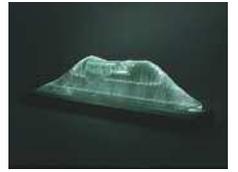


Nautical Nuances

Interior Accents

Unless the desired effect is that of Maine tourist tat trap or a Florida Keys themed watering hole—and let's face it, it rarely is—subtlety and balance should be the primary considerations when introducing a nautical element to your yacht's interior. Here is a collection of understated suggestions...



When decorating with a motif in mind, whether tackling a great room or a closet, the easiest mistake to make being too literal. When it comes to the interiors of an ocean-going vessel, there is always great temptation to include nods to the nautical—the sea is what draws us all to yachts, and wanting to pay homage to our favored element is a noble pursuit. As it is with all good things however, moderation is key.

In general, most nautical themed furnishings that utilize obvious symbolism (think anchors, knots, compass roses and brass fixtures of all shapes and sizes) should be used sparingly, if at all—unless your interior is meant to evoke an ironic, humorous, lighthearted response. As it is with good writing, successful design is about showing, not telling. Though sometimes rather blurry, the line between chic and tacky comes down to subtlety, balance and restraint. Referencing the sea, and the sea faring tradition, can be made through color, form and line without ever being too obvious. We've compiled some of our current favorites with the hope that it will inspire you to embrace the new nautical.

Five Useful Tips

1

Reference color. The sea offers an endless variation of color and hue. Though blue dominates, the sea is a riot of color from grey to green to orange. Your interiors can reflect this without being obvious – or navy blue, for that matter.

2

Reflection. There is perhaps nothing more beautiful than the sun shining on the water's surface like a night sky full of stars. Mirrors, reflective surfaces and high polished floors are a wonderful way to bring this sparkling beauty indoors.

3

A little humor goes a long way. Though it's best to be subtle, a 19th century nautical painting or other pieces of important nautical-inspired art can be both lovely and a little tongue in cheek—but it shouldn't be a focal point.

4

Keep it Personal. Small collections of fine shells, coral specimens and all manner of marine flora and fauna make for great accents on a vessel. Gatherings these collections in small 16th century-style Cabinets of Curiosities are wonderful ways to create moments of interest, and break up staid rooms.

5

Show, don't tell: The most exciting nautical themed furnishings and art are those that aren't immediately apparent. The photography of artist Hiroshi Sugimoto and his ethereal large-scale prints of the sea, is a successful example.



