

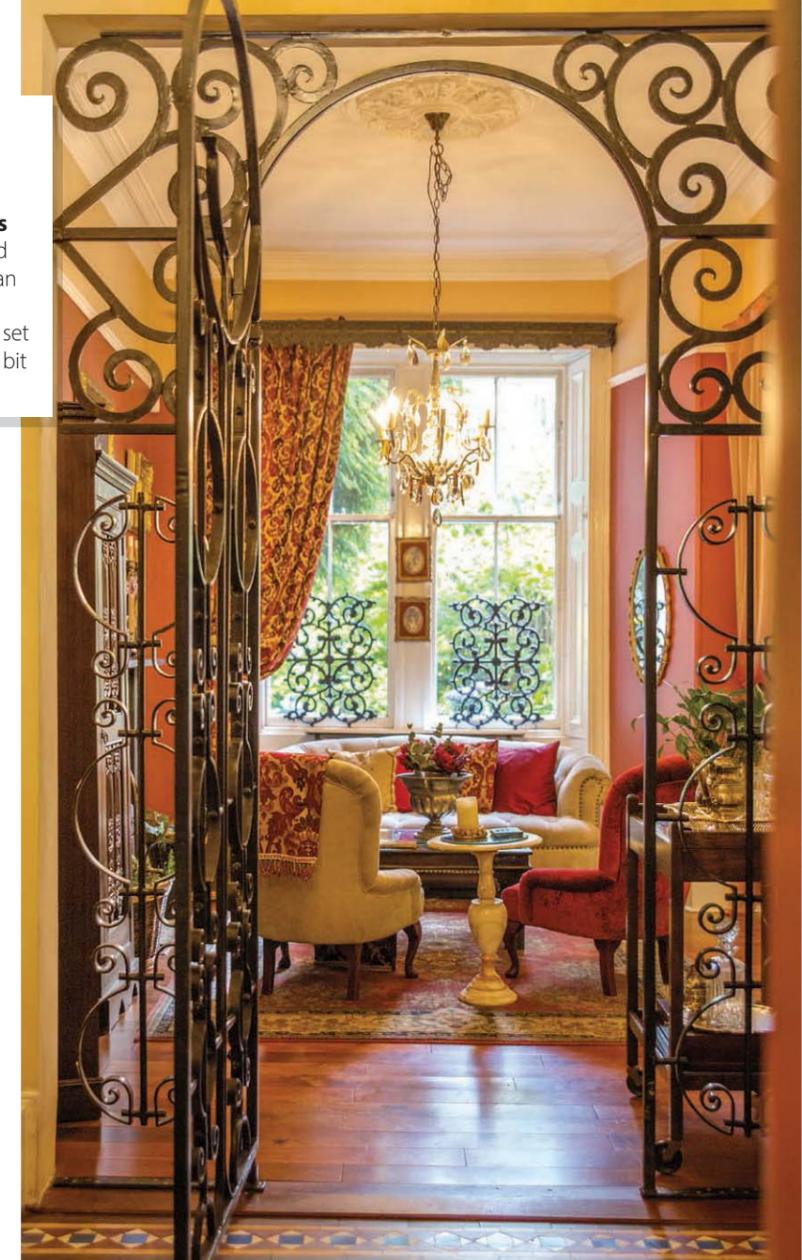


RESTORED AND RESTYLED

Above the fireplace in the sitting room there is a big painting of flowers that once belonged to my grandmother. I got it about 25 years ago when she was clearing out her basement and no one else wanted it. She was going to throw it away! I reinvented it a bit, I repainted the background and some of the flowers and I reframed it to try and tie it in with the old world Italian paintings I had already. Every time I look at the painting I think of my grandmother being in the garden.

MAGICAL METALWORK

We have a wrought iron gate inside that a local blacksmith designed and created for us, he did every piece from scratch which is amazing. It lies between the entrance way and the sitting room and I wanted it to be very Italian inspired. The Victorian floor actually looks very Mediterranean and I thought that the gate just set the tone for the whole scene and brings a little bit of Italy here.



My husband and I moved to this house from Canada. I have always wanted to live in Edinburgh because my mum was born and raised here. I have travelled here quite a bit over the years and it's always been in my heart. I have a fashion business and I have done all of my sourcing and manufacturing in Italy for the last 15 years. It was quite difficult to travel back and forth from Canada so that was another reason for coming to Edinburgh.

When we were looking for a house we looked at so many places. When we walked into this house it was very neglected and needed so much work but I didn't care about that. There was an etching on the wall from the people that were living there before and I thought it looked really familiar. My aunt is an artist and it was one of her pieces of work. I took it as a sign and my husband and I looked at each other and said, 'this is the one!'

