

IT'S ALL FUN AND GAMES

Staring down a long weekend and wondering how to fill the time? We've got a few ideas for you – from a multiple-choice quiz to a version of Snakes and Ladders that's perfect prep for the Oscars. Grab some dice and some clever family members and friends to test your skills and your luck!

HOW TO PLAY:
Find 10 differences between the two Favourite Room photos!

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE: ORIGINAL PHOTO



CHRISTOPHER KATSAROV

ALTERED PHOTO



GET THE LOOK



Georgian Style Breakfront, \$3,333.70 at 1stdibs (1stdibs.com).



The Stocking-Mender by Elisabeth Jerichau-Baumann, \$45,000 at Baraset House (barasethouse.com).



Persian handmade Heriz rug, \$1,506 at Ruby Lane (rubylane.com).



Oil painting by René Richard, \$3,500 at Brian Davies Eastern Townships Antiques (easterntownshipsantiques.com).



Yolanda decorative round ottoman by Jennifer Taylor Home, \$388.50 at Amazon (amazon.ca).

FAVOURITE ROOM

LIVING HISTORY

The pieces in this Grafton, Ont., living room date as far back as the 16th century

Fred and Emily Rizner travelled some to get where they are today: “a great big brick house” in Grafton, Ont. Fred is the proprietor of Cherry Hill Antiques and president of the Canadian Antique Dealers Association. Emily rides horses. But that’s in the here and now. The couple, both retired professional musicians, met at the University of Michigan and performed at Tanglewood, the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts. “That’s a long time ago,” Rizner says. But he recounts the story as if it was yesterday: “I’d heard word through the grapevine that a job had opened up in Toronto,” he says. Seiji Ozawa, music director of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra from 1965 to 1969, just happened to be conductor at Tanglewood at the time. Rizner approached the Japanese conductor. “I said, ‘I hear with your new job you need a French horn

player’ – you know how you’re full of piss and vinegar when you’re young.” Rizner offered to play for him. It worked out. The couple packed up and moved to Toronto in 1965 and they’ve been Ontarians (subsequently, officially, Canadians) ever since. Up until 15 years ago, Rizner was principal horn player for the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Emily played piccolo and flute for the Canadian Opera Company, retiring one year in advance of her husband. “Antiques and old houses have always been a love of ours. We thought, we’ll move to the country and open up an antique store,” Rizner says. “And that’s what we did.” In addition to antiques – or maybe because of them – Rizner is avidly interested in history. “With furniture, as with art and music, there’s an evolution through time,” he says. Rizner looked into the past of the property and house near Port Hope, Ont., a research project that’s

surfaced some interesting facts and a few characters: The house was built some time in the 1830s. There was previous owner called Pym, who packed off to England when smacked with a lawsuit. Pym had managed an on-site distillery, which operated for 70 years but burned to the ground. Inside, in the parlour, which functions more as a living space, the Rizners enjoy the light from the windows and French door, opening onto an English garden. “On a sunny day, it’s just wonderful all day long,” he says. “And then it’s very cheerful at night with the fire going.” Their two dogs, Lulu, a dachshund, and Tucker, a big mixed-breed rescue, make good company. The room is eclectically appointed: an English Regency bookcase and sofa; a 1930s chinoiserie-style coffee table; 16th-century wood carvings of musicians atop the mantel; an antique Heriz carpet; and an ottoman, found at a junk store and reupholstered,

“that’s really fun,” Rizner says. Two portraits, one above the mantel, attributed to Scottish artist Henry Raeburn, and another, circa 1623, above the sofa (a 50th wedding anniversary gift to themselves), stand watch. Rizner’s specialization, and interest, lies primarily in the Georgian period, and his expertise is hard won through years of “hands-on” experiences. “With antiques, an awful lot of it has to do with touching and taking apart and refinishing and studying and making mistakes,” he says. “I’ve been in business 15 years now and you learn from your mistakes.” But even the wizened continue to learn and evolve, and so the Rizners keep at it. “There’s always something to do,” he says. “I think there’s an awful lot of people our age, in their mid-70s, who just keep going.” – KRISTINA LJUBANOVIC

Special to The Globe and Mail

ANSWERS: 1. THE LEFT WINDOW LEDGE FEATURES A VASE OF FLOWERS INSTEAD OF A BOWL OF FRUIT. 2. ONE OF THE SOFA CUSHIONS IS A NOW UNION FLAG PRINT. 3. A CAT HAS REPLACED THE DOG. 4. THE FLOWERS ON THE COFFEE TABLE ARE NOW PURPLE. 5. A COPY OF THE GLOBE AND MAIL REPLACED THE COFFEE-TABLE BOOK. 6. THE LAMP BASE IS NOW TURQUOISE. 7. THE PAINTING ABOVE THE FIREPLACE IS DIFFERENT. 8. VASES HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY TWO STATUETTES ON THE MANTEL. 9. A FIRE IS NOW BURNING IN THE FIREPLACE. 10. THE OTTOMAN IS A NEW COLOUR AND SHAPE.