

MANSION



ANNOTATED ROOM

A Glittery Gallery for Haute Couture

Toronto businesswoman Sylvia Mantella created a 1,000-square-foot dressing area in her home's master wing that shows off pieces by designers like Alexander McQueen; drawers built for purses

1. The black-and-white marble floor includes an "M" bordered in Swarovski crystal. **Price:** Custom-made crystal surround, \$12,220.

2. The retail-quality center island was customized to hold Mrs. Mantella's jewelry collection; it is lined in black velvet. **Price:** \$55,753.

3. Custom-manufactured by the House of LMD, the antique mirror on the ceiling reflects Mrs. Mantella's substantial jewelry collection, adding an extra level of sparkle. **Price:** \$26,731.

4. The room has two chandeliers, one of black Murano glass and another made of

crystals, which Ms. Morris had in her warehouse. **Price:** Murano-glass chandelier with custom shades, \$3,819.

5. From Edgar Berebi's Hampton Crystal collection, the doorknobs are clear Swarovski crystals in a burnished silver-plate finish. **Price:** \$993 each.



BY LEIGH KAMPING-CARDER

Don't call Sylvia Mantella's dressing area a closet. It is more like a gallery for her collection of haute couture.

"Some people collect art, some people collect books, some people collect fossils—I collect things related to fashion," said Mrs. Mantella, chief marketing officer of Mantella Corp., a Toronto-based land development and venture-capital firm. A fixture of the city's style pages, Mrs. Mantella also runs a 40-acre animal sanctuary outside Palm Beach, Fla., where Zeus, a tiger, was born in January.

In October 2014, Mrs. Mantella enlisted Lori Morris, founder of the House of LMD, a Toronto-based design firm, to create a space that would show off—but not compete with—the clothes. The 1,000-square-foot dressing area is part of the master wing in Mrs. Mantella's six-bedroom home in Thornhill, a Toronto suburb. The \$535,000 redesign was completed in May.

Pieces on display have included a Giambattista Valli ombre purple gown and a pair of Alexander McQueen's "armadillo" heels. Drawers in the stairs hold purses; pilasters hide compartments for belts; and coat hooks pull out from the walls to hang more items.

"If it looks fabulous and it doesn't work," Ms. Morris said, "then it doesn't count."

