



Furniture Masters: Distinctive



From the Chairman

My wife and I turned on the TV to relax the other night, but since we are old school, we get only the public TV stations. The selection that night was pretty poor so she went to bed, and I watched a show about architecture in America, starting with Jefferson at Monticello and Trinity Church in Boston before I fell asleep. When I woke, I watched an interview with Frank Gehry about the Disney Concert Hall in California. I then stumbled off to bed only to find myself tossing and turning over ideas for a commission for which I was asked to make a narrative furniture piece about a spider and a duck.

That brings me to this year's Furniture Masters design book. What a remarkable collection of trendsetting makers and designs we have!

I urge you to read the New Hampshire Furniture Masters mission statement, which is on the back cover of this design book. To fulfill this mission, many of us mentor young and emerging furniture makers, and we have maintained a prison outreach program that has given several new makers a set of goals in life that they would otherwise be denied. And each year, through this design book and our series of exhibitions, we introduce ourselves anew to an audience of appreciators and collectors, whose support is necessary for us to continue. That is you.

As you peruse these pages, keep in mind that each page presents not just an item to be admired, but also an artist committed to excellence and innovation. We hope this design book will be inspirational to you and your friends.

Thank you for your support.

Jeffrey Cooper, Chairman
New Hampshire Furniture Masters

LaBelle Winery

We extend our sincere thanks to Amy LaBelle and Caesar Arboleda, owners of LaBelle Winery in Amherst, NH, for graciously opening up their beautiful winery to us for a photoshoot. LaBelle Winery—with its mix of oak wine barrels and imported Italian stainless steel tanks—serves as a striking backdrop for some of the pieces featured in this design book.

Grape bud photo by John Temchack,
Vineyard Manager, LaBelle Winery





'Rencontres à St. Paul de Vence' by Jeffrey Cooper

mahogany, maple, glass

12" deep x 52" wide x 32" high

available for purchase

603-436-7945

jcooper@cooperwoodsculptor.com

cooperwoodsculptor.com



Hopkinton Serving Table by David Lamb

mahogany, frosted crotch birch

18" deep x 45" wide x 34" high

available by commission

603-783-9912

dwlambcab@gmail.com

davidlambfurniture.com



'West' by John Cameron

English brown oak, ash, torrifed ash, red oak, sassafrass, nickel silver
13" deep x 27" wide x 64-3/4" high

available for purchase

978-283-0276

jc.cabinetmaker@verizon.net

johncameroncabinetmaker.com



Claro Dining Table by Ted Blachly
Claro walnut, black walnut, white oak
44" deep x 96" wide x 29-3/4" high
available by commission
603-456-2385
tedblachly@gmail.com
tedblachly.com





Cape Sable Chair by Jon Brooks

Australian pine, birch, maple, stain

20" deep x 24" wide x 37" high

available for purchase

603-487-2780

jon@jonbrooks.org

jonbrooks.org



'Through the Forest Lightly' by Jeffrey Roberts

cherry, maple

20" deep x 41" wide x 20" high

available by commission

603-863-2941

jeffonr1@msn.com

jsrobertsfurniture.com





'Simply Side by Side' by Richard Oedel

Macassar ebony, 23k gold

20" deep x 20" wide x 20" high

available for purchase

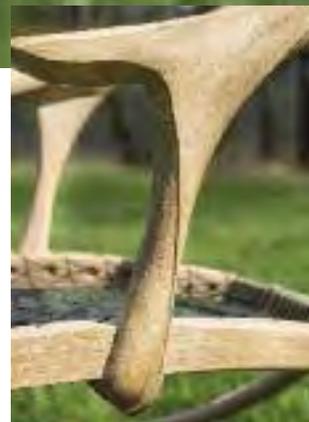
617-763-1349

roedel@finefurnituremaster.com

finefurnituremaster.com



'Arabesque' by Timothy Coleman
birdseye maple, walnut
16" deep x 30" wide x 52" high
available for purchase
413-768-1548
tim@timothycoleman.com
timothycoleman.com



The Alden Rocker by Greg Brown

white oak, braided Kevlar
44" deep x 39" wide x 28" high
available for purchase
860-803-0161
greg@gbwoodworks.com
gbwoodworks.com



Details by A. Thomas Walsh

Top L: 'Dena Curves' Table Base, various woods, 24" deep x 58" wide x 29" high, fits 42" x 74" glass top