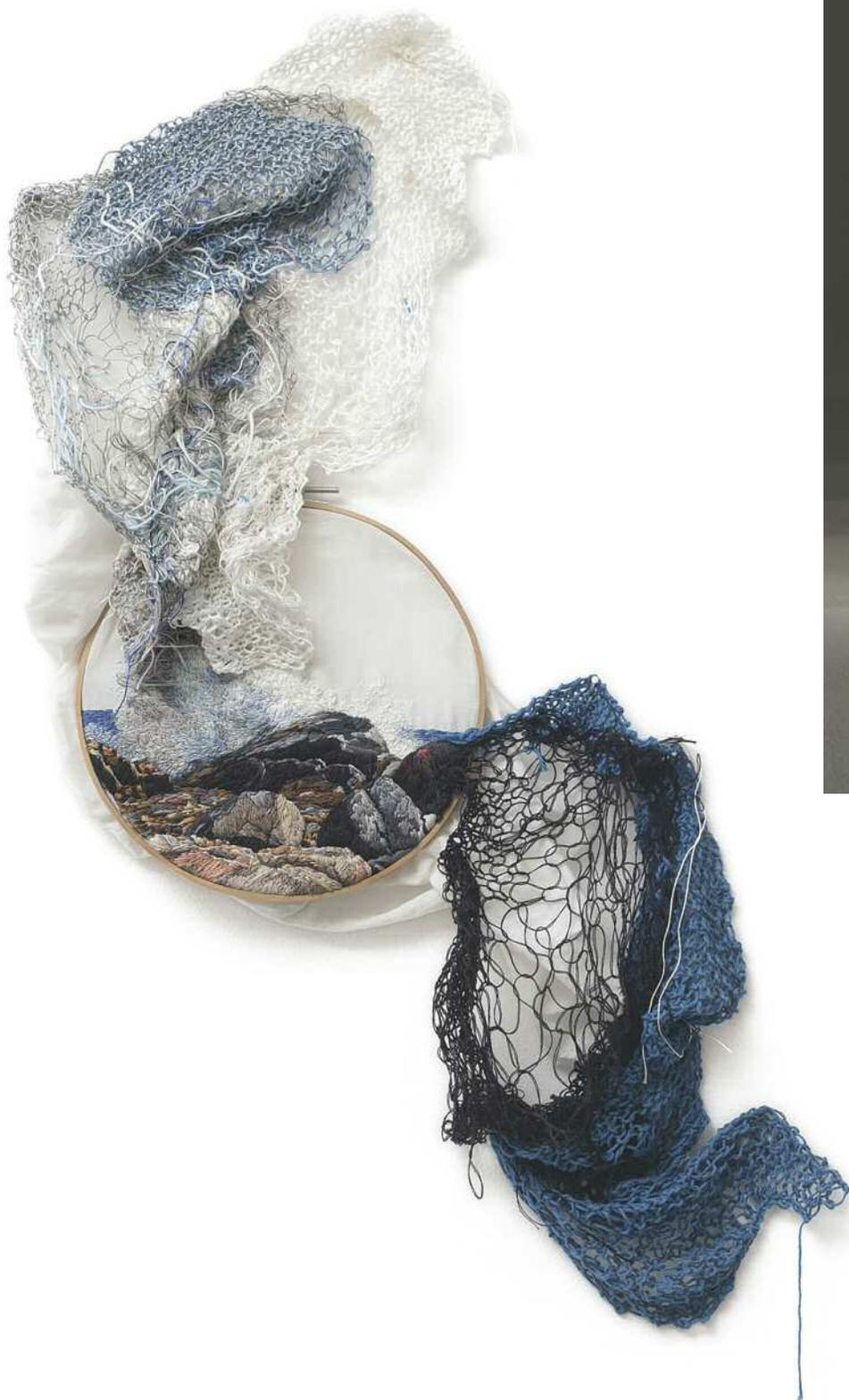


River Glassin'

By Greg Klassen

When not gathered with his family over their daily "fika", or Swedish-style coffee break, Pacific Northwest based artist and craftsman Greg Klassen creates one of a kind wood and glass furnishings inspired by nature and water. His River Tables series are one of kind odes to the power of water and its relationship to the landscape. Klassen hand inlays blue glass to fit with the natural contours of the wood that he finds, often in leftover piles around his home, to create pieces that capture the beauty of symbiosis. "It's important to me that the "fingerprints" of the craftsman are on each piece I make," says Klassen. "I try to marry the natural beauty of the wood with the skilled craftsmanship of the maker. When the two come together, a piece can really sing."





Embroidered Landscapes

By Anateresa Barboza

As if spilling forth from the confines of their hoops, multimedia artist Anateresa Barboza's whimsical embroidered landscapes feel at once ancient and alive. Though often thought of as craft more than art, embroidery is an almost-lost technique that evokes a timeless, feminine tradition unlike any other medium. Barboza's wall-hangings, most inspired by natural forms, bring this tradition into the contemporary realm while creating intriguing, powerful pieces that bring rooms to life.



Shell Company

By Marc Fish



The nautilus shell, unassuming as it may be, is among the most beautiful natural forms. Its balance and form has served as the inspiration for artists and mathematicians for millennia: the hidden spiral exemplifying nature's grand perfection.

Contemporary woodworker and furniture maker Marc Fish worked to honor this singular form in his 2012 piece "Nautilus II". As much a piece of art as it is a functional piece of furniture, the first of five in the edition was commissioned as a large statement piece, "with maybe a hint of the sea," says Fish, "its

location being a large loft style apartment overlooking the English Channel. An open brief from the client is every maker's dream—room to explore, experiment and innovate. A new technique was developed to turn 4,000 pieces of veneer strips into a 10 mm thick logarithmic spiral." Using a combination of computer aided design and craftsmanship;

