

CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION

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Local and independent designers featured at the Chicago Architecture Foundation Shop

Chicago, Ill.— The Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF) recognizes the city's most unique local designers and independent artists nationwide. A number of new collections are now available at the CAF Shop, including jewelry and accessories, artwork, apparel, books and housewares for people of all ages. With designs that express a strong local connection to the city as well as a novel perspective on design, the artists' work resonates with Chicagoans and visitors alike.

The creations of the featured artists pay tribute to Chicago's architecture, history and the diversity of the city's neighborhoods, all with a creative and distinctive flair. CAF's partnership with these artists is a combined expression of the goal of inspiring people to discover why design matters. Proceeds from the CAF Shop support the important work of independent artists as well as CAF's youth education programs. Examples of products recently made available at the CAF Shop include:

Graffiti Jewelry:

This Graffiti Jewelry was started with the sole purpose of employing, educating and empowering disadvantaged women in Detroit. The colorful pattern on each piece is surprisingly re-purposed graffiti, an abundant local resource. They collect this graffiti after it has already fallen off of walls, and after careful reworking, these talented women turn the scraps of graffiti into unique pieces of wearable art.

Neighborhood Posters:

Local artist Chris Gorz of StudioChris creates art that helps people connect more deeply with Chicago neighborhoods. Each design features an iconic landmark that represents the neighborhood's beauty, uniqueness and history. Featured neighborhoods include Bronzeville, Andersonville, Bucktown, Edgewater, Logan Square and Old Town among many others.

Steve Slaske:

Steve put his University of Wisconsin degree to use by traveling to cities across America to find the best views of each skyline and capture them in his unique style with high-quality art prints, signed and numbered by the artist. Well-known for his drawings and watercolors of the urban scene, Steve was commissioned to create murals for the Radisson Blue Hotel in the acclaimed Aqua Tower.

Melissa Stiles:

Melissa Stiles earned a formal education in architecture and quickly became a fan of the discipline that taught her to have a critical eye. After moving across the country, she took a class in metal-smithing, and soon began working on her jewelry from her garage out of Portland, Oregon, with a penchant for designing necklaces and earrings.

Sally Hobbib Rumman:

Rumman holds an MFA in Sculpture and Graphics. Her love of materials, natural and man-made, and a skill for engineering objects, has allowed her to create a diverse body of both 2-D and 3-D work. In addition to her latest acrylic laser-engraved collection, she also creates jewelry using natural materials, like stone, glass, metals and found objects. Famed Chicago architect Louis Sullivan is a particular source of inspiration for a few of her designs.

Photos and additional information for each artist and product are available upon request.

All items can be purchased at the CAF Shop & Tour Center, 224 S. Michigan Ave. or online by visiting shop.architecture.org.

About the Chicago Architecture Foundation

The Chicago Architecture Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring people to discover why design matters. CAF pursues this mission through architecture tours, exhibitions, panel discussions, and youth and adult education programs. For further information visit www.architecture.org or call 312.922.3432.

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