

REALITY CHECK

Estate of the art

Low interest rates, consumer confidence and a fear that prices will just keep on going up: that's why more people have bought property in the past few months than at any time in Toronto history. For the city's top real estate agents—those who combine *Glengarry Glenn Ross*-style cunning with the ability to diagnose lifestyles and prescribe dwellings to match—business is brisk and competition fierce. Here, a snapshot of some of the city's most sought-after urban hunters.—*Shinan Govani*



Jimmy Molloy
Chestnut Park

In a nutshell: A pleasantly manic go-to guy for Yorkville, Rosedale, Lawrence Park and Forest Hill

Celebrity clients: Millionaire financier and travel writer Christopher Ondaatje and a Backstreet Boy

Past life: Used to own the restaurant Auberge Gavroche

Sales coup: The time he sold four houses totalling \$20 million in two weeks

All in a day's work: One harried client called while on business in Australia and begged Molloy to arrange a Valentine's Day dinner at Prego for him and his wife

Neighbourhood to watch: Leslieville

Professional mantra: "Doing real estate is like running a restaurant—trust is the most important commodity"

Car: Mercedes station wagon

TORONTO
LIFE