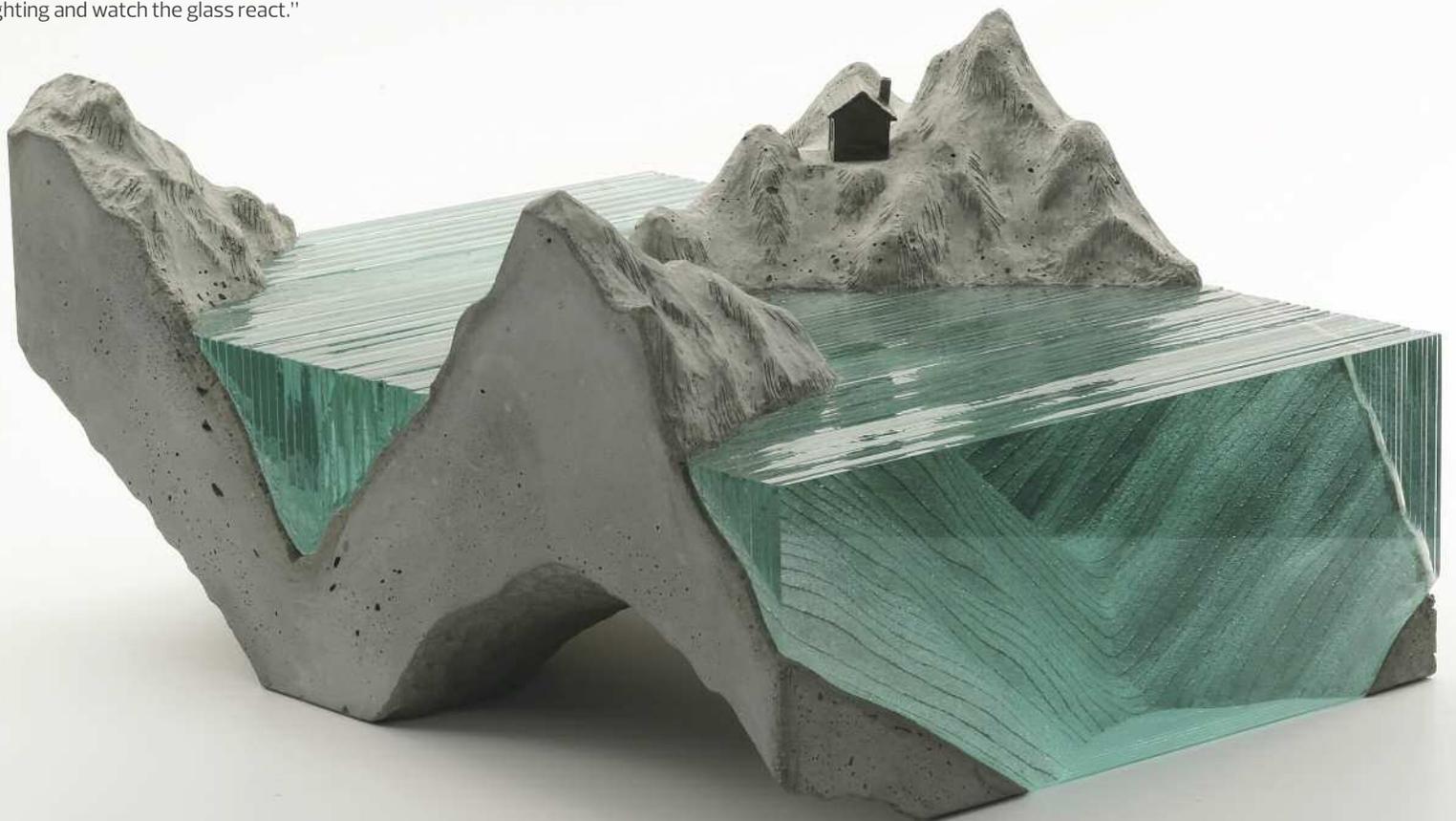
the "shell" interior is comprised of over 4000 individual pieces of walnut and sycamore veneer.



No Pane, No Gain

By Ben Young

Inspired by the undulating forms of ocean waves, self-taught New Zealand-based artist and surfer Ben Young hand-carves glass and concrete furnishings under his inspired company name—Broken Liquid. The texture and color of the glass is different in every piece he makes, ensuring truly unique pieces of artwork. Without the use of computers, Young layers and carves the glass entirely by hand, working from pencil sketches. "I love watching the two-dimensional shapes evolve into three-dimensional creations and the different way the light plays inside the glass," he says. "I love the liquid qualities the glass brings with it. It enables me to play with lighting and watch the glass react."



Carved Lobster

By Ryosuke Ohtake

The complex beauty of the lobster's crimson shell is often overshadowed by the gastronomical context in which most encounter this delicious marine creature. As it is with so many animals with which our main confrontation is on our dinner plate, the elegance of their form isn't contemplated before consumption. Japanese wood working artist Ryosuke Ohtake working in the nearly 500-year old tradition of jizai okimono, creates astoundingly realistic articulated sculptures of small creatures including the lobster for which he's received much attention. Originating in the Edo period jizai okimono strives to create nearly realistic depictions of the natural world, combining intricate carving techniques and complex mechanics—the lobster has long been considered to be the most challenging of creatures to recreate using this technique. Commissioned by Tokyo department store Tokyu Hands, Ryosuke Ohtake's lobster is almost good enough to boil.



The Cloud

By Richard Clarkson

At once a wireless speaker and a piece of functional art, The Cloud by artist and designer Richard Clarkson, is an interactive lamp and speaker system designed to mimic a thundercloud. "Advances in physical computing and interaction design hardware over recent years have created a new breed of smart objects," says Clarkson, "which are gaining more and more traction in the design world". Users control the functions of the cloud through a small wireless remote. Using motion sensors, the cloud detects a user's presence and creates a unique lightning and thunder show dictated by movement. The system features a built in speaker system from which the user can stream music via any Bluetooth compatible device. Using color-changing lights the cloud is able to adapt to the desired lighting color and brightness.

