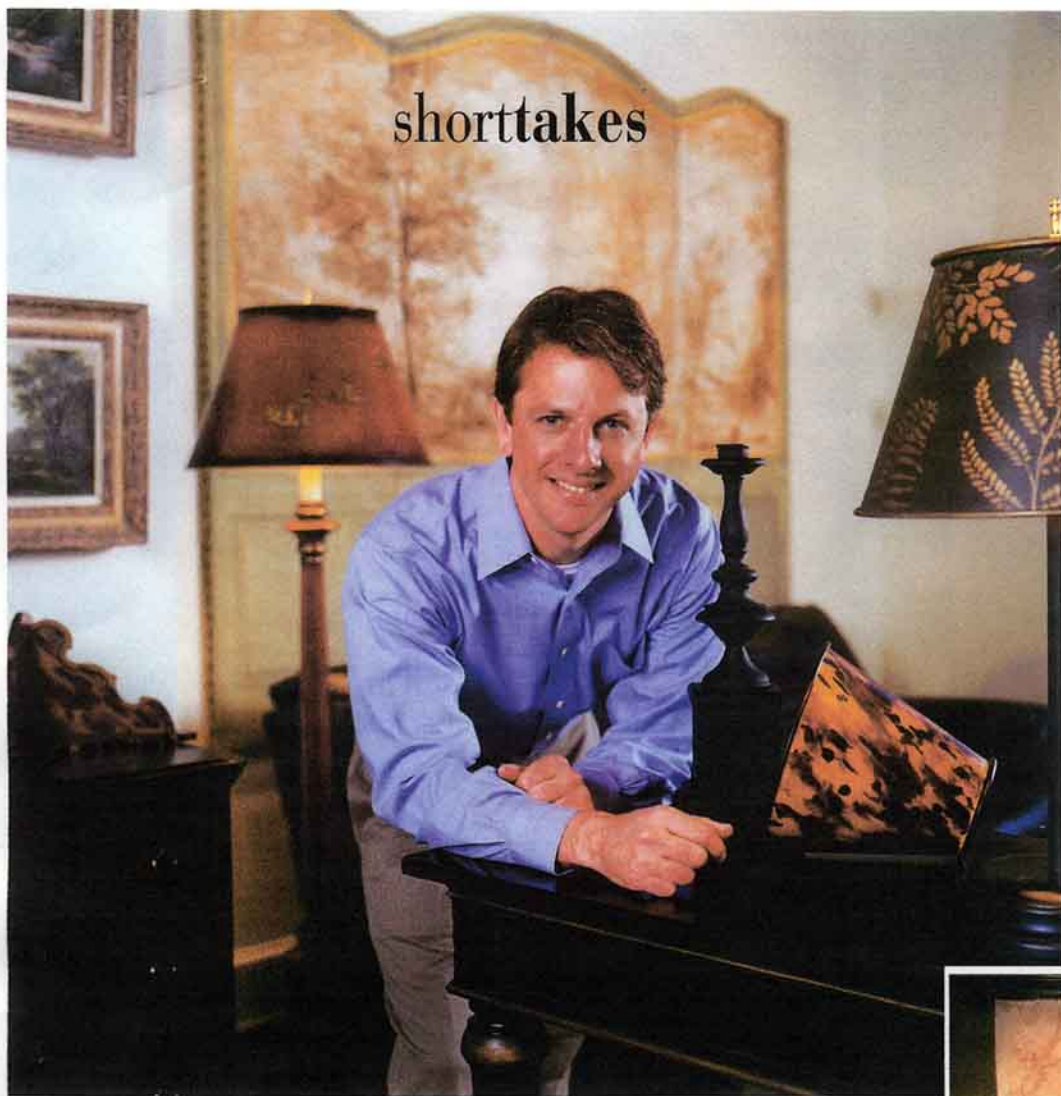


## shorttakes



From concept to completion, Ray Goins crafts refined painted case goods and furniture. He is shown here at the MacRae showroom with several of his lamps, shades and a painted screen in the background.

# finishing school

THE FURNISHINGS OF R.L. GOINS FROM FORM TO FINISH  
BY ELIZABETH McDONALD • PHOTOGRAPHY BY ERICA GEORGE DINES

**RAY GOINS**, the mastermind behind the R.L. Goins line of painted furniture and case goods, has always had an interest in art. "I have been a painter my whole life," he says. Today he's putting those years of practice to good use with a new line of products available through Holland & Company at ADAC and the new MacRae showroom.

From a well-organized studio in Atlanta, Goins creates distinctive furnishings and accessories rooted in European

and early American painted pieces. "It all started about eight years ago," Goins says. "I was working in restoration and refinishing delicate antiques. It just grew from there."

His lamp bases, tole shades, wall brackets, tables and headboards all bear a traditional, refined style. Scenes of deerhounds in the countryside; chinoiserie-inspired dragons, butterflies and flowers in rich hues of ebony; Chinese red; and Swedish robin's-egg blue prevail

throughout the line. All of the designs are exclusively Goins'. "I come up with a design, sketch it out and create a master prototype for each item in the line," he explains. Artists in his studio hand-paint and hand-finish every one of the subsequent pieces.

And the finish is what sets the line apart. "There are 12 different layers to some of the finishes we use. Each one is hand-applied to give the effect of time and age," he says. ▸



## shorttakes



"No two are exactly alike," he adds, pointing to tole shades neatly stacked in his studio. "But unlike discovering one of something in an antiques store, with my products there is the possibility of having a matching pair of brackets or lamps."

Another added bonus to the well-crafted, sturdy pieces he creates: Goins can customize a headboard for a king-size bed, or an armoire for a large television.

One of Goins' latest creations is a three-panel screen made from a wooden frame stretched with burlap. "The material is rough," he explains, "but it's still stylish and sophisticated." The burlap is painted to look like wooden panels on the bottom, with a graceful pastoral scene on top. This tromp l'oeil design (painting to give the physical characteristics of another material) was common in the painted furniture of the 17th through 19th centuries. "My work is like a meeting between classicism and eclecticism. [My pieces] are not really defined by a specific style. The undertones are there—we just transcend the borders." For more information, call (678) 281-0559 or visit [www.rlgoins.com](http://www.rlgoins.com). ❁