

HOUSE & HOME

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The New York Times



...we don't see stuff that is considered useful, said Ms. Sherman, top, whose stock runs to Rust Belt industrial equipment that she describes as "artistic stuff — it's not the pair of things, the Ikea sofa, the sisal rug; that's the kiss of death."

Understood. But those railroad carts that her clients use as coffee tables, which cost up to \$2,400 (the small wooden one at right with Mr. Clown is \$950) — what would Joe Hill have thought?

"Who?" Ms. Sherman asked. An early 20th-century labor organizer and railway worker who inspired a workers' folk song, Ms. Sherman was told. A snatch of the song, in its own way a piece of rusted industrial arcana, was recited. It did not appear to ring a bell, industrial or otherwise.

Doesn't Ms. Sherman find something funny about



a laborer's tool going for this kind of money? "This is an original one-of-a-kind refinished object," she said. "It has nothing to do with intrinsic value."

Also at the shop: a reproduction of an Italian day bed with burlap upholstery, above, for \$3,950. Ms. Sherman's clients have included Steven Spielberg and the Yankees slugger Alex Rodriguez, and Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton has popped into the Greenwich Village shop, Ms. Sherman said. "I don't think of her as a visual person. I thought, Boy, she ought to get a little more of that into her campaign." Liza Sherman Antiques, 21 North Ferry Road, Shelter Island, N.Y.; (212) 414-2684 or lizashermanantiques.com.

JOYCE WADLER

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEIRDRE BRENNAN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Nupe wood posts, some 10 feet tall and others that can be used as wall hangings (\$1,200 to \$1,800); and a hand-carved Human Chair from the Philippines (\$1,650), above. The studio is on the fourth floor at 33-02 Skillman Avenue in Long Island City, near the 33rd Street-Rawson Street subway stop; (718) 764-0222.

MARIANNE ROHRLICH

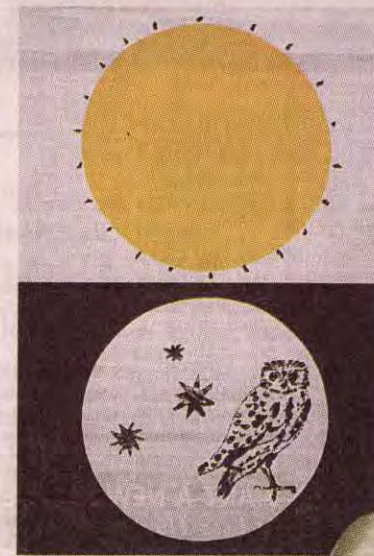
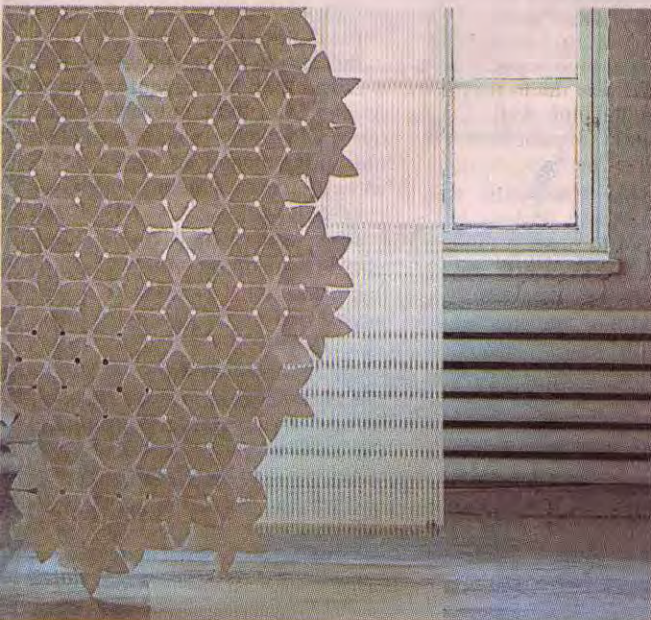
Good deals and secret sources may be reported to rohrlich@nytimes.com.

K I T S

Do-It-Yourself, Just Add Elegance

Flake, a six-pointed star sold in multiples, can be turned into a curtain, a placemat or even a three-dimensional object. Simply slip the point of one star into the slit of another. Made by Woodnotes, a Finnish company, it is the latest version of an idea that Mia Cullin, a Swedish designer, came up with years ago while devising a user-friendly polycarbonate plastic lamp. "The customer put it together the same way," she said, "with slits and holes." This time she made the interlocking pieces out of Tyvek, a thermoplastic, because it is light, strong and easy to clean. A package of 160 pieces is \$186 from Suite New York, 625 Madison Avenue (58th Street); (212)421-3300.

E LAINE LOUIE



MODERN DESIGN

A Bit Like the Eameses, but English

Lucienne and Robin Day, British Modernists, are often compared to Ray and Charles Eames, "because they were a couple and we're a couple," said Ms. Day, 90, adding that she and her husband, 92, "work absolutely separately." But if their aesthetic is reminiscent of the Eameses', the designs they are re-releasing are far less commonplace in the United States. An enlarged version of Mr. Day's 1955 Tri-corne plywood tray, right, in birch (\$150) or walnut (\$174) veneer, and Ms. Day's 1950s linen tea towels ("Too Many Cooks" and "Night and Day," above, left and right; \$40 each) are at the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum shop, 2 East 91st Street; (212) 849-8355.

CRAIG KELLOGG



LEATHER GOODS

A Designer Takes Time For Child's Play

Claude Bouchard is known for his porcelain and silver tabletop accessories, but occasionally he ventures into other sorts of objects — as in Foglia Couture, a collection of leather trays, boxes and baskets he created for Oscar Maschera, an Italian leather company. The asymmetrical Robin baskets, above, are made of two pieces of leather, a light-colored one on the outside and a darker one inside, creased at the top, glued and then stitched together. The edges are burnished and smooth to the touch. "I try to make the object as irregular as the drawing," said Mr. Bouchard, the artistic director of Puiforcat, a silver and porcelain company in Paris. "So when you see an irregular object, you know it's designed by me, or a kid." The baskets come in three sizes, from left: 19 inches (\$1,115), 7 1/2 inches (\$345) and 14 1/2 inches (\$805) tall. At Art et Maison, 31 North Moore Street (Hudson Street); (212) 226-3665.

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