



Angie Gillis

Like Alice in Wonderland, Angie Gillis discovered a whole new world — in her sleep. She came up with the name for A Change of Space Design Studio in the middle of the night. But her design career didn't just come out of the blue; after a career change from legal work, she had begun her interior design career creating kitchens for Doc Dougherty with Cabinetry Unlimited. After a while, she found her clients didn't want her to stop at the kitchen, so she launched her own business in Ocean City and never looked back.

"I think of myself as a guide through your journey to make your home reflect you and your life," she says. She wants to bring "peace and comfort" to everyday life.

Gillis stays on the cutting edge with design techniques and products, and recently Gillis has "gone green" with her studio, offering many items that are made from recycled and reclaimed products. She finds lines of furniture from around the world to ensure her clients are able to make the statement they want to make.

But Gillis doesn't always have to search the world for the perfect piece. She designs her own furniture, built by a master carpenter, for B&G Designs, using recycled and reclaimed items to make original furniture that can turn any home into a wonderland.

"As with life, time and effort put toward something you truly love seems to move very swiftly and without a waste of a single moment."



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late Kent English — bold orange and red roses, oversize works that dominate a wall in the time-honored style of impasto, where paint is laid on so thickly that the brush strokes show. Van Gogh used the technique most dramatically as it imparts such texture and movement.

Robinson also purchased works by plein air painter Ed Challenger of Bishopville, including paintings and a pensive bronze sculpture titled “The Dream.” Robinson has lived with her art for nine years — many of the pieces are in groupings — and has made very few changes. “I am content to be here and am enriched every day,” she said.

Reconnecting with your muse

A divorce can divert interest in decorating for a long time. When it is time to focus on you again, it should be a dynamic process. Interior designer Angie Gillis went through a divorce four years ago and has reconnected with herself, she said.

The lay person would say she is hitting the high notes. In her jam-packed studio in West Ocean City called A Change of Space, the energy is palpable. The small space is overflowing with things natural — wood, stone, exotic animal quills, pods, furs, preserved trees, 200-year-old tin ceiling squares, graphic wall art and more.

“It is human nature to be bored,” said Gillis, who has two teenage children, “but I don’t want to be the same every day. I’m not Pottery Barn. I work out of the box.”

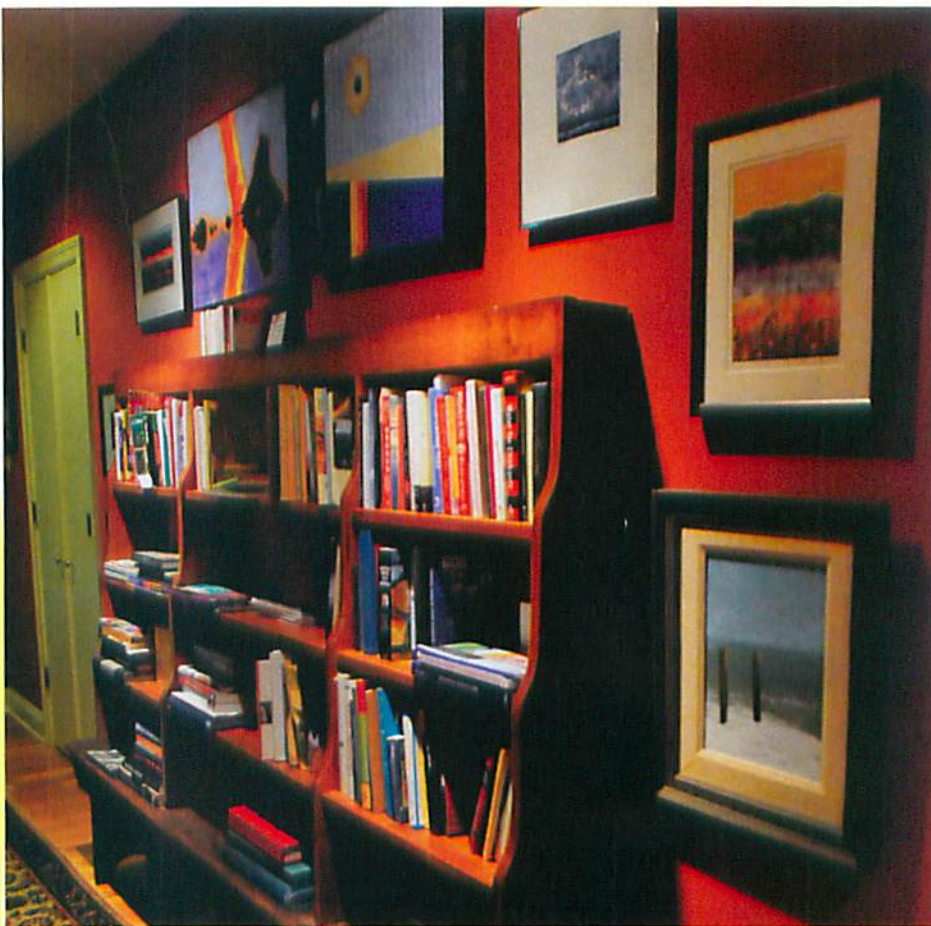
There isn’t a square inch of wall space in her studio that isn’t covered with interesting things, and if you don’t get the message that more is more, your radar has interference. At home, Gillis is all about carving an environment out of neutral space: exuberance where there was none, excitement with family in mind and whims of inspiration.

