

CANADA'S

styleat home

holiday *magic*

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**STYLISH
CRAFTS**
GARLANDS,
ORNAMENTS,
GIFT WRAP
& MORE

**FESTIVE
DECORATING
WITHOUT
THE FUSS!**

**23 tips
TO HOST
YOUR BEST
PARTY YET!**

**GIFTS
FOR YOUR
FAVOURITE
FOODIE**

brian gluckstein

A sophisticated spin on the modern beach home, this Palm Beach, Fla., apartment eschews the bright tropical seaside theme for cool neutral tones and subtle textures and lets the view from the floor-to-ceiling windows shine.

An interior style icon for decades, Canadian designer Brian Gluckstein creates luxe yet livable spaces anyone would be lucky to call home.

PRODUCER SARA CATION



TOME TALES

Internationally acclaimed interior and product designer, TV personality and Home Design Ambassador for Canada's most iconic retailer, Hudson's Bay, Brian Gluckstein is not only a lovable household celebrity known for interiors that are at once decadent and down to earth — he's also a legend. Though he launched his design firm more than 30 years ago and has enough material to fill 20 tomes, he waited until now to release his first book, *The Art of Home*. But when Brian signs on to any project, he takes his time to consider every detail. So much so that he's never felt the need to redesign his own abode. "I'll refresh, add and remove pieces, and restyle surfaces," he says. But he has never overhauled his whole house. "I get it right from the start." And that's exactly what he wanted to achieve with his book.

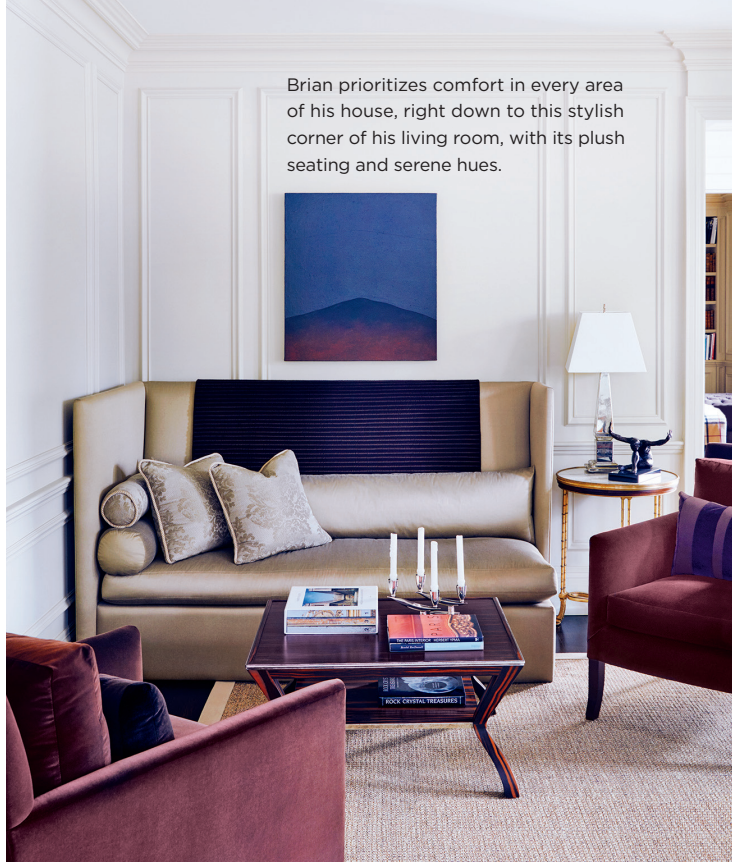
PHOTOGRAPHY, MICHAEL GRAYDON (PORTRAIT, LIVING ROOM CORNER); JESSICA KLEWICKI (GLYNN LIVING ROOM), KELLY HORKOFF (LIBRARY)



“Not every element has to be high impact. It’s always more interesting when it’s the culmination of everything that dazzles.”

TEENAGE DREAMS

Interested in design from a young age, Brian attended an open house on his own at around 16 years old, taking home the brochure. “It was a very grand place – I can’t believe they gave me the time!” he says, recalling the time in his life when he wanted to be either an interior designer or a pediatrician. Of course, decor edged out medicine, and Brian followed his sister’s footsteps to design school. “When I got there, I knew I’d made the right choice.” And that brochure? He’s held on to it for more than 40 years.



Brian prioritizes comfort in every area of his house, right down to this stylish corner of his living room, with its plush seating and serene hues.

book warmth

“A room for reading is not like a room for entertaining – it does not need a sofa, a coffee table and two chairs,” says Brian, who instead incorporated a pair of chaise longues for the ultimate in reclined reading pleasure.



The two-storey library in Brian’s house was inspired by one he saw on a trip to London in his 20s – he’d wanted one ever since.

IN WITH THE OLD

You heard it from Brian first: Antiques are affordable right now. “Often, they’re less expensive than modern reproductions,” says the man who loves to mix eras. “It’s shocking!” Brian frequents the websites of dealers like Christie’s – the Interiors auction in particular. “It’s fabulous because the items are vetted but not valuable enough to be in their main auctions,” he explains. “The pieces aren’t period per se; you might see a reproduction of something from the 1600s, except it was made in the 1800s, so it’s still a great antique with a lovely patina.”

LIFE OF THE PARTY

Whether it's a huge Christmas-slash-Hanukkah party with an elaborate buffet and the kind of informal atmosphere that sees everyone chatting in small groups all over the house or a more intimate sit-down affair, Brian's holiday hosting rules stay the same:

Strike a cozy festive vibe (he favours nutcrackers, glass vases full of ball ornaments, magnolia garlands and twinkle lights); invite a good mix of people (and engage each and every guest); have more than enough food (even better – offer take-home bags!); play nostalgic holiday music (Christmas carols from old movies); and, of course, hope for snow!



In this elegant urban home, Brian designed a swoon-worthy study featuring feminine accents, such as suede-covered walls and cabinets, jewel-like touches and a creamy palette with hits of pink.

monochrome matters

"For a perfectly monochromatic palette, 75 percent of the room should be the starring colour and 25 percent should provide contrast," says Brian. "Any more, and the space risks not being monochromatic; any less, and it risks looking boring," says Brian.

RIGHT Books in the bathroom? You bet! "I love to take baths and I love to read, so the book-lined shelves are perfect for me," Brian says of the display in the show-piece bathroom in his Toronto home. Paired with the armchair and wall panelling, the room feels more like a living area, and indeed, during parties, Brian often finds guests chatting here.



haute holidays

Ramp up your festive game with the GlucksteinHome Christmas collection.

GlucksteinHome The Menagerie **ORNAMENTS**, \$10 each, Hudson's Bay, thebay.com.



GlucksteinHome Holiday Charms Red Santa **NUTCRACKER**, \$30, Hudson's Bay, thebay.com.



GlucksteinHome holiday **DECORATIONS**, from \$15, Hudson's Bay, thebay.com.

From sophisticated and elegant to cute and kitschy, Brian's holiday collection offers chic options to suit any kind of decor. Traditional? There's a nutcracker for that. Scandi country? Menagerie ornaments. Cozy contemporary? Check out the faux fur stockings. Or mix them all together for a layered look and deck your halls in a style worth singing over.

BRIAN GLUCKSTEIN the art of home



The Art of Home by Brian Gluckstein (Figure 1, \$45).