[ON LOCATION]

We'd Happily Move into These Designers' Offices



The workspaces that Daun Curry, Keren Richter and Allegra O. Eifler created for their firms could easily be mistaken for the most comfortable and welcoming of homes — and that's precisely the point.

BY ANDREW SESSA

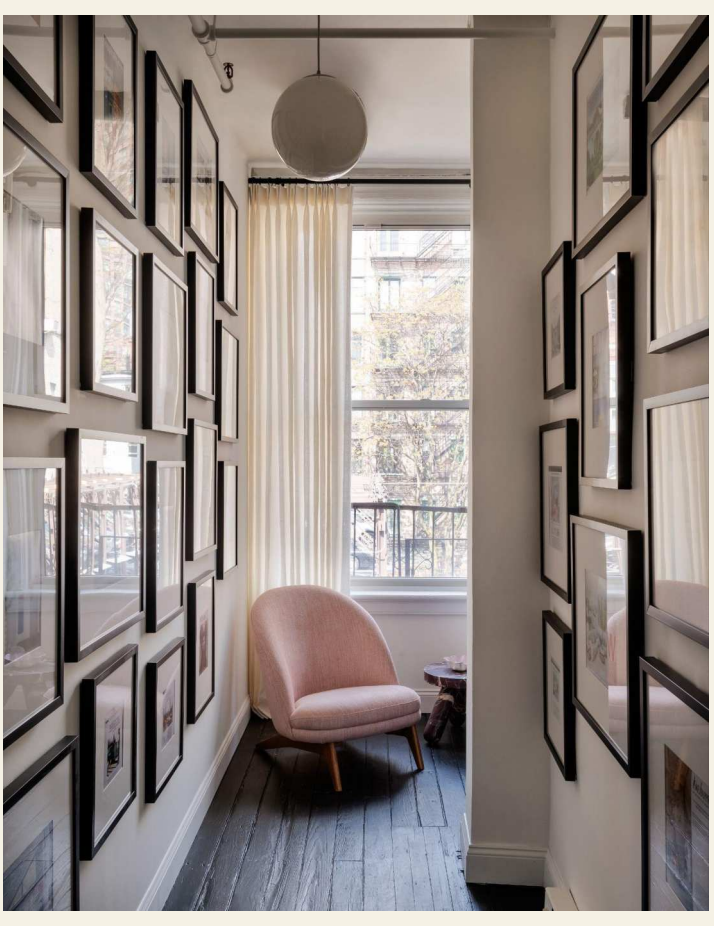
[FEBRUARY 23, 2025] When interior designers we admire for their residential work create the conference rooms, work stations and communal kitchens of their own studios, these spaces become far more than OFFICES. They serve as learning laboratories, calling cards and, perhaps most of all, homes away from home.

"We really thought of it as a home, because we spend so many hours there — almost more than we do at our own houses," says DAUN CURRY, who this past fall reimagined her firm's loft-like space in New York City's dynamic Noho district, on the same block as JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT's studio. "I wanted it to feel warm and comfortable, not like a headhunter's office somewhere near Grand Central."

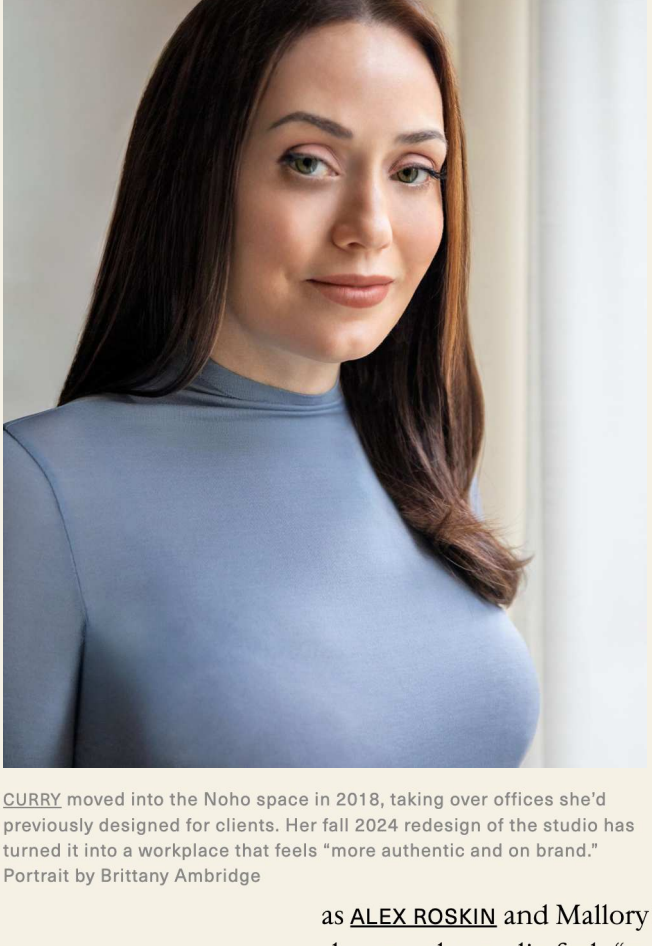
Curry is hardly alone in that sentiment. Here, *Introspective* takes a tour of three designers' Manhattan offices — including Curry's — each of them the furthest thing from corporate.

