MEET the MAKERS

THESE FOUR CREATIVES FIRST HIT THE SCENE AS PART OF THE MILL COLLECTIVE IN HIGH POINT.

KRISTOPHER SPIVEY

Ranging from trinket boxes, bookends and brackets to full-scale furnishings in oxidized curly walnut, beech, sapwood and quarter-sawn ash, each of Spivey's pieces is made from found or repurposed materials. He explains that his Durham, North Carolina-based Radvalley Designs contrasts with "fast furniture" thanks to hand-cut joinery and quiet details. Spivey is more interested in making an impact than turning around quick commissions, as evidenced in a console he spent a year designing and building on spec. Despite this slow philosophy, he still relishes working directly with end users because, "the closer I get to the people I design for, the more harmonious a finished project will feel." radvalleydesigns.com

▲ JILL SEALE

This Charlotte-based talent studied marbling with the masters in Florence, and then adapted the ancient art to a modern industry,

decoupaging her papers onto decorative trays and digitizing them for dramatic wallcoverings and textiles that celebrate spontaneous creation. Marbling is a way of making "order out of chaos," says the owner of Jill Seale Design Studio, noting how the water and paints move together to mimic the patterns of nature—"a universal language of beauty." Seale's proximity to a wealth of American manufacturers in North Carolina has led to collections with the likes of Wesley Hall, Port 68, Avasa Home and Company C. jillseale.com

JEREMY KAMIYA ▶

Originally from Durham, furniture importer-turned-maker Kamiva moved to High Point in 2019 to be closer to the industry, most recently developing a new desk and chair for the Spring Market. "My work slants minimalist-modern with a hint of the studio movement," notes Kamiya Furniture proprietor Jeremy Kamiya. "I'm self-taught, so I was never influenced to develop a standard of craftsmanship other than my own." Precision, proper execution and structural integrity inform his methods, which emphasize the beauty of book-matched natural woods-mostly maple, cherry and walnut—using classic joinery techniques. kamiyafurniture.com



CARTER ELLIS ▶

Before founding his collaborative Chattanooga workshop, Ellis Table Co. in 2018, Ellis studied under a British master craftsman who trained at Christie's in London, restoring pieces up to 400 years old. For this reason, Ellis has great respect for furnishings that stand the test of time, his own work crafted from reclaimed or sustainable walnut, white oak, maple and rainbow poplar assembled via traditional joinery rather than metal fasteners. They channel French country, Japanese, Scandinavian and Shaker stylings, a spirit perhaps best exemplified by his Laurel table (shown) and coordinating benchesone with clean lines, another with a spindle back. ellistable.com ISTOPHER SPIVEY PHOTO: ANNA BARZIN AND GRAHAM TERHUNF, ANAGRAM PHOTO. CARTER ELLIS PHOTO: COURTESY ELLIS TABLE CO. REMY KAMIYA PHOTO: JEREMY KAMIYA. JILL SEALE PHOTO: COURTESY JILL SEALE DESIGN STUDIO.