

FURNITURE RESTYLE

OPEN ■ SHUT

CHANIN COOK & JONATHON EDIE



Company: Chajo Fine Art Furnishings, Napa, CA

Our Web site: www.chajo.com

Our backgrounds:

Chanin: I have more than 12 years of agency and consumer marketing experience. I made my first table 10 years ago with material I found near my San Francisco apartment building.

Jonathon: I have more than 12 years of experience doing interior finish work with wood, metal and stone, but I built my first desk with my mother while I was in grade school.

How we met: We actually knew each other while growing up outside of Philadelphia. A chance meeting out East put us back in touch, and we found common ground in our desire to design and build things and in our appreciation for natural mediums. We started working together about six years ago and officially formed the business three years ago. "Chajo" is a combination of our two names—"Cha" from Chanin and "jo" from Jonathon.

Materials we use: We're always looking for a mix of mediums. Fossilized stone, leather, petrified wood, exotic and domestic hard woods, and textured metals. We enjoy discovering and working with new materials, so the list is ever evolving.

Our process: Our designs typically begin on scraps of paper. We then work out the construction in our shop. Jon does the majority of production and Chanin does sales and marketing. It's a nice marriage of skills. We don't mass manufacture our product, so each piece is one of a kind.

What inspires us: We are keen observers of the world around us. For example, our Stiletto Collection was inspired by a pair of stiletto heels—the sleek architecture of the heel grabbed our attention. We started sketching one night and the next thing we knew we had a line of furniture.

Our challenge: Understanding the individual properties of each medium and making necessary allowances in the design and construction.

Three words that describe our furniture: Distinctive, intriguing, timeless



◀ Bowlegged side table features 100-million-year-old petrified Palm set in solid Zebra wood and Pao Ferro.



▼ Flared cocktail table combines iron and fossilized limestone containing diplomystus and knightia specimens.



▲ Bison "Fishbowl" library reading table has a chocolate colored Bison hide base with solid hardwood feet.

◀ The surface of Classic magazine rack is made from 50-million-year-old fossilized limestone with knightia specimens and a hardwood called Chechen.