Top R: 'Tage' Side Chair, South American mahogany, grey calfskin, 21" deep x 25" wide x 29" high

Bottom L: 'Side of Deco' Sideboard, various woods, 16-1/2" deep x 71" wide x 34" high

Bottom R: Sleigh Endings Love Seat, various materials, 22" deep x 61" wide x 22" high

inquire for details and availability

413-822-0968 413-232-0249

mail@athomaswalsh.com

athomaswalsh.com



Three Occasional Tables / Coffee Table by Brian Sargent
walnut, Brazilian cherry, brushed stainless steel
12" deep x 16" wide x 18" high
12" deep x 24" wide x 18" high
available by commission
603-483-0622
blsdesigns126@earthlink.net
blsargentdesigns.com





Bullet Table No. 32.1 by Peter Sandback

thermally modified maple, wenge, .22 and .17 caliber brass jacketed bullets

28" deep x 28" wide x 16" high

available by commission

603-924-9020

peter@petersandback.com

petersandback.com

Photos by Gary Arruda



Wave Cabinet by Garrett Hack

butternut, walnut, Engleman spruce, basswood, curly maple, rosewood, ebony, holly
19" deep x 37" wide x 76-1/2" high

available by commission

802-785-4329

abundance.farm@valley.net

garretthack.com

Photo by John Sherman

American Furniture Masters Institute

Prison Outreach Program

For the past 15 years, the New Hampshire Institute of Furniture Making's Prison Outreach Program has been a vital arm of the Furniture Masters' educational outreach, developing into a dynamic entity that has far exceeded original expectations. Indeed, the institute recently changed its name to the American Furniture Masters Institute (AFMI) to better reflect the organization's growth and interest in opportunities beyond New England.

Yet, the program began as a simple mentoring idea, conceived in 1999 by then NH Superior Court Judge Kathleen McGuire as a means of providing prison inmates with training and skills in a viable profession.

“The New Hampshire State Prison for Men in Concord had a large, fully equipped woodworking shop, yet inmates were only receiving safety training with the equipment—they had no access to woodworking courses or even an instructional library,” Judge McGuire recalls. Recognizing the shop's latent potential, the judge hatched the idea of a mentoring program and turned to the New Hampshire Furniture Masters for help.

Furniture Master Jon Brooks volunteered to tour the prison's Hobby Craft workshop with Tony Hartigan and Judge McGuire and immediately recognized the potential. When he asked for volunteers, fellow Furniture Masters Terry Moore and Tom McLaughlin responded, and together the two have guided the program ever since.

From the outset, inmates' admission to the program has been carefully controlled. Initially, prison officials selected two of the most accomplished woodworkers from the Hobby Craft Program—Tim Eldridge and Eric Grant—for intensive training with the Furniture Masters. In the years since, Moore and McLaughlin have mentored Eldridge, Grant, and many others, teaching courses in the prison on their own as well as with other Furniture Masters, including Jeffrey Cooper, Garrett Hack, Jeff Roberts, Jon Siegel, and New Hampshire Artist Laureate David Lamb.





As a result of this expert guidance and a great deal of their own sweat equity, inmates in the program have realized incredible success. Not only have many of their pieces been sold at the Furniture Masters' annual auctions, but several former inmates are now making a living as furniture makers.

“We’re not just teaching woodworking, we’re igniting a passion,” observes Moore. “These guys are learning so much more than simply how to make fine furniture. They’re also learning discipline, patience, problem-solving, and perseverance. And they’re getting out of prison and finding jobs as woodworkers! As a teacher, it’s incredibly rewarding to witness.”

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For many years, woodworking classes were offered only in the Concord correctional facility, but the program proved so popular with inmates, in 2007 it was expanded to the Northern NH Correctional Facility in Berlin. In 2012 the program crossed state lines into Maine, when Furniture Master Brian Reid began teaching fine-furniture making in the Maine State Prison Industries Program in Warren.

Program participants in Maine also must have a pristine disciplinary record and possess basic woodworking skills. The program likewise offers prisoners a sales outlet for their creations; both the New Hampshire Furniture Masters Association and the Gallery at Somes Sound sell the prisoners' work, allocating one-third of the proceeds to the prison to buy materials, one-third to AFMI to buy tools and provide a small stipend to instructors, and one-third to the maker to use as desired.

