

25 years

APIMAX



A Look At
How It All
Started.
A Continued
Commitment
To Where We
Are Today.



1992

THE NATURAL

As a child in the former Portuguese colony of Macau, Richard Chan remembers struggling with English lessons at the local Catholic school. "We were instructed to spell our ABCs using the traditional A is for apple, B is for boy method, and my paper came back with a big goose egg at the top. I didn't know how to spell apple, so I had drawn an apple, a boy, a cat and so on."

When the learning problem didn't abate with time, Richard began to worry there was something wrong with him. "I could read something quickly and absorb all the details," he recalls, "but whenever I had to write about what I had read, I drew the story instead."

Indeed. Today, Richard Chan is the president and creative genius behind ArtMax Inc., a Chicago-based concern he leads in partnership with his wife Maria, specializing in the design and production of

distinctive furniture, lighting, wall art and accessories.

In a field crowded with look-alike product and cheap knock-offs, ArtMax stands apart due to the unique vision of its owners.

— 1990 — DEBUT SHOWING in Chicago

At ArtMax, the origins of every single piece can be traced to his sketchpad, and to the gifted eye of an artist who interprets what he sees in the world around him. Richard added: "I have the urge to study and to see more and more. History, life, culture, art -- everything that is around me. As an artist and designer, I find inspiration in everything."



2007



2006



2009



2009

EYE ON THE PRIZE

For Chan, inspiration for new products comes in many forms. The serpentine coils of a mattress spring in a Brooklyn warehouse, or the folds of an accordion played by a New Orleans' street musician will be translated into sculptural wall décor or a dramatic

— 1800 — CURRENT STYLES IN Our Collections

contemporary painting. The scaffolding surrounding the columns of an old cathedral in Milan will become the silvery, geometric legs of a coffee table. The flash of a cushion-cut diamond ring will find new form in the dimensional face of a glamorous console. Music, architecture, the curve of a woman's leg or the petal of a lotus flower: All are fodder for the artist's pencil and designs that will enchant.

Closer inspection uncovers a common theme. "I love capturing a moment of action; that is what is most beautiful to me," Chan relates. He captures movement everywhere, from the pose of a cheeky ballerina who breaks rank from her

corps during a final bow, to the dog leaping in excitement upon his mistress' return, to runners passing the baton in a relay race. Wherever he looks, Chan experiences visual stimulation that will be given shape in his art – imbuing wall décor, lighting and his hand-painted metal sculptures – often dressed and draped in intricately patterned fabrics – a feeling of motion. Ballerinas balance on pointe, dogs strain at their leashes, a beautiful woman clutches her hat in the wind.



1998



2014

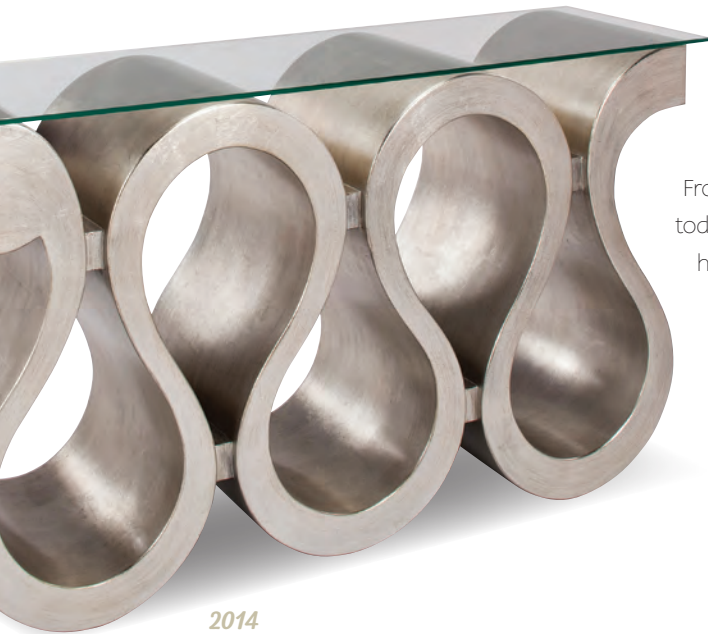
TALENT RISES

Fans of his work are always astounded to learn that Chan never attended art school, or formally studied drawing. In fact, his career is far removed from the degree he once pursued in electrical engineering at the University of Chicago.

As successful as he has become though, Chan is never one to take himself, or his special gifts, too seriously. "When I create an object, I want people to see the beauty in it, but also appreciate how they can use it in their homes," he says. "I don't aspire to paint the Mona Lisa, to create something so precious that is meant to be hung in a museum, where it will never be touched or used in any way."

— 25 — Years of Service

From the boy of yesterday with design intuition to today's president and Artmax head designer, Richard has followed his love, passion and dream and is determined to create art that speaks to people, that inspires them and that they can live with every day.



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