

SPRING FORWARD

The Calgary Home + Garden Show puts home design in a spring mood

■ By Pepper Rodriguez

SPRING COMES EARLY this year to Calgary, at least at the Stampede Grounds where the 2011 Calgary Home + Garden Show is being held this month, and where the first blush of home design and décor inspirations spring forth.

On its 30th year of bringing the best in home fashion in Calgary, the 2011 Calgary Home + Garden Show continues to offer innovative products, new ideas for the home, expert advice and great deals with over 650 retailers and industry professionals. The show will be held from February 24 to 27 at the BMO Centre in Stampede Park.

One of the most anticipated events at this year's edition of the spring show is the first appearance in Calgary of Jackie Morra. "This is my first time to appear in Calgary and I'm really excited," she tells *New Home Living*.

LESS IS MORRA

Jackie Morra is an accredited interior decorator who has been transforming and designing residential homes for over 10 years and is the principal of Jackie Morra Interiors and Home Decor Solutions. She is a regular celebrity guest speaker on HGTV's stage at the Toronto Fall Home Show, National Home Show, Metro Home Show, and BC Home & Garden Show. She has been featured in *Style at Home*, *HouseandHome.com*, *Reno & Décor Magazine*, *Breakfast Television*, *CTS's Real Life*, and *Rogers TV Daytime*. Her passion for life and décor is reflected in her energy and enthusiasm. >>

Photo courtesy Home Décor Solutions.

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New Home
Living Magazine

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SHOW INFO

TICKET PRICES

Adults (online): \$11
Adults (at door): \$14
Children 12 & under: Free

DATES AND HOURS

Thursday, February 24:
Noon - 9 p.m.
Friday, February 25:
Noon - 9 p.m.
Saturday, February 26:
10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sunday, February 27:
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Visit www.calgaryhgs.com
for more information.



Jackie
Morra

"I'm all about simplifying home décor, making it so that what can seem like a daunting task at first becomes easier to understand and execute," she says. "I'll be offering tips and tricks for every room in the home and touch on design trends, colour trends and being 'green' and how going back to nature can be done efficiently," she says.

"If you don't love it, live without it", is her simple mantra, and Morra applies the tenet to all aspects of life, especially décor. She blends the emotional and practical sides of design to help people feel more connected to their spaces and a reflection of their personality and lifestyle.

THE KARO CONCEPT

Back this year is Karoleena Homes with their latest innovation in modular living: the Karo Cabin. Karoleena's Kelly Doody says the Karo Cabin is the next step to the builder's modular dream home, which was a big hit in last year's show.

"This time, we're not only utilizing the same modular systems-built technologies and benefits, including eco-friendly construction materials, a climate-controlled factory build environment and drastically reduced building timeframe compared to conventional methods, but we've partnered with Mogens Smed and DIRT



Karoleena Homes' latest innovation in modular living: the Karo Cabin.

Environmental Solutions on our interior walls and components," Doody says.

The entire cabin itself is modular, movable, expandable, so too are the interior rooms. Everything from the toilet and bathroom sink to the kitchen counter, appliances, shelving and cabinets are vertically hung and can be moved or relocated at any time.



Janet Mah

IN THE MIX

Also in the show is Janet Mah, an interior-decorating specialist, who, after working for 19 years in her field of expertise, took on a role as Lead Interior Decorating Instructor



Jackie believes that any space can be transformed with the influence of an inspirational piece that evokes emotion to the owner.

Photo courtesy Home Décor Solutions.

at Bow Valley College in 2005. In addition to her work at Bow Valley, Janet also enjoys running her own independent decorating business.

"I'm going to be talking about mixing furniture styles. Often homeowners will end up with a real mix of furniture styles and accessories that they don't know how to put together," she says. "Tip: Don't throw it away to start from scratch! There is a formula for a cohesive mix!" which she will discuss in her presentation.

And not to be forgotten is Bryan Baeumler. The ever-popular HGTV celebrity is making a return appearance in Calgary after his very well-received show last fall. Bryan's a natural who manages to inspire and entertain both troubled homeowners and viewers alike. Bryan was nominated for a Gemini Award for hosting Disaster DIY's first season, and won a Gemini Award for hosting season 2!



Bryan Baeumler

Alykhan Velji and Rosalyn Lazaruk, both regular contributors to *Condo Living* and *New Home Living* magazines in Calgary and Edmonton, will be bringing their brand of design pizzazz into the mix as well.

MORE TO SEE

Marketplace Events' Terri Higgins says there is a lot to look forward to in this year's show, from the main stage to the 6,000-square-foot Garden Oasis where guests can find inspiration for the upcoming gardening season.

"Plus, don't miss the Opening Night Party! Mingle with celebrity experts, shop exclusive deals and get a sneak peek at this spring's must-have products," Higgins says. **NL**

**NEW HOME LIVING
AT THE SHOW**

Alykhan Velji and Rosalyn Lazaruk are the in-house design experts for Calgary Condo Living and New Home Living, as well as the Edmonton Home and Condo Living. Both have very loyal followings, which make them a popular attraction at the Calgary spring and fall home shows where they are regulars. Here's what we can expect from them at the 2011 Calgary Home + Garden Show.



Alykhan Velji

Every year I get so excited about the Home and Garden Show. It's a great show, which features the best in design, décor and outdoor living. This year is no exception and I am working on some fabulous features as well daily stage presentations. My talks are going to be with Rosalyn and we will be focusing on design trends for the coming year as well speaking

about outdoor entertaining and décor. With the season for being outside soon approaching, we will be giving tips and tricks on how to make the most of your outdoor space. We are also designing the booth space for New Home Living and Condo Living, creating a reading lounge of sorts. A space where you can have a seat, take a breather, and enjoy the offerings of both the magazines. I have partnered with Karoleena Homes on their Karo Cabin, it is a brand new part of their company where they have come up with a modular cabin system that I will be doing the interior decorating for. This definitely puts a chic and modern spin on spending a weekend at the cabin. There is also a wine bar, that I will be designing, creating a stylish, urban, pool side lounge where you can sit and and enjoy a beverage and take a rest from all the amazing things you will be seeing. Sit back, relax, and let the DJ's music take you away to a much warmer, sunnier, place.



Rosalyn Lazaruk

Spring is always such an exciting time for design and décor. We are ready to shed the layers that winter has brought and reveal a new and fresh look. This year at the Calgary Home and Garden Show I will be pairing with the fabulous Alykhan Velji to bring you all the latest trends for Spring 2011. We will touch on what's hot, what's not, and how to get it on a

budget! We will also be taking these concepts outside, giving you tips and ideas on how create a fabulous patio and outdoor living space. Lots of ideas that will be sure to inspire.

After taking in a few presentations and walking the show floor it will be time for a much needed break. Be sure to check out the Beer Gardens located in the Corral for a much needed break! This year I will be designing the ultimate beer garden ... ditching the lederhosen and adding some modern flair! **NL**