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## THIS IS A STORY OF GLASS, STONE, WOOD AND LEATHER,

and how the combination of these elements turned a West Vancouver property into a balanced, high-end home.

This quartet of materials gives the two-storey home a cool temperament, a timeless solemnity, a natural warmth and a comfortable funkiness.

who own Vancouver firm ROOM8, sought out the

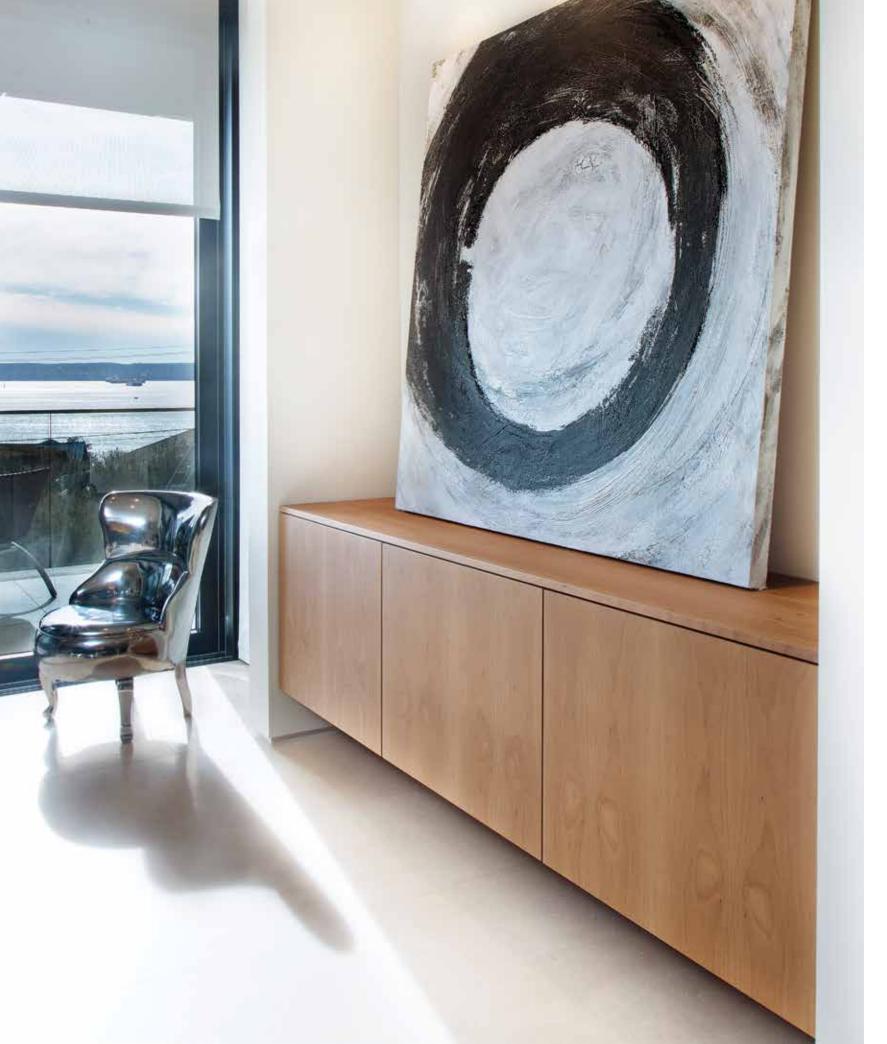
and designed the three-bedroom house in such a way that one element never takes centre stage.

"You don't want any to fight for dominance," says Drinovac, who knows that a preponderance of stone and glass-those contemporary designer favourites-can turn a house cold.

Designers Vanja Santic and Dario Drinovac, The wood wall, which helps define the dining room, is actually one side of a cube. The powder room is inside the cube; its seamless entrance has no frame or jam. highest quality glass, stone, wood and leather, Also sharing that cube space, on the other side, is the kitchen pantry.



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Once construction was completed on the 3,800-square-foot home, ROOM<sup>8</sup> sourced and installed all the furnishings and finishes in the space. The company also worked with the homeowner on the selection of colours and materials used on the exterior of the home, selecting and supplying the stone used outdoors, which matches the stone in the home's interiors.

The 2012 build, which sits on the site of a demolished house, is perched on a slope it since 1999 and has been getting an increasing

overlooking Burrard Inlet. Its exterior style is number of clients to install it in their kitchens. modern, and some of its lines are Art Deco. The two black overhangs in the rear offer a pleasing geometric sculpture, even if they exist simply to compensate for the variance in height between the back and the front.

The story of the four elements begins with a specialty that ROOM8 has developed: highly durable glossy glass. The firm has been working with

Drinovac says the Italian-made material he imports, customized by the trusted manufacturers who work closely with him, is both indestructible and elegant. "This glass is four times stronger than tempered glass. Only a diamond or Swarovski crystal could scratch it," he says. 🖙

Vancouver-based artist Tanya Slingsby created all the canvases and sculptures in the home.



