VICTORIAN INS AND OUTS

lameda can thank Lisa Cannelora of Cucina di Cannelora for preserving the Victorian ethos of many of the island's fabled homes for over 20 years. Formerly a professional chef, Cannelora is famed for her purposeful kitchen design (borne from years of experience) and is in demand for her thoughtful re-interpretations of Alameda's storied Victorians.

"When it comes to updating Victorian homes, I stay true to the architectural language and modernize with color, finishes, and texture," Cannelora said.

"People are opening walls in their Vics to better integrate the kitchen and dining areas, traditionally separate rooms," she said. "I unify these spaces by maintaining the period molding and trim then modernize with updated finishes and materials that complement the home."

Always in search of period-perfect pieces, Cannelora frequents the Alameda Point Antiques Faire and relies upon several local suppliers, including Berkeley's Classic Illumination Studio and Ohmega Too to keep her supplied in reclaimed Victorian artifacts like vintage lighting, chandeliers, and surface mounted sconces that exemplify the epoch.

Unlike her East Bay counterparts, Cannelora is seeing a trend away from the traditional dark interiors and the "Painted Lady" past of Alameda's Victorian homes toward lighter walls, neutral colors, and simplified patterns.

"My clients respect the architecture language of the period and appreciate the modernized context," Cannelora said. "But dark walls and fussy wallpaper are out."

Cucina di Cannelora, 1918 Broadway, Alameda, 510-523-3202, CucinadiCannelora.com.





Lisa Cannelora



Ann McCormick of Alameda commissioned Lisa Cannelora of Cucina di Cannelora to revamp her kitchen.

