

**Rooftop Surfing**

**STEPHEN DUPUIS**

HOME@METRONEWS.CA



**TORONTO THE GREAT**

Upon winning the Golden Globe award for best actor in a musical or comedy, Paul Giamatti, the star of the movie *Barney's Version*, gave the mother of all shout-outs to the City of Montreal and to Canada overall.

"An incredible place in a great nation, Canada," he said.

I feel the same way about Toronto, particularly after attending the International Builders' Show in Orlando, Fla., last week, where local builders cleaned-up at the annual home building awards show known as The Nationals.

Toronto builders scooped a grand total of 15

awards for marketing, design or overall project excellence.

That's nearly a third of all the awards up for grabs in a competition that drew submissions from every major market in the U.S., and from as far afield as Chengdu, China.

The big winner of the evening was Edenshaw Homes for the condo project Chaz on Charles, which scored the award for International Community of the Year, plus three marketing-related awards.

Not far behind was Lifetime Developments and INK Entertainment who garnered three awards for the condo project Bisha.

Local advertising agency Montana Steele had a hand in 11 of the winning projects while LA. Inc. earned three credits.

# Classic good looks

## SUITE TALK

**RAFAEL BRUSILOW**  
HOME@METRONEWS.CA

With a traditional look that celebrates the fabulous over the faddish, the penthouse suite at Aura proves that good taste never goes out of style.

Given the impressive stature of the 11,370 square-foot penthouse model it would have been easy to go overboard with outlandish design, but Rene D'Lesing, designer and principal at GCB Inside, took a more restrained approach that focused on classic good looks and elegant subtlety over a more flash-in-the-pan, vogue design.

"We were trying to cater to very discriminating buyers, the type of potential purchaser who tends to prefer more classic, traditional designs. We like to think that type of buyer is looking for solidity rather than trendiness," D'Lesing said. Yet while the suite is traditional in focus, a wealth



▶ The kitchen features classic styling.

of modern elements, like brushed nickel hardware, a glass tile backsplash and frameless glass shower stalls, ensure the overall feel is still fresh and invigorating.

"The design philosophy is transitional design — it's taking classic influences and mixing them with contemporary elements. We wanted the whole end result to be harmonious and I

think we accomplished that," D'Lesing said.

In the kitchen, traditional cream tones in the marble and cabinetry provide classic styling, while details like the concealed fridge embrace a more modern touch. With a colour palette that is mostly monochromatic, the kitchen is meant to feel warm and elegant without feeling forced. D'Lesing also kept glazing and antiquing to a minimum to avoid veering the suite too far toward an overly-traditional look.

The expansive master bathroom features a stand-alone deep soaker tub and latticed porcelain tile flooring to create a look reminiscent of a country mansion.

"The influence was a very strong residential look, taking from what you'd see in a multi-million dollar home and placing that into a high-rise suite. The end result fulfills all the expectations you'd have from any multi-million dollar environment," D'Lesing said.

**Meet the condo**

- ▶ **WHAT** Aura at College Park
- ▶ **BUILDER** Canderel Stoneridge Equity Group Inc.
- ▶ **LOCATION** Yonge & Gerrard
- ▶ **WEBSITE** collegeparkcondos.com

- ▶ **PHONE** 416-962-8688
- ▶ **SIZES & PRICING** Two-bedroom, three-bedroom, and four-bedroom layouts from 1290 sq. ft. to 11,370 sq. ft., priced from \$931,900 — \$17.5 million
- ▶ **AVAILABILITY** Now

**ANOKHI**  
8<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COLLECTOR'S ISSUE

Available at  
**GATEWAY NEWSSTANDS**

Johnnie Walker Presents  
**ANOKHI'S 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GALA**  
In Association With  
Bisha Hotel & Residences

On Friday February 4<sup>th</sup> 2011  
At The Liberty Grand, TORONTO

For More Information & To Reserve Tickets:  
**WWW.ANOKHIMAGAZINE.COM**

wilshire  
ON THE GREEN

**The clock is ticking...**

Only 20 suites left  
Over \$33,000 in Savings  
Just steps from Warden Subway!

Limited Time Free Offer  
Only **5%** Deposit **plus**  
**\$5,000** Cash Back **plus**

Fully Decorated Models

Free Parking & Locker  
- Granite Countertops - Stainless Steel Appliances

**OCCUPANCY IN 90 DAYS! TIME IS RUNNING OUT!**  
**PRE-REGISTER NOW! www.WilshireCondos.ca**  
**SALE BEGINS SATURDAY, JAN. 29**

2 Bedroom Suites  
from just **\$254,990**

Sales Office Hours:  
Mon. & Thurs. 12 Noon - 7pm • Sat. & Sun. 12 Noon - 5pm  
416-285-0555 Brokers Protected

Prices and specifications are subject to change without notice. E. & O.E. Renderings are artist's concept.

**NORSTAR**