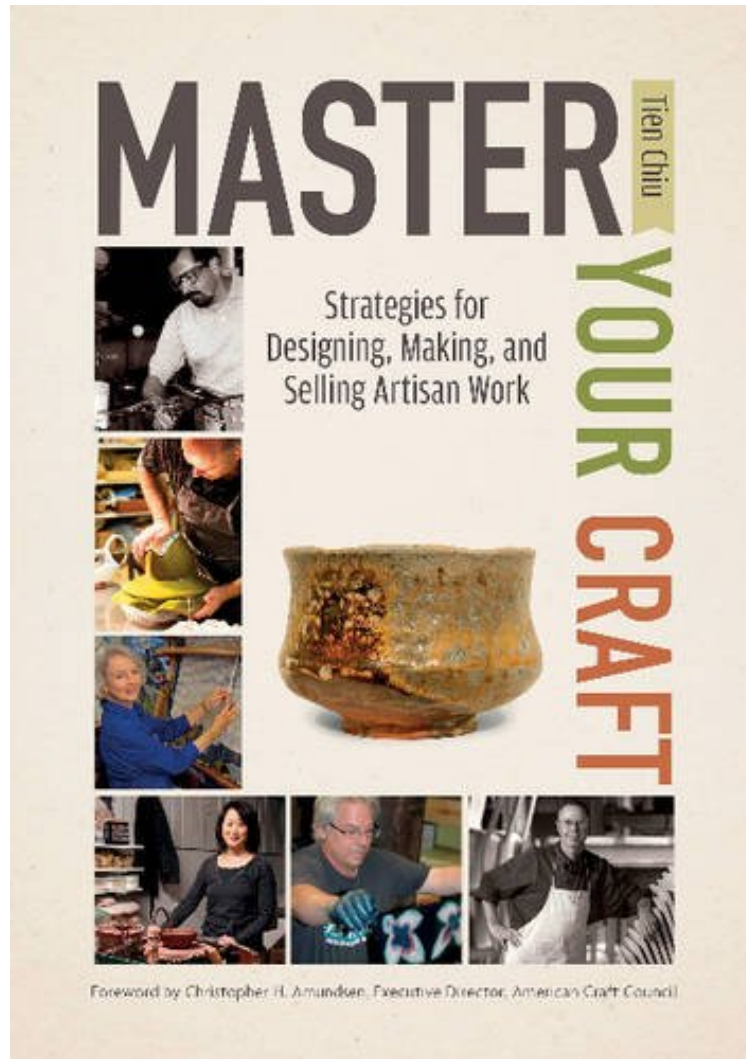


(Free) Master Your Craft: Strategies for Designing, Making, and Selling Artisan Work

Master Your Craft: Strategies for Designing, Making, and Selling Artisan Work

Tien Chiu

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Tien Chiu : Master Your Craft: Strategies for Designing, Making, and Selling Artisan Work before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Master Your Craft: Strategies for Designing, Making, and Selling Artisan Work:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Concise, Well-organized and Instructive By C.M. Customer Tien's book will be of interest to anyone wanting to tap into their creative side. She gives us prescribed steps in order to develop an awareness of important and universal elements in creating craft. By doing this she demystifies the creative process and invites us all to join in. There are specific exercises to try, along with the advice to become keen observers.

