

Storied Spaces

For Provenance Lee Interiors (provenanceleeinteriors.com) founder Debby Gomulka, meaningful design begins with discovery, turning the memories, travels and histories that shape her clients' lives into deeply personal interiors. *by ERIN KAIN*

A childhood journey to Morocco. A centuries-old dining table passed from one generation to the next. For Charleston's Debby Gomulka, these are more than treasured memories and possessions. They are the starting points for spaces that could belong to no one else.

"Each client project starts with a journey of discoveries, waiting to be peeled away, one layer at a time," says the founder of Provenance Lee Interiors.

That journey often begins with questions. Gomulka wants to know what inspires her clients, where they have traveled and which family stories matter most. Many are

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philanthropists, so she also seeks to understand the causes closest to them. Those conversations build the trust behind her design process and, in many cases, lasting friendships.

One of Gomulka's most celebrated projects, a 12,000-square-foot mansion dating to the 1840s, draws inspiration from the client's childhood travels to Morocco with her mother. The resulting design concept eventually inspired Provenance Lee Interiors' Marrakech home textile collection.

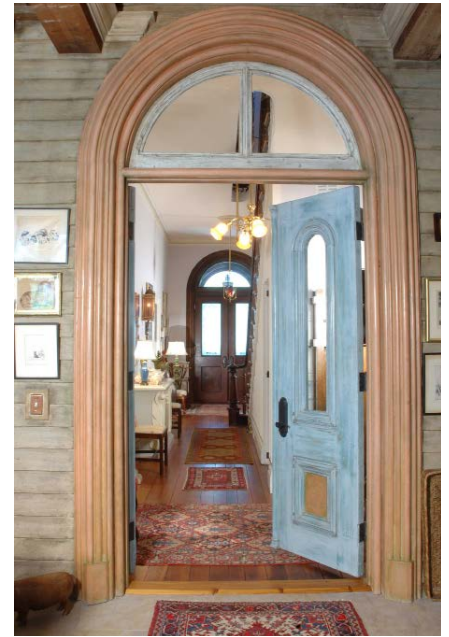
In another home, history takes tangible form through an antique dining table passed down through generations, with a family story dating to the late 1600s. Building on the table's striking hand-carved claw feet, Gomulka reconfigured its top with a custom copper-and-bronze inlaid design suited to festive wine dinners at home. The piece became a natural focal point for an estate shaped by the clients' deep Charleston roots and a family lineage

tracing back to a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

"I don't follow trends. I create trends," Gomulka says. Her inspiration instead comes from art history, fashion, nature and her clients' own experiences. With a background in art history, she draws from influences spanning ancient Egypt, Morocco, Tuscany and Versailles, reinterpreting them for modern living.

That individuality extends to craftsmanship. Gomulka works with artisans to commission sculptures, furniture, lighting and original works of art specifically for her projects, with ideas often emerging from those earliest conversations.

For Gomulka, the true measure of a finished home is how it makes its owners feel. She hopes her interiors inspire clients to pursue their dreams, carve out meaningful time with family and friends, and continue the philanthropic work that is important to them. It's an approach that makes each project unmistakably personal, allowing the people, places and memories behind the design to remain part of the home for years to come. provenanceleeinteriors.com, [@provenanceleeinteriors](https://www.instagram.com/provenanceleeinteriors), 910.352.7339, debby@provenanceleeinteriors.com



From top: Provenance Lee Interiors brings a historic Charleston home to life; the Marrakech home textile collection; Provenance Lee Interiors infuses the Julian Price Estate with a signature mix of history, artistry and design.