For example, she turned her son’s bathroom into a beach scene by framing the mirror in wide, dark bamboo slats and making a sloping roof over the shower hut. Her daughter Shelby’s room came about because someone gave her a framed piece of art in the shape of a curving flower and stem made from pieces of skateboard. That led to painting the wall behind the bed in black-and-white squares — to evoke the checkered race flag — and there you have your theme.

Gillis travels — so much of her art is from South or Central America. Instead of paintings, there is a two-dimensional turquoise tin bird with a fanned back feathers framed in the dining room, so large that it would chase the turkey away at Thanksgiving and done in a “primitive” style by local villagers. In another hallway is another framed work, but this is not flat art but a huge mound of carved wooden fruit painted in pastels and rising out of a giant bowl. It makes you want to touch, to experience the piece in a different way than just looking.

There isn’t a straight sight line in the house. Gillis said her mother has much more formal tastes which she didn’t inherit.

“Remember the paths you had to go to get through the rooms?” she said, referring to the more stilted way of arranging furniture decades



Laura Emmons photos

Seldon Dix photographs and paintings by Brooke Rogers mingle with other works in the collection of Emilie and Frank Robinson of Salisbury. At left: A sculpture by Ed Challenger.



ago. “There was always a doorway to go through and a boxy room to deal with.”

Gillis’s clients absorb her enthusiasm and match it with their own. She gives them assignments to cut out pictures from magazines that appeal to them. “They get excited then you step back and get out of the way,” she said. “Art is about what you feel and think.”

Ed Challenger and his wife, Emmy, wouldn’t think of leaving a white wall bare. A well-known and admired plein-air artist, among other talents, Challenger designed his home in Bishopville when they followed their older children to this area from York, Pa. He’s put up as many of his personal favorites as he has space. He has even clung to a ladder to place a piece that he wants to live with.

“I hang a lot of the shows at AI&G (the Art Institute & Gallery) and I think a wall is just for such displays,” he said. Recently he and Emmy

curated a national show at the gallery on the Downtown Plaza in Salisbury. His collection at home reflects a life of being interested in the lives of others.

Challenger is often shown at Bishop’s Stock Gallery in Snow Hill (and says the gallery has a special show at reduced prices in December called a Sweep Show). “But they are all together in my home.”

There is an ethnic Jewish piece that captures a slice of life not everyone has the fortune to see, and he owns a pastel of the tops of the York County Courthouse with historic architectural detail.

“I’m looking right now at a piece I got at the Visionary Museum in Baltimore by a man who lost an arm starting up an airplane,” he said. They are pencil drawings, he said, and he can’t get enough of quick, spontaneous strokes.

“The main thing,” said Challenger, “is I’m looking at quality pieces, some of them are realistic, some are impressionistic, a few are done on a hand press where each one is considered an original.”

Challenger knows how expensive it is to start an art collection from scratch. He’s been fortunate to have been in the area when things were cheaper, and his advice to the young is to start now. “If you buy one piece now and one each year for 20 years, you’ll have a nice collection, and you’ll still be young.”



Above: A work by Brooke Rogers is featured in the foyer of Emilie and Frank Robinson's home in Salisbury.
 Below: An abstract pastel by artist John Cleary hangs above the fireplace in the living room.

Laura Emmons photos



“
 Art is so personal. Each situation is so different, but artwork in a home is like jewelry with a dress. It completes the outfit.”

Julie Metz
 interior designer
 at Mark Showell
 Interiors

a Change of space

ANGIE GILLIS DESIGN STUDIO

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A Change of Space is excited to announce the launching of it's new "Earth & Green" line of design items and gifts... unique treasures, completely new to this area... "must see" items from all over our world. Angie's work is about both helping to design the interior of your home and offering the small things that can bring beauty & peace to your life... gifts of all price ranges... and of course personalized gift wrapping & tagging for last-minute shopping.

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Angie Gillis of A Change of Space Interior Design Studio is located in West Ocean City's Decatur Plaza. The Studio and Warehouse hold an assortment of unexpected touches that make a statement in any room. A Change of Space is a retail boutique to pamper your senses, and interior designs that stimulate your soul.

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Dr. Majul was working in a New Castle pediatric clinic, but the promise of a Sussex location and the chance to work on patients of all ages drew her to Peninsula Dental, which opened a year ago in Millsboro. She still enjoys helping young people in the practice, though:

“Some people say things happen. I say we have to make things happen.”

— Dr. Glen Goleburn

“My children drive me to try and be a better person and practitioner,” she says. “I am fortunate to be able to provide dental care for many children in the area and I always treat them the way I would like a medical professional to treat my own, from formulating the appropriate dental treatment to handling their individual behaviors.”

Dr. Goleburn also brings a personal touch to the practice. “A good day’s work involves taking patients who are fearful or wishing they were not at the dentist and helping them see that they can do it,” he says. “I enjoy the fact that I can see the results of my work quickly, and I enjoy days when interacting with my patients and my co-workers is fun and fulfilling.”

Dr. Woloshin encourages patients with a smile of his own. “Watching my patients follow through on dental care that they need in order to improve smiles, replace missing teeth or simply alleviate discomfort all makes me want to show up at work each day with a smile. I enjoy helping my patients make the best choice for their individual dental needs.”

