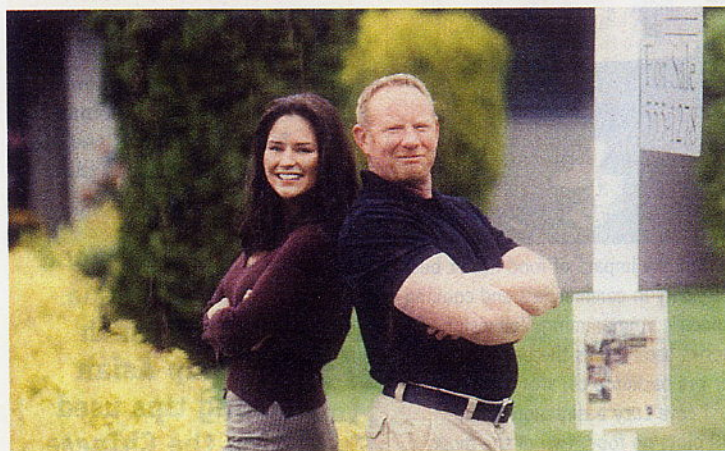


# TW for you > homes

## \* WHEN TO WATCH \*

*Sell This House* airs Saturday, 11:30 a.m. ET;

Sundays, 5:30 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. ET, A&E



From dollars to scents: Tanya Memme (left) sets the stage so you can *Sell This House*


## Sales girl

How does a small-town Ontario girl get a hosting gig on one of A&E's hottest shows? It involves attending two universities, the American Musical and Dramatic Academy and a five-month stint as Miss World Canada. "I gave up my crown," says Tanya Memme, host of *Sell This House*, "because I wanted to be a performer and it just didn't open as many doors as I thought it would."

While Memme's acting credits

include guest spots on *CSI: Miami* and *Melrose Place*, what qualifies her to advise on real-estate matters? "My father owns a construction company – Mountainview Homes in St. Catharines, Ont. – so I was used to being around construction and model homes."

The premise of her show is simple. "These are people who can't sell their house, so we go in and stage the house so that they can sell it," she says. "We just rearrange their furniture and use their things." The transformations are remarkable, but the best part is the hidden-camera footage that captures buyers' first impressions. "We always say 'Whatever you're thinking, just say it out loud.'"

Now in her second season as host, Memme has tips for sellers. "Clutter is a big problem. Depersonalize the space. If it's more generic, potential buyers can project themselves onto it. Then there's something we like to call Smell This House. The way a house smells is very important. Bake brownies or put out potpourri." 

– Stephanie Earp