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A black version of that glossy glass covers the kitchen's pantries, cabinets, and refrigerator door, with a grey version covering the countertops, backsplash and island's sides. In the rest of the house's interior and outside on the deck, clear glass is used to allow for the passage of light and to increase sightlines, namely through windows and balustrades.

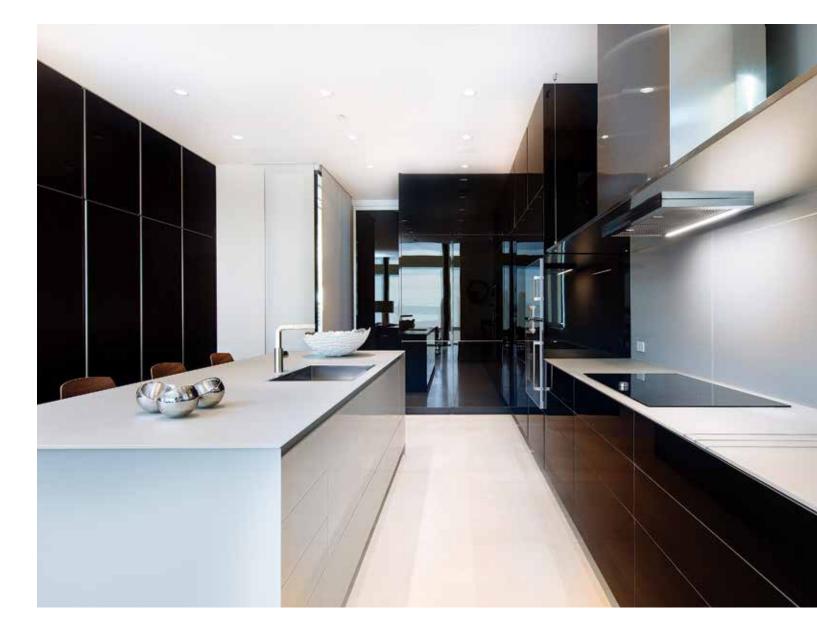
The stone chapter in this story takes a histor-

slabs—those that measure four-feet-square on the They looked at all these buildings and saw that interior floors and those that are two-feet square on the deck-are cut in a factory in Croatia. The factory, which is close to the Adriatic Sea, has been around since 1905, and, according to Drinovac, helped refurbish the White House early in The black glass's sleekness is enhanced by the absence of cabinet the 20th century. So, how did the U.S. government from that era wind up commissioning a foreign ical turn before it enters this house. Limestone "There was an American delegation in Vienna." with pull handles that are recessed in their edges.

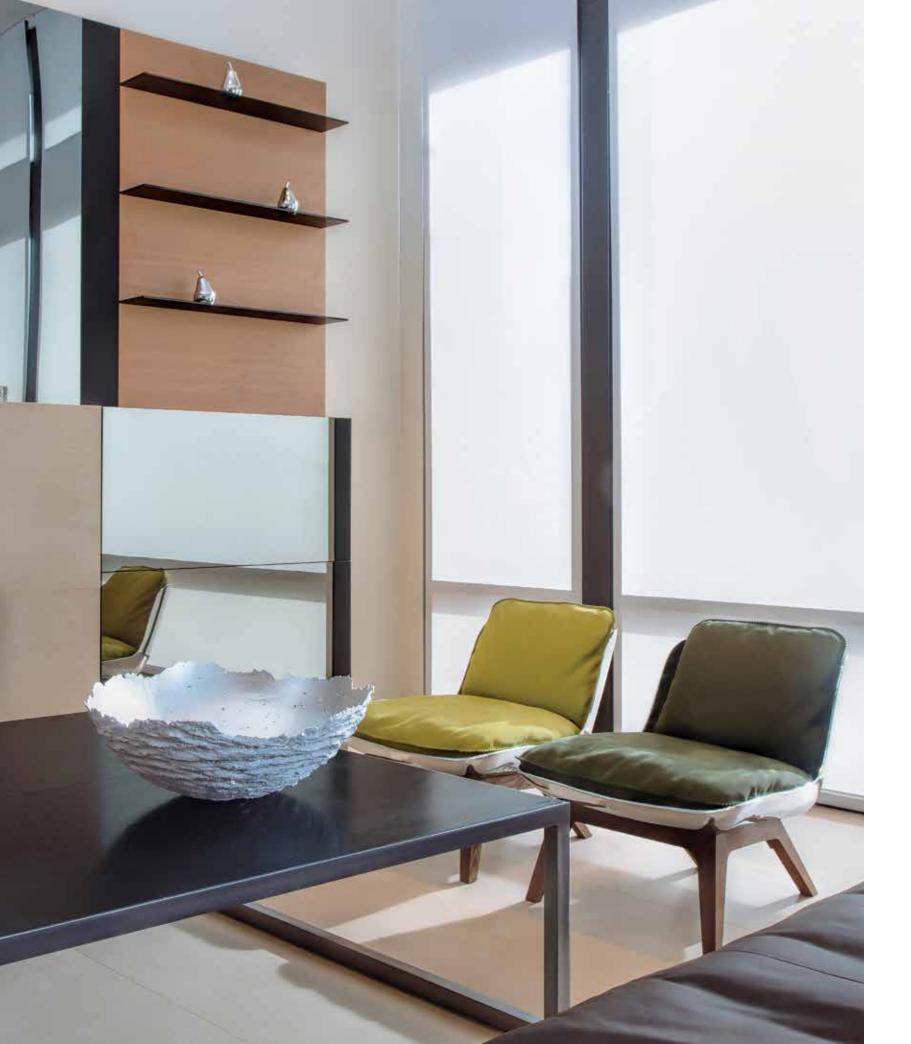
after so many years there was no deterioration," says Drinovac, adding that the Viennese had been loyal limestone clients of the Croatians. 🖙