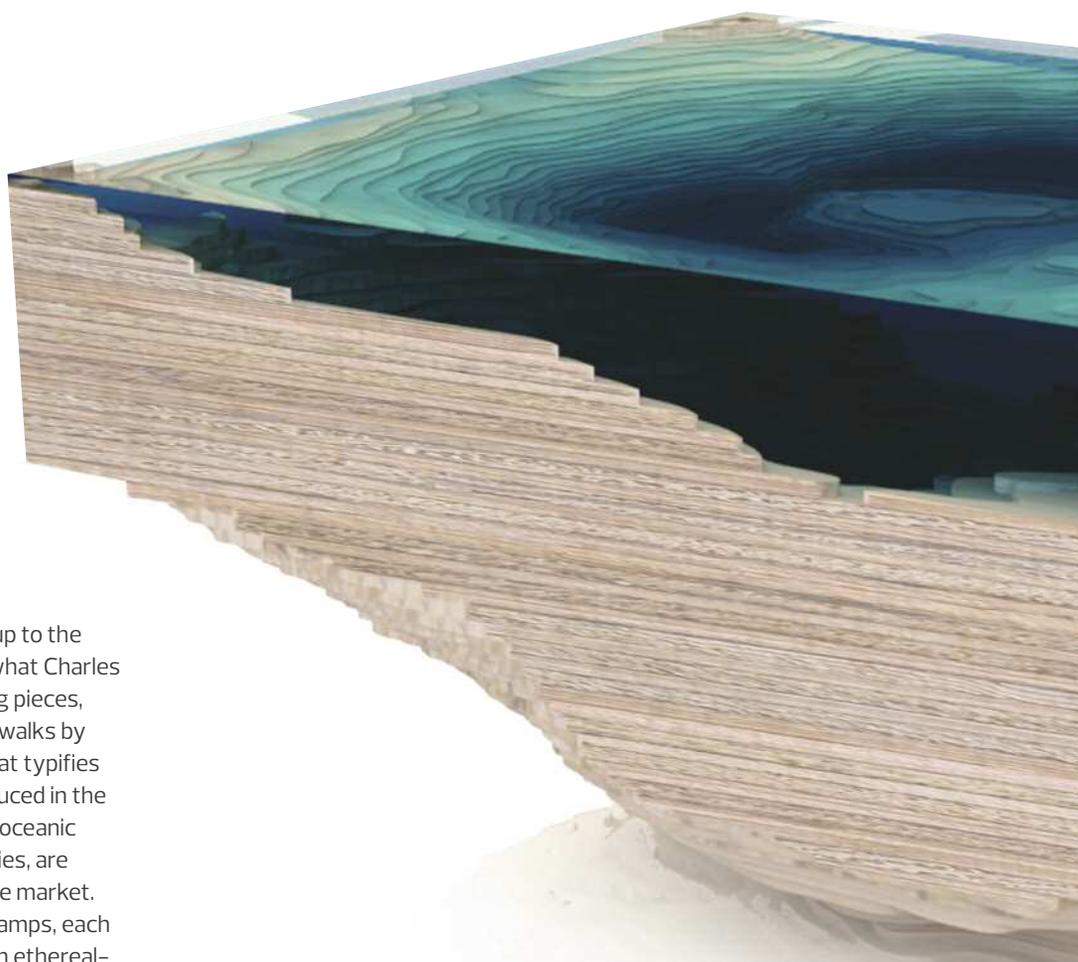




Into the Abyss

By Duffy London

After spending a year developing this striking table in their London studio, design firm Duffy has recently released their Abyss Table—a fully customizable 3-D topographical rendering of the ocean floor. Made of sculpted glass, Perspex and wood, clients can give the studio any previously charted location in the sea to serve as the design inspiration for the undulating, layered design. Limited to just 25 pieces, the Abyss table is meant to evoke the mystery and depth of the sea while providing a functional—if singular—focal point. In an interview, designer Christopher Duffy said, 'I wanted to use this (layered glass) effect to replicate a real piece of the earth's sea bed. Like a mythical power had lifted a perfect rectangle straight from the earth's crust to use as his personal ornament.'



Light Conditions

By Charles Paris

There are few fine furniture manufacturers that can live up to the brand slogan "Interior Jewelry" and yet that is precisely what Charles Paris has been creating since 1908. These singular lighting pieces, many inspired by company heir Jacques Charles' solitary walks by the ocean, are emblematic of the maritime celebration that typifies these extraordinary pieces. His Marine series, first introduced in the 1960's and still produced today, in which shells and other oceanic forms are integrated into lighting and table-top accessories, are perhaps the finest ocean-themed functional objets on the market. Though entirely customizable, the ready made series of lamps, each one handcrafted entirely in bronze by one artisan, adds an ethereal-jewel like sense of the precious nature of the seas' gifts.

