

Laura Silber Creates One-of-Her-Kind Heirlooms

Her artist's eye and her craftsman's sense of preservation have served Laura Silber well.

Utilizing salvaged materials, Silber's Demolition

environment. Her woodworking skills guide her as she creates what she describes as "original designs that are both aesthetically pleasing and functional."

Formerly the manager of Chilmark Pottery, Silber designed her own home back in the late 1990s using old floorboards, eye-catching tree limbs, and reclaimed windows.

She now uses her artistic talents to build custom, handcrafted, functional furniture for a growing clientele. "My pieces incorporate salvaged wood and reclaimed hardware in such a way," Silber explains, "that they often look like

old heirloom pieces simply because of the materials used."

Silber takes pleasure in creating things new from things old. She often uses items that others have tossed out, thinking they have little or no value. She also receives requests from individuals looking to incorporate treasured family items into a new custom piece. "Right now, I'm working on a

piece where the family gave me a solid, well-built desk they had outgrown, but didn't want to discard, and asked me to create a china hutch for them," Silber explained.



Her artistic leanings run well beyond woodworking. A founder of the Island improvisational comedy troupe WIMP, she has always enjoyed acting and writing. She also likes to cook, and has worked as a private chef numerous times throughout her life — something that she continues to do to this day.

To see Silber's work, visit her at the Artisans' Fair, held in the Grange Hall in West Tisbury center which will be held Labor Day weekend. You can also view her studio pieces, or make an appointment to discuss custom furniture requests, by calling 508-696-8475. **vs**



Revival Furniture crafts pieces that are pleasing both to the eye and the



Vision-quest: Laura's knack for seeing something new in something old is a kind of visual improvisation, a skill she honed as part of the Island's premier improvisational and acting/comedy troupe, WIMP.