

Rookwood Renaissance

Established in 1880, by the 1920s the Rookwood Pottery had achieved a reputation as the finest of America's art potteries. Despite that reputation, however, it was battered by the Great Depression and fell into a 30-year decline before ending production in 1960. In 1982 a Michigan collector purchased the pottery's assets in order to prevent their sale to overseas manufacturers, and in 2006 the assets were sold to a new entity, **Rookwood Pottery Company**, which has pledged to return the Rookwood name to its former greatness. Today, the company offers products and installations including ceramic art tile, fireplace surrounds and fine art pottery for both residential and commercial use. Two new art tiles were introduced at the 2009 Grove Park Inn conference. Each handmade, hand-painted tile is stamped on the reverse with the Rookwood trademark and the production year and signed by the artist. For more information, visit rookwood.com.



The Fan as a Work of Art

When is an exhaust fan an art piece? Good question. Better yet, John and Nicole Hutmacher asked themselves back in 2001, *why isn't* an exhaust fan an art piece? After all, they reasoned, if they were going to update the bathroom of their 1923 bungalow in

Portland, Ore., why would they leave a run-of-the-mill, plastic squirrel-cage fan in the wall? When John's search for a really quiet, efficient, high-quality fan that would complement the colors and features of their vintage bathroom turned up no such product on the market, and before he could finish sealing up the hole in the wall and relegating their bathroom to its original window-only ventilation, Nicole challenged him to invent one. That prototype became the model for the **Laurelhurst** line of hand-crafted through-the-wall fans that can be ordered with the specific combination of grille and fan colors and styles that adds beauty and character to your vintage kitchen or bathroom. To learn more and view the catalog, call 971 570-3131 or visit laurelhurstfancompany.com.