handles. The drawers are electronically opened with a tap of a hand that triggers a sensor, which in turn pushes the drawer factory for such an important monument? forward. All the other cabinets, as well as the refrigerator, open





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Drinovac visited the factory for the Vancouthis story. A meeting of the smooth, the sleek All the bull-hide furnishings in the living room are from ver project, and had the stones x-rayed to ensure there were no voids in the slabs.

celain but "it looked too commercial," he found on the kitchen stools, the cladding says, adding that the superior look of so many great buildings in the world comes from nat-shelving, bring a softer sense to the house, ural stone, such as this.

to this house and adds some complexity to house, Drinovac says. 🖙

and the strong makes for a boring tale, but put in some wood, and you get a mix that's The homeowners originally wanted por- closer to nature. The light-grain walnut that's on the feature walls, a credenza and some while a raw-wood elm table and chair in the Wood brings a rough and natural quality entrance add some "bohemian chic" to the

Baxter Italia. The lamp's base is crafted of European cedar; the green chairs have ash legs and a seat base of cast brushed aluminum.



"This glass is four times stronger than tempered glass. Only a diamond or Swarovski crystal could scratch it."

The story closes with the final element: leather. of materials, as well as the originality of the Technically, it's Norwegian bull hide, used in the living room: on the sofa, the cowhide print armchair, and two smaller green chairs in nabuk, (a more velvet-like bull hide). Even the lampshade, which is meant to look like the more endangered zebra is made of bull hide, and the coffee table top is also made from ... yes, bull hide. With its comfortable outdoor furniture, sea-and-sky view,

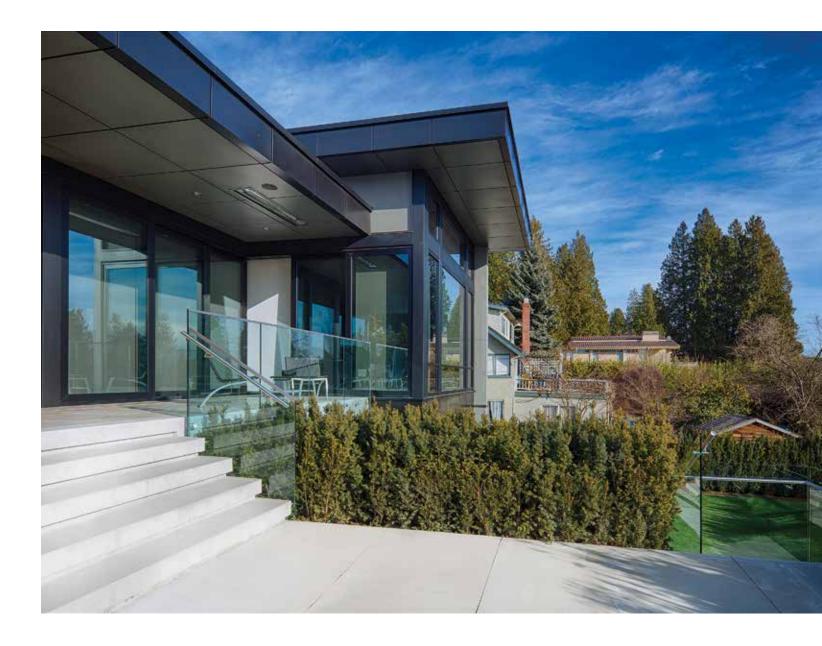
All that animal hide gives the space a '70s feel, but the play of colours and the high grade the home's exterior is every bit as inviting as its interior.

pieces, anchor it in the contemporary.

Santic and Drinovac coordinated every aspect of the project. While they were the authors of this story, the glass, stone, wood and leather became the protagonists and brought the tale to life. >

and enough room to lounge on the deck or in the garden,





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