

# Renaissance interior design



living and working spaces reborn™

## Tip of the Month



March 2007

### "The Decorator Never Stops Learning"

I thought I would depart from my usual format to share with you a fascinating and enlightening experience I had last week. Saturday was my birthday, and since we recently moved into a new house, I decided that the perfect birthday gift for myself would be a Feng Shui Consultation and Space Clearing. I am an avid fan of Feng Shui; in fact, I dedicated a chapter or two to the subject in my book "Interior Divine". Feng Shui is powerful and

**transformative, and is highly beneficial especially if you've recently moved into a new space.**

In our case, we moved in November into a 55 year old ranch that had been totally renovated with a magnificent chef's kitchen, plenty of living and entertaining space, and even a separate studio for my office sitting on 1.3 acres of land. While both my husband and I feel this is our dream home, we intellectually knew it was a good idea to have my friend and associate Christine Wojnar come by and work her Feng Shui magic on our space. What was revealed was pretty amazing.

Chris spent several hours with me offering pages of suggestions and observations, but I will share with you the most striking. Chris observed a strong energy of sadness due to sudden death in our home. Yes, I knew the seller had lost her partner of many years, and this was part of her motivation to sell; but I had no idea as to the extent this type of energy lives on in a space when the occupants have moved on. It is interesting to note that both my husband and I were feeling "off" a lot since the passing of the holidays.

I attributed my loginess to post-Christmas blues, followed by the typical slowing of business that occurs for me in January/February. My husband Steven, on the other hand, had been feeling regularly anxious and unsettled, which is quite uncharacteristic for him. Chris did an energy clearing and asked for the energies of abundance, vitality, love and happiness to be infused into our space.

Then Chris and I headed over to my marvelous little studio, a detached

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structure on my property facing tall trees and a heated bird bath for my winged neighbors. The color palette in the studio was beige and tan, much like the palette in the main house. We painted over several rooms in the main house but decided we could live with beige in my studio for the time being...big mistake. According to Chris, the studio was overflowing in earth energy with its wood floors, beige walls and tan checked valances and draperies.

Earth energy in and of itself is a very stable energy, but as you know in Feng Shui; it is all about the balance. Too much earth energy means too much calm; and in a home office, this is a downer. I was feeling more and more tranquilized when working in it; unable to get motivated. I needed some good old fire energy to wake me up and ignite my business! To make matters worse, there was a small kitchenette in the studio with a sink smack dab in my power corner! You know what they say about sinks? Close the trap so the vital energy (aka "chi") doesn't flow down the drain! The prosperity "chi" in my power corner was doing just that: flowing down the drain.

There were several other factors working against me in my precious studio- but none that couldn't be remedied with a coat of brick red paint and the addition of some well appointed mirrors and bamboo branches. Oh yea, we decided to remove the sink altogether and fill that corner with framed accolades and other symbols of my success. It is the power corner after all!

We have begun the process of correcting all of the other imbalances in both the the studio and the main house. Visually, I cannot get over the difference these adjustments have made in some of these rooms; but more important, both my husband and I have started to feel the energy shift. The rooms were always attractive; but now they are balanced and most essential, the rooms are supporting the goals and dreams of the inhabitants.

Jayne

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