

# Art Windows

*From abstract ideas to traditional designs, local artisan Rick Streitfeld crafts authentic stained and beveled glass*

While there are imitation products on the market, homeowners looking for authentic, inspired designs in stained and beveled glass created to reflect their specific style and needs turn instead to local glass artisan Rick Streitfeld, owner of the Huntington Beach-based Art Windows.

Since starting his business in 1996, Streitfeld has been commissioned by scores of residential homeowners for projects ranging from an “upgrade for a remodel” to “just a window in their home that they’ve been thinking about doing for years.”

Streitfeld, who has also designed pieces for churches and temples nationwide, starts the process by “getting to know the client and their needs before presenting them with several design options, so they can get a feel for what they like.”

“I involve my clients from start to finish, including during the design process, glass selection, final upgrades and/or changes in the design,” says Streitfeld. “I’m hands-on with every window that leaves here, whether I build the entire window myself or supervise it with my helpers. I like to cut as much glass myself to make sure the color windows are exactly what I want.”

Streitfeld adds that customers generally know what colors they’d like to have incorporated into their finished window and whether they prefer a more traditional approach or a more abstract design.



“There are infinite possibilities for design ideas, but the most important thing is the needs of the client,” he says. “Once I determine what they are looking for, I begin laying out ideas that fit their needs. Almost always, I’ll do several designs, and often times I’ll throw in one or two designs that are completely different from what they might have mentioned. It’s amazing how many times one of these additional designs become the design they like best. My inspiration comes spontaneously as I connect with the client on a human level. Just getting to know them and talking about other simpler things in life to see what they’re really about. Everyone is different, and their reasons for commissioning an artist to create an art window for them is also different.

“I feel my true purpose in life is to connect with many people on many levels, no matter what our differences are, and what our backgrounds are. I love meeting new people and seeing their homes and hearing about the beauty they’re trying to add to their home through my artwork. This is where the opening for the creative process truly begins. A personal connection, a desire to create beauty and a blessing to guide the process to perfect outcome!”



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