



# BLVDS<sup>LV</sup>

MAKING LAS VEGAS HOME

COMMUNITY + CULTURE + DESIGN + FLAVOR



# THE BLVDS SHOWCASE HOUSE

## Designed for Living

By Pamela Lang

Photography by Richard Faverty  
Checko Salgado

If there were ever a neighborhood in Las Vegas that invites you to call it home, it's the charming and historic Rancho Nevada community. It welcomes residents with olive tree-lined streets of Mid-Century homes that give the area a fresh, chic vibe yet evokes nostalgia with winding sidewalks and real grass in the front yards. It's the perfect canvas for BLVDS magazine's very first Showcase House.

Elaine Odeh, owner of an inspirational furniture showroom called Plume, loved the location of the home and knew that by adding some charisma to the clean palette it could become the perfect fit for her, her husband and two young children. The project came together as a collaboration among Elaine, BLVDS and local designers Jill Abelman, owner of Insidestyle, Durette Candito, who owns and manages Urban Ranch General Store, and Michelle DiMauro who, together with

her business partner, Heather Soto, owns Inhabit Design. To start the transformation from ordinary to "oh-so-cool," Elaine gave them her blessing on the design of their choice and the result is a stunning collection of three Las Vegas designers' brightest concepts worthy of being called a Showcase House.

You can never have a first impression a second time, so what better place to begin than with a burst of personality in the entryway designed by Abelman. Usually guests don't linger in the entry, but a Warhol-style painting and upholstered mirror encourage a pause.

"I think this turquoise tufted mirror started my whole love affair with these rooms," says the designer. The piece is whimsical, but grounds itself with tailored lines making it the ideal backdrop for an eclectic display of bold accessories. A striking white lacquer entry table is a giddy

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juxtaposition to the gigantic wooden horse head and the playfulness of a brightly painted glass fish. It makes a big statement that Jill likes and expertly carries into the living room/dining room.

Living rooms aren't the stuffy rooms they used to be and that is apparent here. Tones of silvery gray with a whisper of taupe on the walls are instantly relaxing and welcoming. A Mid-Century silhouette sofa, perfectly handcrafted at Insidestyle and covered with a brilliant modern fabric in turquoise, is a nod to the '60s with a contemporary twist.

To make this room both functional and fun, Abelman added a large, square coffee table/ottoman covered in a navy crocodile vinyl (virtually indestructible by pets, kids or pizza) and topped with an elegant piece of glass. Grounding the room are two gray velvet chairs with oversized silver nail heads that add durable yet stylish seating. One of the best surprises in the room is an ultra-modern walnut, scoop accent chair by Nuevo that could easily double as a piece of art with its white leather seat and Tibetan lamb toss pillow. A quirky side table made out of car tires adds humor to the space.



A rectangular espresso table with a white lacquer inset is the perfect anchor for the adjoining dining room. Three spindle-back chairs, each painted differently, give the space a vintage-chic ambience. A large wall mirror with a wavy pewter frame hangs artfully to catch the light from the picture window and reflects the chrome and glass details throughout the room. Fresh flowers in a long, carved wooden bowl add organic warmth to the modern coolness. Cracked glass finials and chrome rods hold turquoise and white geometric drapes that complete the Mid-Century "happy" vibe that this designer was seeking.

HEATHER SOTO,  
MICHELLE DIMAURO,  
AND GIGI DIMAURO  
INHABIT DESIGN

Romantic, relaxed and glam was DiMauro's inspiration for the master bedroom. She likes to start with a piece of art, but when she discovered a bold, hologram wall covering by Osborne & Little in silver and black, she knew she was on her way to the "boutique hotel room" look she wanted. "When I first found this wall covering and saw the fuzzy stripes and hologram effect it seemed so luxe. That's where my design for the bedroom really took off," she explains.

The room is on the small side, so symmetry was important in order to keep the room visually clean. Adding an element of art without crowding the wall space, the designer hung two similar modern paintings side by side to function as a headboard. She added matching nightstands and lamps for a crisp balance. Stained concrete floors in mottled black add a masculine touch to feminine elements and are softened by a rich cowhide rug. White custom bed linens with a black and white graphic duvet at the bottom of the bed, along with drapes, all created by Inhabit Design, are luxuriously lit by a cylindrical chandelier with a transparent shade that allows a crystal element to filter a dreamy light into the room. Lavish and luxe, this room looks and feels like a Hollywood Hills hotel getaway.

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The heart of every home is the kitchen and this house encourages family time by its open flow into a den with adjoining doors leading outside to the patio. Durette Candito started her design by warming up the space with a backsplash of small, rectangular tiles in slate, gray and taupe.

“The fireplace was a strange structure of sheetrock positioned sideways—there was nothing special about it so it was where I knew I just had to change the design,” explains Candito. The face on the fireplace was replaced and angled to give the room an element of architecture. Honed stone complements the floors, and the walls were painted a relaxing neutral that embraces the stone and tile.

This designer cleverly grounded the room with an earthy coffee table and a shimmery, gray cowhide that is surprisingly durable. A gray sectional in modern cubes is sleek and inviting with a little edginess added, thanks to the black leather throw pillows. The big “pop” comes in the form of what the designer calls “that funky chair,” an oversized, high back, leather-trimmed library chair and ottoman that turn “traditional” upside down with a modern, black and white graphic-upholstered back and seat that easily steal the show in this family room.



An unexpected reclaiming and repurposing are creatively accomplished on the patio. Candito used existing patio furniture and recovered them in outdoor fabrics with various patterns in shades of blue, turquoise and white. A rustic bench cozies up to a one-of-a-kind coffee table and is the focal point of the backyard. Made out of a product called 3-Form, the material is an opaque, colorful product that can have decorative items embedded in the surface to make it unique and custom.

"When I saw the material, I knew I wanted to use it," she says. With a nature-inspired, bright blue hue, it is perfect for the outdoor table. A white-washed and stainless steel potter's bench serves as a beverage bar with Mason jar stemware from Urban Ranch General Store. Finishing off the look are honey-colored drapes gracefully framing the seating area, creating an outdoor room that is both dressy and relaxed.

The beautiful thing about a collaborative design project is that it comes together with so much talent, trend and inspiration that unveiling the finished product is a bit like unwrapping a really fantastic gift. Layer by layer, room after room, this once understated and somewhat shy house has found its bold personality through each designer's vision, and is ready for the vibrant young family that will call it home.



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A special thank you to all those who helped make this house a home...

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