

# The Feng Shui Art of Custom Framing

by Michelle Luongo and Mike Mangini

**F**eng Shui (pronounced “fung shway”) is the ancient art of arranging our environment, reflecting a sense of design and ecology that teaches us to live in harmony and balance, enhancing our personal lifestyles and business environments.

Originated in Asia, it is believed by the Chinese that people, for better or for worse, are influenced by their surroundings. We have adapted these ancient Feng Shui philosophies to our western culture in arranging our environments in a harmonious way which fosters a nourishing, supportive, and balanced life.

The placement of artwork on the walls of our homes and businesses occupies powerful real estate and serves as the focal point and first impression of both entrances and rooms. How, where and what we display on our walls can have a significant effect on us. When dressing your walls with artwork and imagery, there are a few guiding principles to follow in order to incorporate both Feng Shui and the framework of design elements.

From a Feng Shui perspective, artwork is an influential environmental affirmation which should inspire positive energy and lift our spirits. Location will be crucial by incorporating life-affirming, room specific images. Designing frames that encompass color and material which mirrors the five Feng Shui elements will create a balanced environment which resonates with your personal taste and décor style.

Transforming your walls from ordinary to extraordinary requires the talent of a professional custom framer with Feng Shui awareness. It is a collaborative and creative process which will showcase your art in the best possible presentation.

Rely on the custom framers advanced knowledge of techniques and materials to protect and preserve your artwork which provides the best long-term value.

In a business, wall art should reflect the journey of the company with custom framed imagery representing the water element to reveal a sense of pride and dignity. Display press releases, accolades and public relations media utilizing the yang fire energy colors in the spectrum of red. Hang framed affirmations with the company’s mission statement, philosophy and values with the supportive energy of the earth element.

In Feng Shui, the main entrance of a home is considered the “mouth of chi” where all opportunities enter. Carefully select artwork that reflects your true personality as it represents the character of the home and is the first impression visitors will see. Bedrooms are our sanctuaries and places to escape from the outside world, and even indulge ourselves. Work with your custom framer to incorporate the yin earth element to reflect a calm and nurturing environment. For more social rooms, frame family artwork with wooden frames or with the wood element colors of green or blue hues. This will bring the supportive and expansive energy which will encourage family unity and harmony.

The most important aspect of imagery and artwork is to ensure that we surround ourselves with life affirming, uplifting artwork which is supportive of our life’s journey. Working in partnership



with a custom framer will inspire the creative process and explore the powerful real estate of your walls. Replace any distressing, depressing, or poverty provoking artwork with the energy that inspires, enriches and moves us forward in life.

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*Mike and Teresa Mangini are the owners of Frame 'n Art by the Sea, a local custom framing shop in beautiful Lauderdale By The Sea. They can be contacted at [www.framenartbythesea.com](http://www.framenartbythesea.com) or 954.267.9202. They work in conjunction with Luongo in creating a balanced living environment by optimizing your Feng Shui walls. See ad page 35.*

