

cover story

Cool sophistication gives warm welcome

BY MARY KLEMIC
At Home Editor

Cool sophistication that extends a warm welcome. That describes the Bloomfield Hills residence of Rick and Joyce Inatome and their four children.

It could be said that the style reflects the Inatome reputation. Rick Inatome, president and CEO of Inacom Corp. and American Speedy Printing, is known as a business visionary. The house is visionary — contemporary and timeless, dramatic and comfortable.

Inatome will be honored as Michigan's Man of the Year at the Golden Jubilee Cinderella Ball of the American Lung Association of Michigan's Women's Committee. The ball, which supports programs designed to promote healthy lungs, will take place Friday, May 2, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Dearborn.

"When we were out in California everything was pastels," Joyce Inatome said. "About two years ago I couldn't stand pastels. I tried to get something more dramatic."

She wanted something that was comfortable at the same time. For example, the carpeting was peach.

"It was a 'look but don't touch' look."

Taupe was the solution. As the color throughout the first floor, it allows subtle touches that speak softly while they make an impression. Accents come from black, tan and white tones.

The family has lived in the house for eight years. It was designed by TMP of Bloomfield Hills and built by Joyce Inatome's father before he retired. His custom home building company was William J. Kitchen and Sons.

The foyer features a high, soaring ceiling and a black-and-beige area rug. Round columns bear what resembles marble but is actually made up of strips like

decoupage. This marble appearance is found in other places around the house, including at the staircase and on other walls.

Sunlight pours into the sunken great room through large rectangular windows. Recessed lighting provides illumination from overhead. Furnishings include a metal floor lamp, and a low, square coffee table with legs in a dark, graceful curve. A pattern in upholstery on chairs is similar to the design on a vase.

One end of the room is cozy, a little room in itself, featuring an antique white cabinet with cylindrical, scroll-like handles that houses the TV. The area rug pattern here, in taupe and dark shades, looks like a mosaic.

White columns stand under a speckled granite island counter in the kitchen; drawers and other storage space are under the granite top as well. Sink fixtures are black. Chairs at the island and at a long table in the spacious room are black metal, but their slightly rough texture keeps them from appearing cold. Over the table hangs a chandelier with a sleek design.

The dining room features a large, black granite table with gold decoration on the legs. The upholstery on the curving chairs contains a pattern of Oriental lettering. Leaves flow upward on the chandelier. At one end, by the sheer drapes of the window, is a pair of plain, translucent Japanese screens. The window looks onto a small Oriental garden.

White pillars give an architectural accent in the family room. Nearby walls are textured, covered with polymer that was sprayed on with a pressurized gun over the old wallpaper. Small flecks of gentle light can be seen.

Rick Inatome also is chairman of Liberty Business and Industrial Development Corporation, and co-president of Michigan Future Inc., a think tank of Michigan industrial leaders. Gov. John Engler appointed him to the Michigan Jobs Commission Board and to chair the



Warm welcome: The dining room (above) is both ornate and intimate, with a table of black granite and gold decor, and chairs bearing a pattern of Oriental lettering on the upholstery. Translucent Japanese screens are by a window that looks onto an Oriental garden. The great room (below) is decorated in taupe, black and metal.



advisory board of the Michigan Information Network.

Inatome is being recognized at the Cinderella Ball for his distinguished business career as well as his dedication to civic and charitable projects and organizations.

Residents from Beverly Hills, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Canton, Farmington Hills, Franklin, Orchard Lake, Plymouth, Rochester Hills, Troy and West Bloomfield are among those on the 1997 Cinderella Ball Committee.

Also at the ball, Michelle Engler will be honored as Michigan's Woman of the Year; the Heritage Award will be given to Art and Mary Anne Van Elslander; and a painting by renowned portrait artist Patricia Hill Burnett of Bloomfield Hills will be auctioned. Entertainment will be by Mel Ball and Colours.

Tickets to the event range from \$175 to \$1,000 each. For more information and tickets, call the American Lung Association of Michigan at (810) 559-5100.



Gathering places: White and off-white tones continue the inviting look of the Inatome home in Bloomfield Hills in a family room (above). The kitchen (at right) features a counter of speckled granite on white columns, and black metal chairs at a long table. Photos by Bill Hansen.



On the cover: Comfortable surroundings: Joyce Inatome and the family pet pose in the Inatome home, which is decorated in taupe. Photo by Bill Hansen.