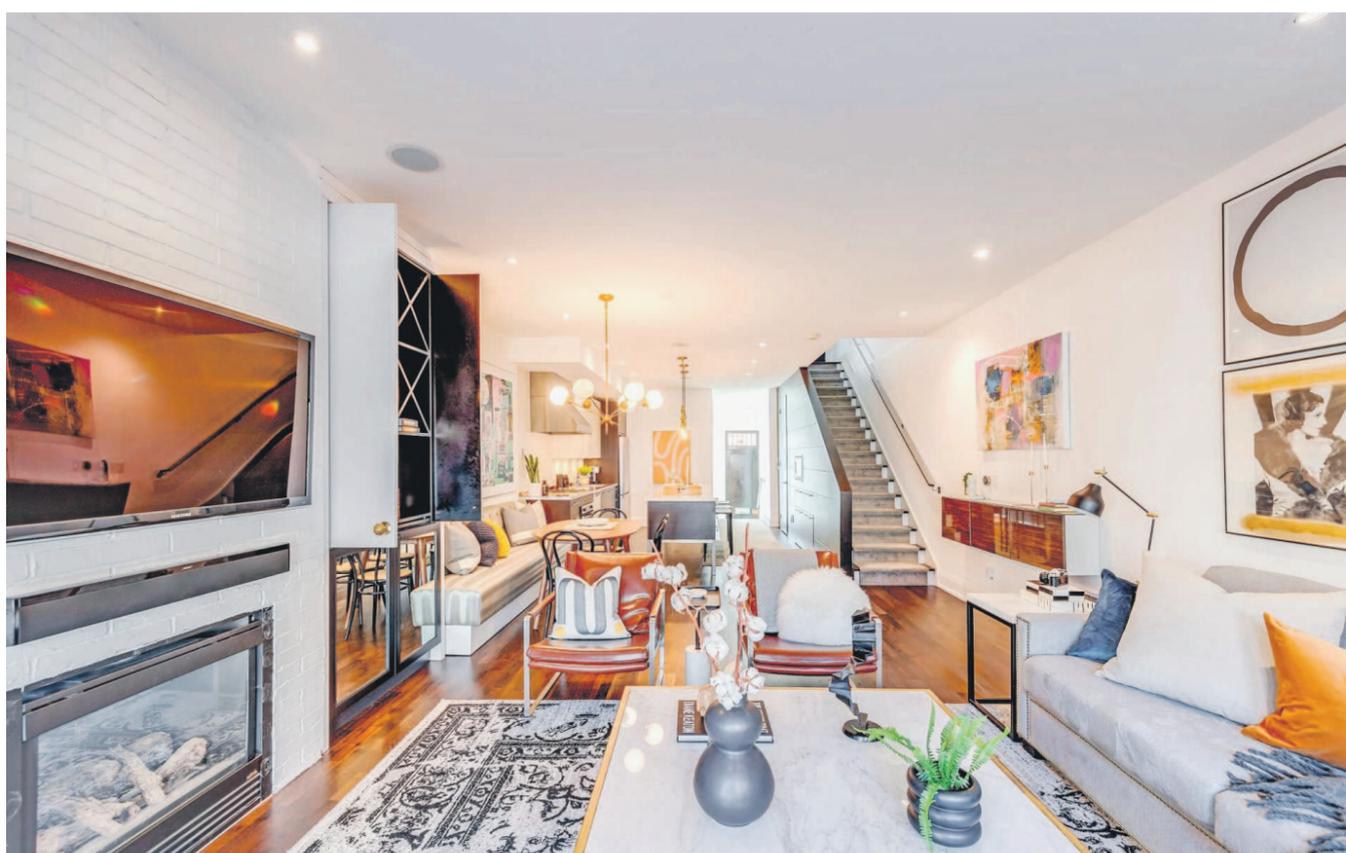
A developer purchased the property and replaced the old structure with four three-storey townhouses above an underground parking garage.

