



A Clear Choice

Artwork in Architectural Glass
does windows—and everything else.

BY JOANNE FURIO

A SWIRL OF GREEN GLASS becomes a 13-foot countertop. A clear-glass insert transforms an interior wall into a waterfall. Fire and water combine in an outdoor glass fire pit that defies the age-old adage. Clearly, for Artwork in Architectural Glass, “breaking the mold” means being innovative.

Yet the firm also applies the term literally to its work. “With every piece we do, we create a new mold,” says Tim Czechowski, a partner in the eight-year-old company with his father, Wayne Czechowski. “We’re all about customization. We create a hand-



made product for you that no one else in the world has.”

Artwork in Architectural Glass, which has facilities in Newport Beach, Calif., and Atlanta, has seen cast-glass floors, stair treads, walls and other design elements become highly sought-after additions to luxury homes, especially in the past three years. Czechowski credits the opening of the Apple Store in Manhattan for generating some of the increased demand. There, a sidewalk-level glass cube and glass circular steps allow light to flow through a subterranean space. “People started saying, ‘I want that in my home,’” he says.

Top: A transparent walkway crafted by Artwork in Architectural Glass for a Hawaii residence. Above: An installation detail.



*Above: Blue anti-slip glass surrounds a pool and spa in Florida.
Left: A cascading waterfall over glass for a structure in Brooklyn.*



“Glass flooring is the hottest thing in glass right now.”

Homeowners often choose glass for its powerful design impact. Stairs can be dramatically underlit, while floors can reveal a canopy of leaves below. One couple outfitted the entire floor of a bathroom in their Virginia home with the firm’s opaque glass panels (see *The Robb Report Collection*, July 2006). Yet the main reason for the popularity of glass is its light-effusing quality. The use of glass in floors, room dividers and stairs allows light to pass through, while providing privacy.

As an architectural material, glass is extremely malleable. Artwork in Architectural Glass offers glass that is transparent, translucent or colored, and imprinted with textures (from smooth to irregular) or custom motifs. Instead of plain glass boxes, shower enclosures can be decorated with swirls or marine flora and fauna, though any design can be reproduced. One couple had a counter in a play area imprinted with their children’s handprints.

“Somebody can send a photo or a swatch of fabric, and we can match the design or get close to it,” Czechowski says. “Our favorite projects are the ones where we’re really involved with the client, and we end up coming up with new ways of doing things.” ☐

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