

Paradise City

FAIRS OF FINE AND FUNCTIONAL ART

March 19, 20 & 21 · Marlborough, Massachusetts

Local Treasures · New & Noteworthy

The artists who are accepted to participate in the Paradise City Arts Festival at Marlborough, one of the country's most innovative and competitive fine craft shows, are the "best-of-the-best" of America's independent artists and master craftsmen.

Joining us this March are 45 artists from all around the nation who were juried into Paradise City Marlborough for the very first time.

This year, we've picked out five "local treasures" from this group, remarkable artists who live here in New England and deserve recognition for their creative accomplishments.

MEDFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS WOODWORKER ROB PORCARO

creates furniture that brings together compelling woods, judicious proportions, and intricate details to create a quietly satisfying,

harmonious whole. His one-of-a-kind work has a subtle grace, with unexpected curves and hand-cut joinery. A special board may even inspire an entire project, and he has a fondness for boards with beautiful patterns such as curly figure.

Porcaro notes, 'We enhance our lives by having a few fine things around us to discover, savor, and create a small oasis in modern life. You will acquire a piece that is meant to be valued for generations and, while truly sturdy, far exceeds its functional value, and with a maker's signature that tells you from where it came.'



Rob Porcaro brings his studio furniture to Marlborough



GRAND ISLE, VERMONT ARTIST RIKI MOSS is a master of reinvention. She has forged successful and renowned careers as a novelist, singer, ceramist, teacher, show director, sculptor and painter.

She teams up with her husband, **ROBERT OSTERMEYER**, to create functional illuminated sculptures of paper pulp made from compressed Abaca leaf. When lit, the color is golden, warm and comforting. Light travels over the surface evoking universal forms; the breaking of a wave, the spiraling of shell, reef, river, smoke and cloud.

PORTLAND, MAINE JEWELER STEPHANI

BRIGGS sketched many ideas on paper before cutting, forming, and fusing high karat gold and deep purple amethyst into this extraordinary necklace. She says, "My annual trips to India have influenced my work beyond measure. The temples of India are built to resemble mountains, and seeing them has pushed my work in an architectural direction."



WAYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS ARTISTS JAY AND ANNIE

HOLLIS are committed to

making exceptional wooden jigsaw puzzles. Trained as an architect,

Jay is incredibly detail-oriented, thinks in three dimensions and has a superb sense of design. Annie is a world class puzzle solver whose knack for putting together the most complicated puzzles in an unimaginably short length of time has earned her the role of "Master Jigsaw Puzzle Assembler."

The individual puzzle pieces are cut free-hand from mahogany, using a motorized scroll saw fit with a blade as fine as a single horse hair. Customized puzzles for birthdays or corporate gifts are a specialty.



KINGSTON, RHODE ISLAND POTTER MICHAEL

CHATTERLEY'S wheel thrown cups, bowls and vases feature exquisite shapes and delicate crystalline glazes. Crystal glazes are very difficult to control, but they yield an extraordinary surface that literally explodes with jewels of

color during firing. This gives his pots an unusual spotted or star-like surface of translucent layers.

Chatterley has been a professional potter and a member of The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) since 2000.

