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# Napa Valley Life

magazine



8TH ANNUAL  
INTRIGUING ISSUE

RING IN THE  
NEW YEAR WITH  
NAPA VALLEY  
BUBBLEY

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2009/2010



## Jonathon Edie

furnituremaker & environmental educator

If you haven't heard of Jon or his handcrafted furniture, you're not alone - *Chajo-handcrafted art furnishings* may be Napa's best-kept trade secret. And even lesser known may be Jon's dual role as an environmental educator...

Born in Manhattan and raised outside Philadelphia, Jon developed an affinity for tools and handwork from his Swiss-German grandfather. When not engrossed in a project, he joined his mother on outdoor adventures. Unbeknownst to Jon, both experiences would play a role in his eventual pursuits...

After graduating from college, Jon worked construction and played drums in a Boston band, earning his Masters in Environmental Education along the way. He moved to San Francisco and ran a Bay Area recycler's environmental education department. In off hours, he and childhood friend, Chanin Cook began building furniture, first to fill their apartment and then by client request.

As their pieces grew in scale, Jon and Chanin needed space and made the move north to Napa. 11 years later, their design/build furniture business - *Chajo* - is known among designers, architects and private clients, for its clean, contemporary forms and striking materials. Largely self-taught in all disciplines, Jon does all metalwork, woodworking and stonework in the Chajo shop. And in his off hours, Jon practices his other passion -- environmental education - in a weekly afterschool program for elementary students.

So in this age of technology, there is a place for craftsmen. Particularly for those who take time to enjoy our natural environment - and share their experiences with young Napers.



Photo by Art & Clarity