

SIERRA HERITAGE

# AThome

**Architecture & Building**

**Interior Design**

**Doors, Windows & Floors**

**Outdoor Living**



Placed in the center of the living room, the unique glass bowl features orange and yellow hues (facing page) Amethyst, sage, coral and gold topaz flow seamlessly in this glass chandelier and sconce

## THE ART OF *Color and Light*

BY NORA LEECH

Dating back over 4,000 years, noble families of Rome, Venice, Phoenicia and Egypt have decorated their homes with glass art. People with vision and wealth defined good taste by adorning their homes with the work of the best local artisans. Today, their collections fill the art museums around the world, and families in our region are doing the same.

### *World-Renowned Artists*

Just north of Auburn, Janet and Rick Nicholson of Nicholson Blown Glass are providing hand-blown glass for the homes of art lovers in our region as well as for major businesses around the globe. Their works involve fluid torsos,

sculptural lighting, and multiple-piece wall and ceiling installations.

Running a successful art studio for 30 years is a testament to the quality of the Nicholson's work. Their small studio nestled in the Sierra foothills provides a lifestyle conducive to innovation and creativity. Their art is unique, evolving and limited with each piece individually blown by Rick Nicholson and assisted by Matt Eaton.

Rick studied and taught glass blowing at the Pilchuck Glass School working with masters such as Dale Chihuly, Dino Rosin and Fritz

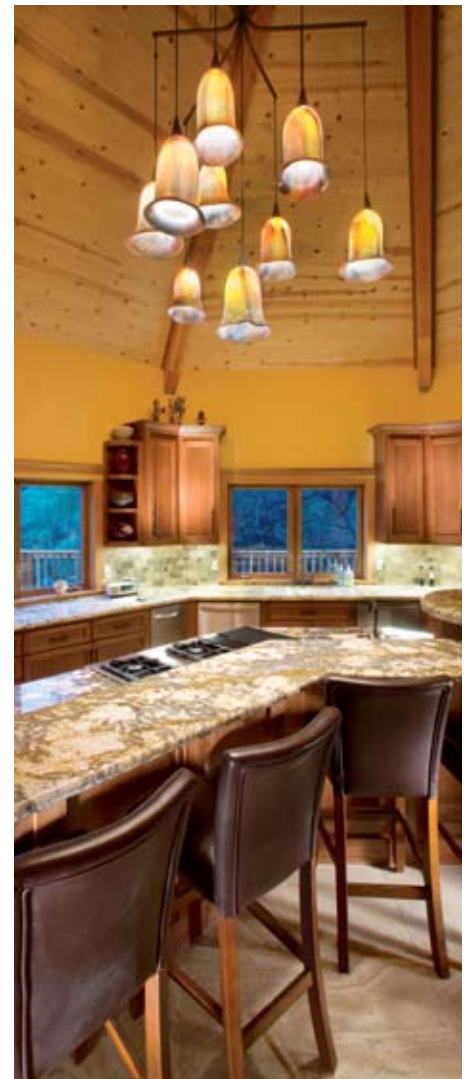
Dreisbach. Janet, with her training from Brooks Institute of Photography, provides critical artistic collaboration on color, line and form. The result is elegant glass art.

Glass art completely changes the ambiance of space, bringing it alive with color, light and personality. The Nicholson's ability to incorporate metal into both the artistic and structural components of the projects has allowed their designs to expand.

### *Sierra Grand Homes*

Rick and Janet work with clients interested in placing original art in their homes. Their





**This colorful chandelier is a warm welcome home in the front entry (above) The high ceilings serve as a wonderful canvas to show off this custom pendant chandelier**

