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HOME & GARDEN

A new culture of craftspeople steps forward

The American Craft Council Show, Aug. 14-16 at Fort Mason Center in San Francisco, has become something of a coming-out party for the next generation of craft artists. The event, in its 34th year, has long been a showcase for contemporary craft, featuring a juried selection of one-of-a-kind furnishings, fine decorative items and clothing made by more than 250 exhibitors from the Bay Area and beyond. Now organizers are putting out the welcome mat for the new wave of "makers" with an expanded AltCraft section, devoted to indie craft (see story below), and the Green Craft section highlighting works made from eco-friendly and recycled materials and sustainable processes. "It's a great way to blend the two together," says Bernadette Boyle, senior marketing manager for the American Craft Council. "They draw inspiration from one another." Here's a sampling of veteran and first-time exhibitors from the Bay Area and their wares.

► More profiles of artists who will be at the American Craft Council Show. **E12**

Chanin Cook and Jonathan Edie, furniture

Napa designers Cook and Edie, both 43, make bespoke demi-lune consoles, dining and coffee tables and chairs of metal, stone, bronze and stainless steel. "In the last few years we've started using large slabs of reclaimed wood," Cook says. Some of the works include fossils and petrified wood.

Cook, a former marketing professional, and Edie, an environmental educator, made tables and chairs for themselves as a hobby and eventually decided to do it full time. To get more room to work in, they moved to Napa from San Francisco. They have been exhibiting at ACC since 2004.

The couple's smaller furniture costs \$2,500 to \$4,500; dining tables range from \$10,000 to \$19,000.



The Cosmo bar table, left, made of recycled wood, is from Chanin Cook and Jonathan Edie; above, Michael Szabo's metal vase.

American Craft Council photos