Despite the success of both the New Hampshire and Maine programs, none of the individuals involved are content with resting on their laurels. Terry Moore and former Judge McGuire have already met with New Hampshire Prison Commissioner Bill Wrenn to discuss creating a dedicated woodworking shop in the new women's prison. And Brian Reid has introduced plans for a six-month, intensive companion program in Maine's minimum security prison that will teach inmates in the last three years of their sentences the fundamentals of furniture making, cabinet making, and boat building.

Acknowledgements

We thank our friends, old and new, who create the foundation for the New Hampshire Furniture Masters to flourish.

We offer thanks and recognition to:

- The board members of the new American Furniture Masters Institute for expanding the reach of the prison outreach programs, Mentoring Masters, Emerging Artists, and other educational endeavors.
- Jere Osgood, recipient of the Lotte Jacobi Living Treasure award by the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts in recognition of a lifetime of achievement in the arts.
- The Furniture Masters, who teach the art of furniture making in classes and workshops across the globe—New Zealand to Austria to Colombia—and throughout New Hampshire and New England in one-on-one apprenticeships in their shops and in the New Hampshire and Maine prisons.
- Our founders who remain by our side to this day: Tony Hartigan, who inspired our creation, and Mary McLaughlin and Nancy Sununu, who gave us the organizational framework that has sustained us for 21 years.
- Steve Duprey, whose gift of the Furniture Masters Gallery in Concord has created a permanent home for our work. Special thanks to Ted Blachly for curating our rotating exhibits and to the Marion Cohen Trust at TD Wealth for its endowment in support of the gallery.

- Advisory board members for the advice and guidance they are willing to share on a regular, ongoing basis to guide us forward.
- Staff and hosts of our 2016 exhibitions at Two International Group, New Hampshire Historical Society, Moffett Ladd House, Castle in the Clouds, and 3S Artspace.
- The creators of the 2016 design book: Jacqueline Stahle of Think Design, our graphic designer who produces our beautiful design book, website, invitations, and beyond. Bill Truslow, our photographer, who helps bring our pieces to life on the page. Joan Bennett of The Write Connection, who turns our creative thoughts into perfect prose. Here is a team that we highly recommend for creating your own print and social media presence. Great job, team!

Special thanks go to the following individuals whose time and service this past year have gone above and beyond. We are grateful to have such friends in our midst! New Hampshire Furniture Masters Association officers: Jeffrey Cooper, Chair; Aurelio Bolognesi, Vice President; Jeff Roberts, Secretary; Greg Brown, Treasurer; and Richard Oedel, Immediate Past Chair.

American Furniture Masters Institute board members: Roger Myers, Chair; Jon Brooks, Vice Chair; Geralyn Smariga, Secretary; Pauline Ikawa, Treasurer; Mary McLaughlin, Immediate Past Chair; and members Arnie Arnesen, John Cameron, Tyra Hanson, Kathleen McGuire, Terry Moore, Brian Reid, Bill Siroty, and Jere Osgood, Trustee Emeritus.

Advisory Board: Hunt and Lucy Breed; Arthur Clarke and Susan Sloan; Pamela Diamantis; Chris Dwyer and Mike Huxtable; Diane Griffith; John and Joan Henderson; Pauline Ikawa; Bob Larsen; Scott Lawson; Sy Mahfuz; Mary McLaughlin; Van McLeod; Roger Myers; Tom Silvia and Shannon Chandley; Bill Siroty; Ted and Mary Shasta; Geralyn Smariga; Merv and Geraldine Stevens; John, Nancy and Cathy Sununu; Gerry Ward; Maura Weston; and Robert and Jill Wilson.

Left: Spring Desk by Jere Osgood, 1996. Photo by Dean Powell. Background photo of David Lamb by John W. Hession



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NHFMA is a group of professional furniture artisans committed to preserving the centuries-long tradition of fine furniture making. The association promotes the growth of fine furniture making, as well as the sale of fine furniture made by its members, by hosting exhibitions; engaging in collaborative marketing and educational activities; and partnering with museums, art organizations, and galleries. The organization strives to uphold the highest standards of quality craftsmanship through a peer-reviewed jury system.

PO Box 5733
Manchester, NH 03108
603-898-0242

NHFMA Gallery
49 South Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

furnituremasters.org

New Hampshire
Furniture
Masters
Association

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On the Cover

'Zigzag' by Aurelio Bolognesi
salvaged long-leaf yellow pine, mahogany, brass
14" deep x 18" wide x 34" high
available for purchase
413-563-4146
ambodesign@gmail.com
aurelio-bolognesi.com