LIFESTYLE





Unorganized No More: Maison Décor To The Rescue

By Amanda Peabody

My life is constantly in need of organization – there are papers, notebooks, loose press releases scattered around my desk. Coffee cups and tea stained mugs serve as paper weights while Post-its adorn the walls and all free space. This is my décor at the office. And this got me to thinking: There must be someone who can come in and make my life easier and more beautiful all in one fell sweep, right? Enter Nargess Isfahani Phillips of Maison Décor (10653 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles).

Phillips is a petite woman, but replete with European style. In her slim slacks and Parisiantied scarf, Phillips met me at her storefront just a few miles from my pathetic desk, yet it felt like an entirely different country. Maison Décor is a small oasis tucked onto bustling Pico. Inside are treasures from around the globe, painstakingly scouted by Phillips from Asia, the Middle East and Europe. On the walls are certainly not the Post-its that serve as my decorations. One-of-a-kind Fench

and Italian posters dot the walls and fill every nook. "It's basically a gallery," Phillips said. "[The posters] represent only one day! It's a piece of evidence, a piece of art from that event." It's a cool spot, to say the least. But what makes Maison Décor most interesting is Phillips herself and the services she provides.

"My history is very important in that it starts from design," said Phillips. Her specialty is space planning with NI, Inc., with an emphasis on kitchen, wine cellars, bathroom and wardrobe organization, which she lovingly calls "home boutiques."

"My forte is to make space for everything they have," said Phillips. "Every item is accounted for and has its own space." With clients such as Ralph Lauren and the Ahmanson Foundation, Phillips has carved a space for herself as well in the interior design world in the 18 years she has been in the business.

Born in Iran, Phillips immigrated to the United States as a student. When her father pushed her to settle on a career, hopefully in law or medicine, Phillips compromised with Interview Architecture, a degree she earned abroad in Paris. Since then, she has worked in the world's most stylish locales – Italy, Dubai, France, New York and L.A. She has also dabbled in set design for several big-name networks such as NBC, A&E and ABC.

Phillips takes great pains to ensure that each of her client's spaces is designed completely and perfectly. Her mission is to take in what you have and make it work elegantly and efficiently. She pay meticulous attention to the location of each item you own, from your sunglasses with their cases to your spices in the kitchen, to the location of your extra soap. She may redesign you hangers; she means business.

Phillips will even personally commission furniture to meet your needs, should the appropriate item be unavailable to her. As her other passion, Phillips is well-versed in the intricacies of furniture design. "You have to know the world of furniture and furniture design in order to be able to build cabinets and cabinetry space," said Phillips. Because, yes, she does that too.

If remodeling is not in your budget right now, Phillips is happy to come in and offer a consultation in order to help beautify your space. As an advocate for using your accessories in unexpected places – a scarf adorning your bed post, a shawl hung decoratively from your armoire – Phillips can redesign a room without spending a dime.

So the question remains: Nargess, what are you going to do for The Courier office and my organization?

For more information or to speak with Phillips, call 310-441-4700 or visit Maison Décor's website at www.maisondecorl.com.



