

# AS SEEN IN *ELLE Decor*

EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN | PHILADELPHIA

## SURROUNDED BY PASSION

Expertise in personalized interior design fuels Stella Ludwig's ability to change lives.

"Our stamina is influenced by our surroundings," says Stella Ludwig, founder and lead designer of Philadelphia's luxury design firm Stella Ludwig Interiors. "If I see a painting that transports me to a place I love or an item that takes me back to my most wonderful moments of childhood, those memories bring me joy. But, if I wake up to clutter or see a piece of furniture that I can't stand, it brings me down."

It's with this belief—that personalized design changes lives—that Ludwig approaches each client. A recent project started with a couple's dream of owning a pied-à-terre. Although primarily designed to serve as an office if one or both of them wanted to work away from home, it was important to make it peaceful enough to sleep in if they decided to retreat for the weekend or stay overnight after a long day in the office.

While Ludwig's style is often praised for her traditional excellence with panache and bold colors, she tailored the interior of the pied-à-terre around personal items from the homeowners that will withstand trends and fads. A soothing abstract painting from the wife's favorite artist brings to mind her childhood spent on the coast of Colombia while porcelain Limoges boxes gifted to her by her husband over the years bring an uplifting essence of her past to elevate her mood from the moment she steps inside.

"Art transports you and tells a story," Ludwig explains. "By surrounding the office with things that bring passion, joy, and efficiency, we've created a modern chic environment that enhances their daily living."

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:** A pied-à-terre built around treasured items from the homeowners' past elevates an office space into a personalized oasis. Artwork and collected items add an elegant, modern touch and invoke fond memories. A soothing, abstract Benson-Cobb painting that brings to mind a foggy morning at the beach gives the homeowner something calming to look at while working. Designer Stella Ludwig. Photos by John Armich Photography.