We had to redo everything in the house. I don't think there had been any renovations since the 1970s. We uncovered all the fireplaces and brought them back to their original state. We had to take out walls, redo floors – you name it we had to do it. We have been here for six years and I am still doing it now!

I think these Victorian homes are quite eclectic. They're special in their own right and very unique. I would say the interiors for this property are a bit eccentric and a bit shabby chic and I love mixing the old with the new. I like to try and put my own personality into it and I love using colours, textures and fabrics. I have to be careful not to be too cluttered though as my creative personality is always wanting to do things. >



My Scottish HOME

Beautiful properties from around the country

Who: Creative director at Millani Cultura, Cheri Milaney, lives with her husband, Murray, and their three cats.
What: A four bedroom traditional terraced house. **Where:** Edinburgh.



DEEP PURPLE

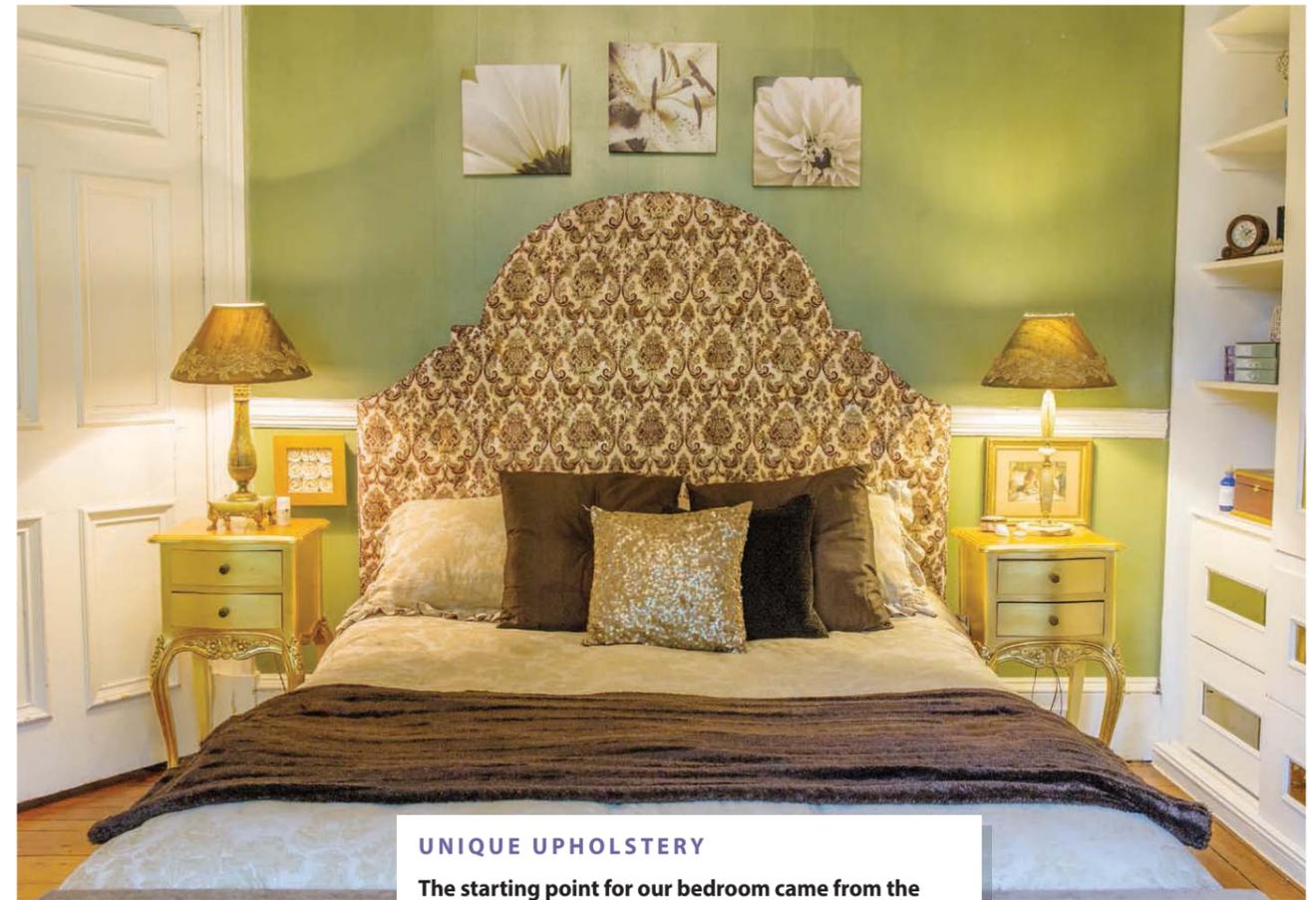
The whole source of inspiration for the house came from one chair. When we were beginning to decorate the house, I was walking around Edinburgh and I found a little antique place that was selling out of a garage. I found this old Victorian style chair, it was sort of dilapidated but I wanted to recover it. I found some aubergine damask velvet material and had it reupholstered and that was the start of the whole house. Now one of my cats happens to love it.



