

## Q&A with Michael Steiner, ASID

**Q: What kind of experience do you have?**

A: I have a degree from ECU's Design School in interior design and environmental design and have been designing for over 25 years throughout the United States. I am professional member of ASID with an NCIDQ certification.

**Q: How are you different from a decorator?**

A: Decorators do not necessarily have the education, experience, or certifications required by an interior designer. Beyond the aesthetic design, our training also includes architectural, structural, construction, and environmental design, electrical and lighting. We must read and draw design details and documents while understanding the process of working with architects, engineers, and contractors utilizing safety and fire codes.

**Q: What is your style of design?**

A: I am very versatile. My past designs have included contemporary to traditional and very specific designs including Art Deco. I listen to my client(s)' vision and turn it into a design that is appealing to their taste and project goals.

**Q: Are you up to date on Green design?**

A: I have been integrating green components into my design for many years now – long before it became “popular”. I like to reuse when possible, use eco-friendly materials when cost effective, incorporating energy efficient designs, and keep the operations of my office as green as possible with recycling & office supply choices. Also, my staff and I read and research a lot about the latest options. We continue to attend conferences and seminars about the future of green design

**Q: Do you work more on residential or commercial projects?**

A: My time is generally split 50/50 between residential and commercial design. I enjoy the challenges of both and crossover design materials and ideas.

**Q: Which project are you most proud of?**

A: I am really proud of my work at NOFO @ the Pig in Raleigh, NC. It was a fun project where the owner allowed me full creative range to incorporate the historic significance of the Piggly Wiggly and invent a whimsical space that can't help but make you smile as you walk inside. I custom designed the pig chandelier and had it hand-blown in the Czech Republic. I am very flattered by the notoriety I get for this project.

**Q: Why would I choose Steiner Design Interiors instead of another firm?**

A: I feel confident in our experience, creative capabilities, and our history of very satisfied customers. I have a significant number of repeat clients and almost all of my business comes from referrals. I am proud that my clients appreciate my work enough to pass my name along to their friends, colleagues, and family.