Daun Curry





Left: In the conference room of interior designer DAUN CURRY's studio, in Manhattan's Noho district, a MARIE FLANIGAN pendant light hangs over a vintage TULIP TABLE and EXECUTIVE ARMLESS CHAIRS, all by EERO SAARINEN. Behind hang works from PORTER TELEO. The HORN pedestal and the vase displayed on it, both vintage, are from 1stDibs. Right: A VINTAGE DANISH CHAIR from 1stdibs sits in a sunlit corner at the end of a gallery-like hallway. Top: Curry also turned to 1stDibs for many of the pieces in the studio's living-room-like central area, including the MURANO-GLASS POLIEDRI CHANDELIER, the chrome frames of the round mirrors and the small 1960 HANS NAGEL piece atop the custom MARBLE COFFEE TABLE. The floor lamps are by RALPH LAUREN and THOMAS O'BRIEN. Daun Curry photos by Matthew Williams unless otherwise noted



CURRY moved into the Noho space in 2018, taking over offices she'd previously designed for clients. Her fall 2024 redesign of the studio has turned it into a workplace that feels "more authentic and on brand." Portrait by Brittany Ambridge

For CURRY, the 2018 move to Noho, almost a decade after she launched her eponymous firm, represented something of a homecoming. "I had designed the space for another company, a JEWELRY line," she says. "It was my first job out of design school, and I remember thinking at the time, 'This could be my ideal office.' " Now, six years after her former client handed off the lease, it finally is.

Before giving it the recent redo, Curry and her seven-person team worked in the space as they'd inherited it; she'd done the design, after all, and was happy enough with it even if she'd conceived the scheme for someone else.

But eventually, the need for HVAC, kitchen and bathroom upgrades forced a total rethink. "It just kept snowballing," Curry recalls, laughing about embracing the same mission creep she often finds herself helping clients navigate.

She came to see the necessary renovations as an opportunity to enhance the space overall, so that it would better "represent what we do and what drives our inspiration and design."

To that end, she set about making sure the office incorporated her primary aesthetic signatures: abundant references to nature; combinations of materials with contrasting textures; unique vintage finds, including glass lighting; and the work of artists and artisans, such as ALEX ROSKIN and Mallory Page, in many cases through custom commissions. Now, she says, the studio feels "more authentic and on brand."

While most of the decor is new or newly acquired, one key piece that remains from the original design is a MID-CENTURY MODERN ROSEWOOD WALL UNIT purchased years ago on 1stDibs, which Curry says she'll "probably never let go, because I love it so much." It now holds pride of place in the conference room, set with a TULIP TABLE and a suite of EXECUTIVE ARMLESS CHAIRS, all by EERO SAARINEN.



Of the conference room's MID-CENTURY MODERN ROSEWOOD WALL UNIT, which she purchased years ago on 1stDibs, Curry says she loves it so much, she'll never get rid of it.

"I don't think that we took a different approach to designing the office than we would a residence," Curry says when asked to compare crafting the studio with designing interiors for her clients. "Creating spaces that are comfortable and inviting and have different areas that people can go to — that's just more conducive to how people work nowadays."

Her staff, it seems, couldn't be happier, and the people who hire her seem pretty pleased, too. "We have clients now who I know are super busy, and they still want to come to our office for meetings," she says. "That's the biggest compliment."

DAUN CURRY'S GET THE LOOK