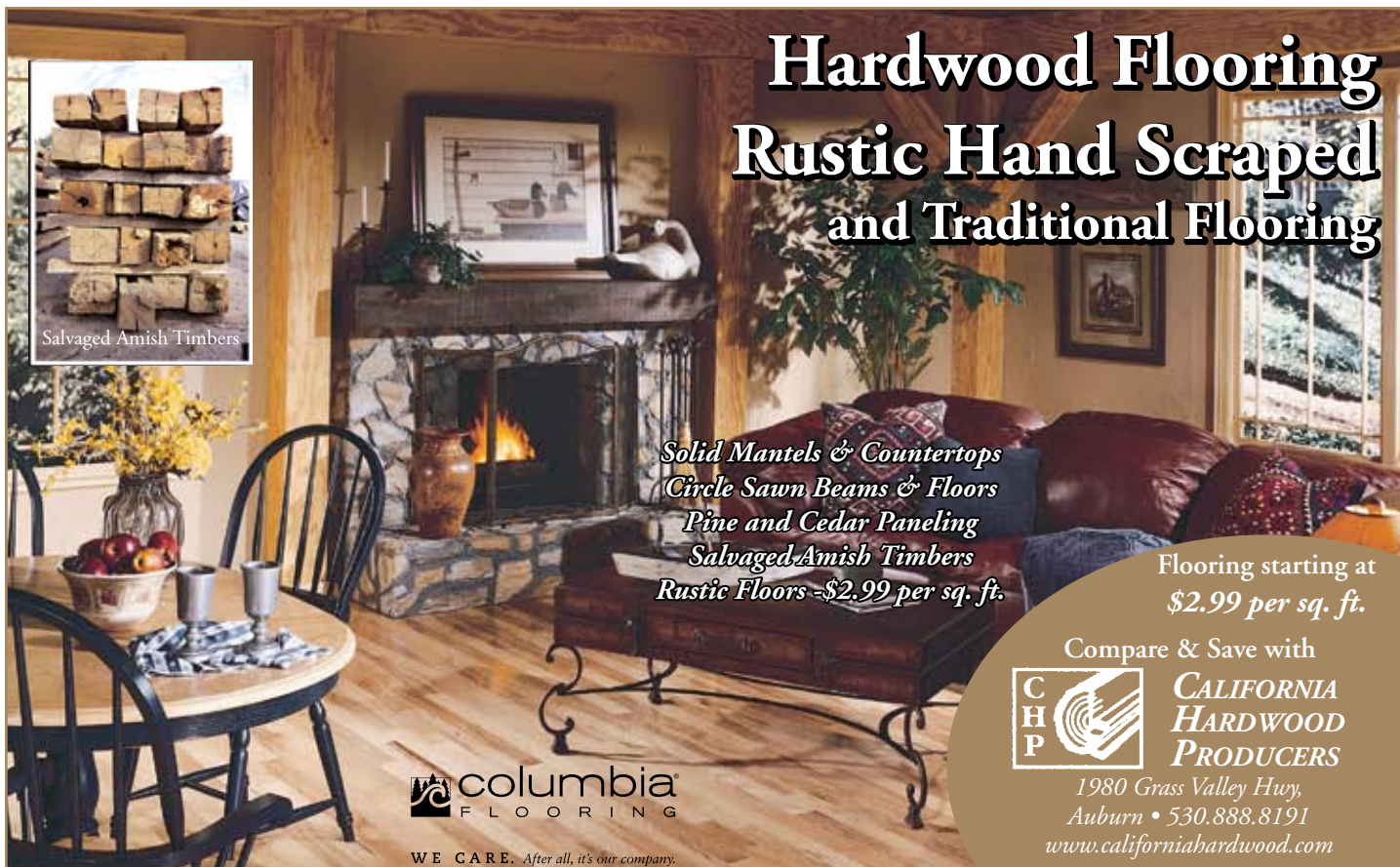
projects range from simple pendant lighting to a stunning 35-piece ceiling sculpture. A Sierra foothills client recently added Nicholson Blown Glass throughout their home including the entryway, kitchen and stairwell. “The Nicholsons understood our vision and made it a reality,” remarks Sandra, the homeowner. The artistic glass blended well with the sophisticated rustic home design. To make sure the process went smoothly, the builder, Ferrera Construction, coordinated the glass installation with Rick and Janet.

With this operation, the customer becomes a part of the process. “Colors and spatial needs factor in to the customized pieces,” says Janet Nicholson. “It does require good listening and

# Hardwood Flooring Rustic Hand Scraped and Traditional Flooring



Salvaged Amish Timbers



*Solid Mantels & Countertops  
Circle Sawn Beams & Floors  
Pine and Cedar Paneling  
Salvaged Amish Timbers  
Rustic Floors - \$2.99 per sq. ft.*

Flooring starting at  
\$2.99 per sq. ft.

Compare & Save with



**CALIFORNIA  
HARDWOOD  
PRODUCERS**

1980 Grass Valley Hwy,  
Auburn • 530.888.8191  
[www.californiahardwood.com](http://www.californiahardwood.com)



WE CARE. After all, it's our company.

## Bentley Interior Design A full service design center Inc.

230 Village Blvd,

Incline Village, NV

775.831.2350

[www.bentleyinterior.com](http://www.bentleyinterior.com)



- Environmentally responsible design from concept to completion for new construction and remodeling
- Interior finishes, design details, flooring, lighting, cabinetry, kitchens, baths, fireplaces, iron work
- Furnishings, area rugs, window coverings, bedding and accessories to make your house a home

*Visit our showroom or call to see how we can make a difference.*

# EQUIPMENT RENTALS



## GOLD-N-GREEN

*A complete rental service  
yard for home owner and  
contractor.*

**530.273.0064**

302 RAILROAD AVE  
GRASS VALLEY

creativity on our part because we design the art for the space. And we install the art.”

Cindi Ray of Carlyn Gallerie has directed numerous clients to the Nicholsons. She noted that the “customer service is awesome which makes our life so much easier. We appreciate their patience.” And customer service is a critical component to a satisfied client.

### *Color and Light*

People have been fascinated by color and light since the Pharaohs of Egypt. Glass as a medium creates mesmerizing effects. Materials as mundane as iron and as exotic as gold are used to create the brilliant colors uniquely interpreted in glass such as the emerald greens to cranberry pinks in the home design magazines today.

As light passes from one transparent layer to another, it changes speed and bends. Refracting light interacting with colors is a glass artist’s playfield. The Nicholsons take molten glass, and working with the serendipitous fluidity, bend it to their will.

### *American Legacy*

American glass blowers are taking the ancient art to new heights. Modern glass art is prominent in today’s art galleries, museums, businesses and private homes. People with vision and resources continue to define tastes in art. This time it is the American Legacy being created.

### *Notable Nicholson Projects*

In 2008 alone notable projects from the Nicholsons included a two 7-piece wall installation from the Landscape Series for the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Shenzhen, China; a 21-piece wall installation for the lobby of Weil, Gotschal & Manges International Law Firm in Dallas, Texas; a 17-piece wall installation titled “Ribbon Dance” for the new Kaiser Permanente medical building in Roseville; and a 6-piece work of art for a penthouse in Washington DC. **AH**

*Article and photography courtesy of **Nicholson Blown Glass**. For more information contact Rick or Janet Nicholson at 530.823.1631 or visit [nicholsonblownglass.com](http://nicholsonblownglass.com).*

## RWR-ART-ARCHITECTURE

CREATORS OF UNIQUE ENVIORNMENTS  
TRUCKEE OFFICE: (530)587-5668  
LAKE ALMANOR OFFICE: (530)596-3777

# sierra

HERITAGE

249 Nevada Street  
Auburn, CA 95603

530.886.1472

800.357.4377

FAX 530.886.1471

[www.sierraheritage.com](http://www.sierraheritage.com)

Copyright 2009