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Do Try This at Home



Nan Melville for The New York Times

By JOYCE WADLER
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If your first thought on seeing one-of-a-kind lamps is “Interesting, but is it so amateurishly wired it will conflagrate, setting my home afire, destroying all my belongings, including my irreplaceable collection of back issues of the New York Times Home section?” then your fears will be assuaged by the knowledge that a creator of these particular lamps, Tom Blake, right, is a licensed New York City electrician who has worked on the [Chrysler](#) and Empire State Buildings.

Mr. Blake’s creative and domestic partner, Amy Pasco, left, with whom he recently started BP Lighting Design, is a ceramicist and floral designer. (The lamps, from left to right, are \$550, \$675 and \$650.)

Their paths first crossed two years ago when Ms. Pasco, who lives in New York, bought some vintage tile on eBay from Mr. Blake, who was then living in New Mexico. Last year, he moved in with her.

How did you get into lamps?

Mr. Blake: When I moved back here, there was a delay in the job start. Amy has this fantastic workshop up in Yonkers, and I said, “Why don’t we do work on a couple of artsy projects while killing time?” She expressed an interest in doing some lighting, and me, having been an electrician for all this time, said, “Sure.” Within a week we had some prototypes.

Ms. Pasco: We’re both big fans of flea marketing and antiquing, we both love hardware and

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Old. The patina of the metal and the inscription where the gauge registers are very different from new gauges.

They're pretty industrial looking. What are they?

Mr. Blake: Mostly they're pressure gauges. Some of them are for electrical use. Down the road, the idea is to get electrical gauges that will register the current going through them.

It's hard to see them working with chintz.

Ms. Pasco: I wouldn't put it in a [Mario Buatta](#) décor, no, but it does work nicely in less poufy spaces — more Mark Hampton, say. I happen to prefer an eclectic aesthetic. One of the lamps that just sold had a base that was pipe, but it had a beautiful Austrian crystal as a shade and the turn-piece was a beautiful opalescent Victorian curtain tie back. It was a very much surprising marriage of two different materials.

BP Lighting Design lamps are available at A Select Few, 203 West 79th Street (Amsterdam Avenue); (212) 875-0748, aselectfew.net.

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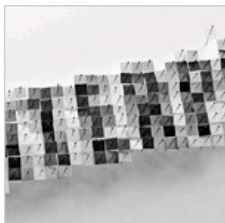


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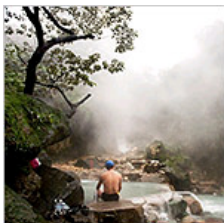
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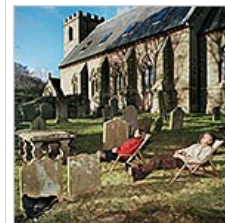
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