

Artist Lam Quang crafts pieces in his Astoria barn studio.



Astoria studio crafts handmade lighting

HiiH Lights features unique, nature-inspired creations

BY LINDA HOARD

Inspired by the Vietnamese fall festivals and temples he visited with friends and family growing up, Lam Quang started making paper. Then the artist wondered what it would look like illuminated.

In his Astoria studio, called HiiH Lights (pronounced “hi hi,”) he’s now been crafting unique, nature inspired lamps from paper and wire since 1997.

His wife, Kestrel Gates, joins him in the work. “We met in Portland in 2005, it was a time when there was so much creative community, lots of art parties and artistic collaboration,” Quang said. “She does all of the painting and contributes to the design process.”

From preparing the paper to the finished lamp, Quang uses a variety of natural mate-

HiiH Lights

89120 Lewis and Clark Rd., Astoria, studio open by appointment

On view at Imogen Gallery, 240 11th St., Astoria, and Luisa Mack Jewelry, 177 Howerton Way SE #4, Ilwaco, Washington

www.hiihlights.com

rials, including cotton, pulp, beeswax, resin, bamboo, walnut and indigo dyes, wires and steel, wood and ceramic bases. He uses an abaca and cotton blend for paper, forming sheets with a mold and using an 8-ton press to bind the fibers without glue.

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