

# Thank You, Next

A DESIGNER HELPS A NAPLES CLIENT BEGIN A FRESH CHAPTER IN LIFE BY REPURPOSING CHERISHED FURNITURE AND ACCESSORIES IN HER NEW RESIDENCE



INTERIOR DESIGN JUDITH LIEGEOIS, JUDITH LIEGEOIS DESIGNS, NAPLES, FL  
BUILDER SELECT DEVELOPMENT GROUP, NAPLES, FL  
TEXT RIKI ALTMAN-YEE  
PHOTOGRAPHY TROY CAMPBELL, MIAMI, FL  
PHOTO STYLIST MATTHEW KRITIS, NAPLES, FL

For this residence's dining room, interior designer Judith Liegeois had a custom dining table she had designed for this client's previous home cut down to a more manageable scale so it would fit the new space. The base of the table and the large white branch hanging on the wall are both by Florida sculptor Ed Koehler. The painting, *3LI Sustaining* by local artist Renée Rey, came from Liegeois' Naples showroom.



"Judy has an unbelievable eye for high-quality European pieces that she repurposes," says homeowner Lori Murphy about the reupholstered club chairs in the living room. The sofa and ottoman were custom-made for the space, which is anchored by an area rug from Carpet Designs.



"I have an English by way of New Zealand approach to design that relies on a whimsical mixture of objects," says interior designer Judith Liegeois. "There's always a story behind every piece I choose, and my style is sort of bohemian, with wonderful rugs on the floor, cushy pillows, and comfort all around. I believe in creating a specific feeling for each client and in layering, which is key."

BELOW: Liegeois describes the bar as "organic, clean, and neutral" while referencing its walnut construction. A painting by artist Carmelo Blandino adds drama to the vignette.



*LORI MURPHY STILL RECALLS* the first time she walked into interior designer Judith Liegeois' Naples boutique some 15 years ago: "I saw so many beautiful things in there and we connected immediately," she says. "I remember telling her: 'Judy, one day you're going to design a home for me.'"

A decade-plus later, when life found her starting anew after a divorce and the purchase of a 2,500-square-foot condo in North Naples' Calabria neighborhood, Murphy called on Liegeois to make those words come true.

It's not difficult to see why Murphy, and so many other Gulf Coast residents, find Liegeois' interior

design so appealing, especially after hearing the designer herself describe her work.

"I have an English by way of New Zealand approach to design that relies on a whimsical mixture of objects," says Liegeois. "There's always a story behind every piece I choose, and my style is sort of bohemian, with wonderful rugs on the floor, cushy pillows, and comfort all around. I believe in creating a specific feeling for each client and in layering, which is key."

When Murphy reached out with a desire to start fresh, Liegeois instinctively knew what approach to take. The homeowner told the designer she wanted to repurpose a selection of beloved furnishings (many of which she had purchased at Liegeois' shop) from her marital home, but aside from that, she





LEFT: A cranberry velvet stool from Knots Studio, a vintage mirror, and a hand-blown glass fixture by Luxe Lighting strike a note of modern elegance in the powder room.

BELOW: A glass cabinet in the kitchen holds the homeowner's crystal and collectibles.

was open to letting the design team have carte blanche. "She had no confines," says Liegeois, "and that was very nice to work with."

Before delving into new furniture and accessories, Liegeois suggested a few alterations to the layout of the apartment. "Some of these residences with huge, open floor plans and super-high ceilings can be cold and people can get lost in all that," says Liegeois. "What we wanted for Lori was a sense of coziness."

Another way to achieve that desired warmth was to install wide plank oak flooring throughout and bring in a custom kitchen by Studio St. James with cabinets that stretch all the way to the ceiling to ensure the area would not feel confining. "That



Studio St. James designed the kitchen with a quartz countertop and backsplash. A round "hyper collage" on the wall depicting flowers by artist Ysabel LeMay adds a pop of color amid the white and gray backdrop. The stools are by Holly Hunt.







LEFT: Vintage, custom, and new furniture pieces work together seamlessly in a bedroom.

BELOW: The homeowner says her favorite part of the home is how the primary bedroom flows into a walk-in closet and then into the primary bath.



kitchen was a bit of challenge because we wanted to keep it separate yet connected to the rest of the living area,” says Liegeois. “We made it work with a fireplace that delineates it from the rest of the floor plan.”

As far as furniture and appointments go, Liegeois was able to fulfill her promise of mixing the previously owned with the new. One such example is a vintage light fixture that once hung in one of Liegeois’ houses before she transferred it to her showroom and put it up for sale. Murphy purchased it for the foyer of her previous home, where it remained for years. Currently, it illuminates the hallway that leads to the powder room. “I love it even more now,” says Murphy. “And it looks like new.”

In the end, Liegeois was glad Murphy decided to hold on to the happy design memories from her past: “We’ve created a beautiful place for her to mend, heal, and come back to life.”

#### SOURCES

##### **DINING ROOM**

Table designed by Judith Liegeois Designs, Naples, FL, and fabricated by Ed Koehler, Naples, FL  
 Chairs – Holly Hunt, [hollyhunt.com](http://hollyhunt.com)  
 Lighting – Apparatus, [apparatusstudio.com](http://apparatusstudio.com)  
 Artwork – Renné Rey, [reneerey.com](http://reneerey.com)  
 Tree branch wall sculpture – Ed Koehler, Naples, FL

##### **LIVING ROOM**

Sofa – Divine Custom Upholstery, Naples, FL  
 Club chairs – Vintage, Homeowner’s collection  
 Cocktail ottoman – Michael Schmidt Custom Interiors, Naples, FL

Knot stool – Knots Studio, [knots-studio.com](http://knots-studio.com)

Drink table – Global Views, [globalviews.com](http://globalviews.com)

Area rug – Carpet Designs, Naples, FL

##### **BAR**

Cabinetry – Studio St. James, Naples, FL

Chair – Divine Custom Upholstery, Naples, FL

Artwork – Alexander McQueen, Carmelo Blandino, [carmeloblandino.com](http://carmeloblandino.com)

##### **KITCHEN**

Cabinetry and island – Studio St. James, Naples, FL

Stools – Holly Hunt, [hollyhunt.com](http://hollyhunt.com)

Branch lighting – Ed Koehler, Naples, FL

Sconces – Boyd Lighting, [boydlighting.com](http://boydlighting.com)

Artwork – Ysabel LeMay, [ysabellemay.com](http://ysabellemay.com)

##### **PRIMARY BEDROOM**

Bed and headboard – Michael Schmidt Custom Interiors, Naples, FL

Bedside tables – Made Goods, [madegoods.com](http://madegoods.com)

Club chair and lamp – Vintage, Homeowner’s collection

Area rug – Carpet Designs, Naples, FL

##### **PRIMARY BATHROOM**

Cabinetry – Studio St. James, Naples, FL

Display wall designed by Judith Liegeois Designs, Naples, FL, and fabricated by E.N.C. Designs, Naples, FL

Chandelier – Vintage, Homeowner’s collection

Artwork – Ysabel LeMay, [ysabellemay.com](http://ysabellemay.com)