She uses another skill area, that of writing, to help us structure our work and compares a good story and its elements to the components needed in your creative projects. The book has nice short chapters, making it easier to digest the hard-core "meat" of the lessons. In addition, the quotes from working artists that are included serve to remind us that there are not just a chosen few artists who turn out amazing work in a flash. They let us know there is a great deal of trial and error and uncertainty along the way. It's encouraging to read that "artistry is learned, not inborn." The host of artists included in the book lend real authority to this idea. I love that personal working habits of the author are mentioned, and those become teaching points also, such as get the risky steps out of the way first to alleviate a time crunch - or as I see it - to lower any anxiety you may be harboring. Spending time to reflect is another good point Tien makes. Look back when you complete a project and figure out what you most enjoyed in the process. That will keep you coming back. No matter if you are a serious-minded craft person, or a dabbler, there is much to learn from this book. You can improve your skills, your finished product, and your enjoyment along the way after reading MASTER YOUR CRAFT. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Book! By Karen I like the way this book feels to hold it and, most importantly, I found the content helpful. It is organized nicely so that it is easy to process all the information she provides. Personally, as an aspiring fiber artist, I appreciated the emphasis on craft and 3D work as opposed to painting. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A must have for any serious craft person By Reader This book is a must have for the creative person. It isn't a how-to book in the typical sense, focusing instead on the design and development skills a craftsperson needs to go beyond following patterns and into creating their own sense of aesthetic. The author is a weaver and textile artist but design isn't constrained by medium, so the book cites metalworker, clay workers, furniture makers, surface designers and other. Often, the views that most echoed within me were not from people who work with metal, as I do, but from very different media. Tien Chiu, however, doesn't restrain herself to talking about abstract design ideas. She tackles how to work an idea into a collection, deal with practical construction issues, create models and rough drafts to develop a concept, getting around the lack of a tool or material and how to develop skills over time. All very down to Earth and practical, addressing the issues everyone of us has faced in their own work. The second half of the book goes on to address selling craftwork. Even if you aren't interested in this, the first part of the book alone is worth the price. But here she will show how to price work, control time, methods for large scale projects, finding venues, etc. Once again, very practical, including some worksheets to figure out hourly wages and detailed pricing. The final section is a delightful little bonus - short bios of all the artists that were featured in the book.

Do you want to create unique, brilliantly designed works of craft? Make the most of your studio time? Develop your artistic "voice," skills, and career? Then this book is for you. Written by award-winning textile artist Tien Chiu, *Master Your Craft: Strategies for Designing, Making, and Selling Artisan Work* provides sharp insight into the creative process, from the first spark of inspiration to careful contemplation of the finished piece. Perspectives from 22 master artisans fuse with industrial product design techniques and the author's own craft experience to offer a powerful framework for designing, making, and selling your work. *Master Your Craft* outlines a powerful process for designing and creating beautiful work. It enables you to: Discover inspiration even in the most mundane things Brainstorm unique designs Refine your designs into visually powerful, useful work that is practical to make and sell Transform your creative process to work more enjoyably and effectively Take your design and construction skills to the next level Identify your distinctive personal style Create a career for yourself, either as an artist or an artisan. Packed with advice from master woodworkers, glass workers, ceramicists, textile artists, metalworkers, and more, *Master Your Craft* will enable you to create stunning pieces and - if you choose - develop your craft into a career.

"Read this book if you are serious about starting or continuing to master your craft. With examples from a wide range of disciplines, Tien Chiu leads you through the process of creation from inspiration to completion and possible sale. The greatest strength of this book may be her explanation and demonstration of the Creative Cycle - great design does not burst full blown but emerges through cycles of trial and change. Tien Chiu illustrates this beautifully through documentation of the creation of her "Autumn Splendor" coat, while the other featured artists provide a wealth of additional advice and inspiration." -- Martha Sielman, Executive Director of Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA) "Balances encouragement with life lessons from renowned artists...Chiu's expertise guides her readers to consider many beneficial steps to move their careers forward." -- Christopher H. Amundsen, Executive Director, American Craft Council "Master Your Craft shows fine craft artists how to connect their vision to the reality of spearheading their creative direction, creating their own designs, and launching their work into the market. This innovative book...is enriched with quotes by a variety of celebrated crafts people across the mediums, and practical exercises that are sure to catapult their creative and professional lives to the next level." -- Marcia Young, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief, Fiber Art Now "Master Your Craft provides key elements that need to be addressed in developing a professional studio practice. It also portrays the complex process of creating an object and gives insight into the many personal approaches in making well designed and accomplished works that have potential for placement

in the market." --Paul J. Smith, Director Emeritus, Museum of Arts and Design