

As we near the unofficial end of summer, we're taking a moment to appreciate our friends - feathered, finned and furry - who brighten our days and our spirits.



Herewith, for your viewing pleasure, a brilliant bestiary of golden creatures celebrates the many profound roles they play in our lives.

Companion

At right, a tiny menagerie of water gilded, beautifully burnished figures. 23kt gold leaf over traditional gesso. By Randall Studio.

Below, a noble hound shelters a dozing cat, watchfully alert atop an animal hospital's sign. Handcarved and gilded by Paul White Woodcarving.



photo Mark Randall, Randall Studio



photo Paul White Woodcarving

Inspiration

At right, an ascending eagle and fantastical dolphin uplift this figurehead reproduction of Dewey's *Olympia* flagship led the victory at the Battle of Manila Bay in 1898. Housed at the Independence Seaport Museum in Philadelphia.

The Salem Eagle below proclaims the aspirations of commerce and justice.

Figurehead and eagle were handcarved and gilded with 23kt double weight gold leaf by Paul White Woodcarving.



photo courtesy Paul White Woodcarving



photo Paul White Woodcarving



Hippocampus - photo Lise Liepman



Dentzel Lion - photo Lise Liepman

Adventure

These carousel animals have been lovingly restored and impeccably finished by Lise Liepman.

above left: Hippocampus, original carving by Ed Roth of A & E Sculpting, 23k gold leaf, white gold, aluminum leaf, and mixed media, collection Patricia Briggs. Artist: Lise Liepman

above right: Dentzel Lion - the San Francisco Zoo Carousel - wooden carousel figure carved 1921, 22k gold leaf, white gold leaf, aluminum leaf, mixed media. Artist: Lise Liepman

right: Ilions Supreme Carousel - Wooden Horse ca. 1927, 23k gold leaf, white gold leaf, mixed media. Restoration by Lise Liepman.



Ilions Supreme Carousel Wooden Horse
photo April Renae



Colonial Eagle - photo JP Uranker Woodcarver



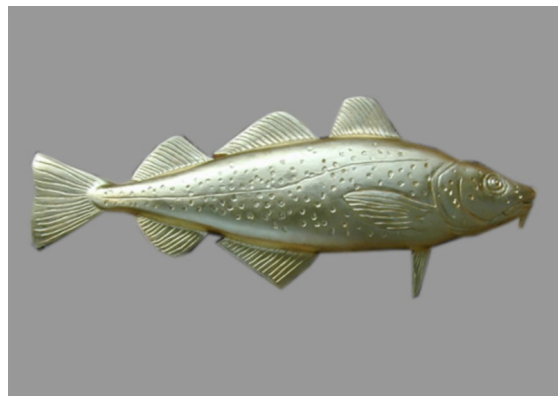
Chesapeake Eagle - photo JP Uranker Woodcarver

Icon

Colonial Eagle above left is gilded unusually, with palladium leaf. Palladium is a noble metal, and won't tarnish outdoors. Handcarved and gilded by **JP Uranker Woodcarver**.

The Chesapeake Eagle above right proudly bears our country's motto. Both eagles hand carved and gilded by JP Uranker Woodcarver.

The Cod at right boldly carries on the spirit of American folk art traditions while paying homage to a source of sustenance that changed the course of history on both sides of the Atlantic. From JP Uranker Woodcarver.



Chesapeake Eagle - photo JP Uranker Woodcarver



photos above and right Brush and Leaf

Sport

Left and below right detail: This jewel-like gilded aviary, done entirely on reverse glass, depicts a spotted woodpecker, cardinal, robin, goldfinch and bluejay, all rendered in 12kt white gold leaf using traditional water and oil-gilding methods.

The tree reveals a 23kt "hollow". A birdwatcher's idyll! Handpainted and gilded by Travis Simon of **Brush and Leaf**.



photos Brush and Leaf



Trompe l'oeil trophy - this gilded image of a striped bass, framed in a shadow box, pays homage to an avid fisherman who casts in Montauk. 22kt gold leaf is gorgeously water-gilded and shaded with enamel and varnish. Artist: Travis Simon of Brush and Leaf.



Max from Where The Wild Things Are
photo Tuck and Holand



Where the Wild Things Play
photo Tuck and Holand

Innocence

Wild Things ... we think we love you. Maurice Sendak's "Max" reconsidered by Anthony Holand of **Tuck and Holand** as a weathervane, delightfully journeys between practicality and whimsy, while *The Wild Things* at upper left were inspired by a client's nine grandchildren under age twelve - all gilded with palladium leaf and 23.5kt gold leaf.

The articulating Mermaids below, gilded with copper leaf and 23.5kt gold leaf, personify a family's three daughters, and clearly enjoy frolicking over Vineyard Haven Harbor.

These exuberant gilded figures all joyfully blur the boundaries between reality and fantasy, youth and adulthood. Let's face it, who doesn't love a creature that embodies the childlike wonder we all yearn to recapture?



photo Tuck and Holand

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