My whole inspiration for what I do in my design business comes from Italy. I just love the lifestyle, the food, the wine, the architecture and the attitude towards life. When I go into the cathedrals in Italy and see the paintings and everything that goes into the painstaking detail, the beauty of it is miraculous. Every time I go to Italy I am so inspired and I always want to bring some of that back to keep the spirit alive so I do that with every fashion collection and within my home too.

I think when it comes to colour – go for it! It's only paint and you can easily paint over something if you don't like it and, trust me, I have done that many times! At one point I painted the hallway a terracotta colour but it just felt a bit off, it wasn't warm enough. I changed it to a Bordeaux shade and I am quite happy with that at the moment, but I will probably change it in a year or so! I just think it's so easy to transform everything with paint. It's not like investing in furniture – you can always buy a can of paint and start over.

As well as changing colours, I love repositioning furniture. There is a rule I have always gone by in Feng Shui where you have to move a certain number of objects in order to rejuvenate the energy in a room so I do that a lot. I'll move things in order to cleanse or mix up the energy.



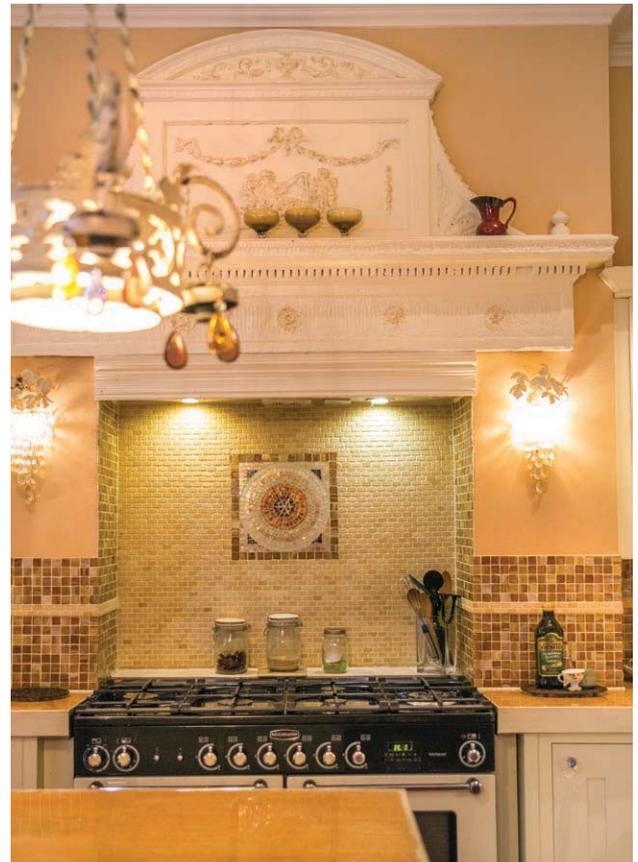
UNIQUE UPHOLSTERY

The starting point for our bedroom came from the curtains. They are made of an iridescent silk which is two tone, that kind of fabric always inspires me because it is almost magical with all these different colours. The curtains have green and bronze tones depending on where the light hits and I wanted to use both of those tones on the walls. The headboard was the finishing touch that brings the room together as I also had to try and work in the very eccentric Victorian fireplace with the original floral tiles.



DINING IN STYLE

We use the dining space as a sort of wine bar and casual eating space. We exposed all the beams, they're not fancy but we wanted that feeling of openness. Uncovering what was beneath the plaster on the walls was quite exciting; we had one side that was brick and one that was stone and I love the eclectic mix of that. We replaced the flooring in there to give it a real old world Italian feel.



Frame, Laura Ashley, £25



Cushion, Arthouse at Wallpaperdirect, £25



Mirror, The French Bedroom Co, £365



Candle Holder, Wayfair, £72.99

STEAL THEIR STYLE

Get the look with these interior hot buys



Bedside Table, Sweetpea & Willow, £305



Wallpaper, Arthouse at Wallpaperdirect, from £28



Cushion, Bivain at Lime Lace, £106