The development is one of the few recent additions to a street of heritage homes near Avenue Road and Davenport Road.

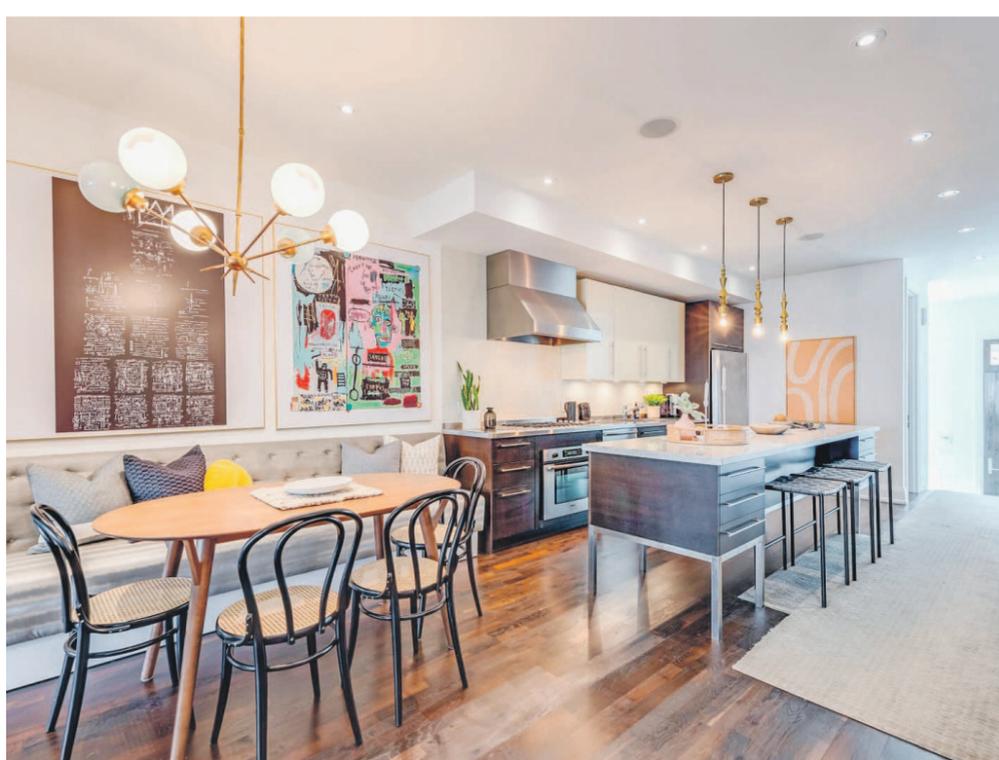
THE HOUSE TODAY

No. 94 is an end unit with three bedrooms and three bathrooms in more than 2,500 square feet of living space.

Owners Lauren and Ryan Cohen purchased the property in 2014.



This three-storey townhouse at 94 Belmont St. in Toronto has three bedrooms and three bathrooms in more than 2,500 square feet of space. It, along with three other townhouses, was built in 2006 on the site of a former pentecostal church. PHOTOS BY CONDOS.CA



Ms. Cohen says they were drawn to the downtown location and the historic neighbourhood. "We loved being in the heart of Yorkville," Ms. Cohen says. "The street has a lot of character."

Mr. Cohen says he was drawn to the thoughtful lay-out, which places all of the rooms meant for relaxing at the back of the house, away from the street.

The couple didn't feel the need to make any major changes to the interior, but they called in Mr. Cohen's sister, the founder of Stacey Cohen Design, to help choose the decor.

Mr. Cohen says the couple helped to choose the fabrics and finishes along the way, but when it came time to put everything together, his sister sent them both away. Her team then prepped the home for a grand "reveal."

"You're not seeing things piecemeal," he says. "You come in and you're blown away."

Residents can enter the home from the street or directly from the underground parking garage. Stairs lead to the main floor,

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