

DESIGNER PROFILE



JUDY FINK

OF PAPILLON INTERIORS

BY SYDNEY SCHWARTZ HARDIMAN

A BUTTERFLY (papillon, in French) transforms, metamorphoses from the ordinary to the extraordinary. Papillon Interiors is the perfect name for Judy Fink's business, as she knows something about transformation.

At 42, Judy was newly married and the owner of an unusual round house that needed more than the usual remodeling. Tired of the traveling required by her career in cosmetics, and galvanized by the death of her mother, Judy decided to go back to her first love - interior design. She changed her priorities, went back to

school, and eighteen months after school ended she started Papillon Interiors.

Designing everything from residential to light commercial spaces, Judy believes: to design a home is to transform it, while making it a safe, beautiful place for the people that live there. She loves an eclectic look, which shows in the choice of her own home. A round home with 4 connecting pods, it was built in 1967 as a builder's show house. The first time she saw it she knew it was the home for her, even though it was under contract to someone else and had been vacant for

FAVORITES

Book: *The Birth of Venus and Embraced By The Light*

Old Movie: *Fried Green Tomatoes and Madagascar*

Music: *New Age/Alternative and New Country*

Colors: Purple, Tangerine, Gold, all the colors of an Arizona sunset

Clothing Design: Contemporary, casual, sophisticated

Vacation Spot: The Tuscan region of Italy and Napa, California

Place to Shop: Small boutiques like Capriccio and Carabella

Food: Mediterranean

Restaurant: Tuscan Inn on Wildwood Road in the North Hills and Amel's in the South Hills

Pittsburgh's Best Kept Secret: The diversified personality of Pittsburgh's neighborhoods. It's like a trip around the world in one city.

Who Inspired Your Life Most: Without a doubt, my mother.

three years. As fate would have it, the other person's contract fell through and soon Judy had the huge undertaking of transforming her home. She did such a great job that it was featured in the Post Gazette last year.

Judy decorates both her own home and those of her customers with pieces that have a personal history, such as those passed down by grandparents. She incorporates them into the design, transforming the pieces into part of a comfortable, attractively designed haven for herself and her customers. HD