

# Labor Of Love

# A Gallery of Portland Craftspeople

Portland has long enjoyed a deep well of talented craftspeople, so it was no easy task choosing just 32 to profile. But after speaking with dozens of local designers, builders, and artisans, we settled on a cross-section of acknowledged masters known for their passion. For them, craft is an adventure in which the thrill of virtuosity is best experienced when delving into the unknown. And in a city known for its burgeoning cluster of high-end manufacturers, we also decided to explore the often-ignored craft of technology. The computer, after all, can be as valuable as the chisel.

By JACKIE D'ANTONIO, RACHEL RITCHIE, AND RACHEL DESCHEPPER

Photographs by DANIEL ROOT

GLASS

FINISHES

TILE

**METAL** 

WOOD WOOD

STONE

TECH

## MASTERLIST

### A. TRADITIONAL NATURAL PLASTER COMPANY

Plastering and art run in Noel Adams's family: His father is a union plasterer and his mother an artist. After working for his father since 1995, Adams decided to combine the business and the art of plastering while also using more sustainable materials. In 2005, he and high school buddy Josh Baeckel created the Traditional Natural Plaster Company. They took the techniques they learned from Adams's father and applied them to limestone and clay to create nontoxic wall finishes. 503-236-0270,

www.traditionalplaster.com

### **B. BRAVURA FINISHES**

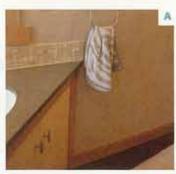
When Shaun Burke moved to the United States from London in 1987, he brought with him the classic European tradition of decorative painting. Since 1989, he's used that knowledge to create a trademark style for Bravura Finishes. On furniture, walls, and floors, Burke applies earthy color-washes; stencils that mimic wall tapestries; or old-world gilding, wood graining, and marbling. He and his wife, Karen, work in a studio inside their Lake Oswego home, and examples of their finishes are displayed at Rejuvenation (1100 SE Grand Ave). 503-635-0744, www.bravurafinishes.com

### C. C.J. HURLEY CENTURY ARTS

Husband-and-wife team C.J. Hurley and Barbara Pierce see their period paintings, interior friezes, and Intricate gesso panels as one-of-akind commissioned art. They pride themselves on authenticity, whether in Gothic Revival, Queen Anne, Arts & Crafts, or Art Deco style. Hurley is the only Roycroft Renaissance Master Artisan on the West Coast-a distinction given to artisans who preserve the historic ideals of the Arts & Crafts movement and do all work by hand. It's a perfect fit for Hurley, since he painstakingly handdraws and hand-paints all his work rather than using stencils, projections, or a computer. 503-234-4167 www.cjhurley.com

### D. YVONNE HANKS

Yvonne Hanks's small studio is stacked with furniture and projects she's finishing for local interior design greats like Henry Brown and Janet Edwards. Detailed furniture finishes are Hanks's forte-she can restore antiques using a technique called "water gilding," or she can add texture









to new pieces. "You can completely change the look of your furniture by changing its finish," she says. Hanks is also the go-to woman for architectural gilding, in which metal leaf is applied to ceilings. Studio located inside Bedford Brown, 503-201-4758