

NOW OPEN

BKB Handcrafted is the second storefront for Joshua Tree ceramicist Brian Bosworth and his wife, Jamie – where they are bringing the high desert's contemporary art to Palm Springs.

BKB Handcrafted

388 N. Palm Canyon Dr.
bkbceramics.com

Open Sunday, Monday and Thursday,
11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Friday and Saturday,
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



MODERN RUSTIC MOJO

WORDS BY **KRISTIN SCHARKEY**
PHOTOGRAPHS BY **LANCE GERBER**

Walk into BKB Handcrafted on Palm Canyon Drive, and immediately you're surrounded by the heart and soul of the high desert. Weavings from Andrea Zittel's collective, A-Z West, hang from the wall, while ceramic planters made by Jonathan Cross in Twentynine Palms are filled with small cactuses. There are even "Snack-Rocks" and "Brick-Brushes" by Bob Dornberger of Hole Foods Pit Stop (a secret Joshua Tree restaurant) acclaim.

"We really try to focus on handmade and fairly local work," says co-owner Jamie Bosworth, who moved to Joshua Tree with her husband Brian, a ceramicist, to escape Los Angeles in 2007.

Brian was already commuting to the high desert to teach (he's currently a professor at Copper Mountain College), then the couple opened BKB Ceramics in Joshua Tree in 2012. They started selling Brian's work and a few other items; eventually, the collection grew.

"It's funny how we've found our artists and how they've found us," Brian says. "It's surprising, sometimes, who walks in the door, and the next thing you know, they are incredible artists and a relationship builds."

Enter their Palm Springs outpost, and immediately you feel like family. Expect long conversations as if you're an old friend sitting in their living room.

"Brian's true passion and knowledge is fine art, and we thought it was time to align more closely with that passion," Jamie explains. "Palm Springs was intuitively the next step."

Brian created extruded forms and raku before making his (now) signature white-and-tan Rustic Modern series in 2013. The designs are simple and geometric, but exemplify mastery of texture. He plans to explore those earlier objects in the Palm Springs space.

"I'm drawn to artist/designers that are committed to their craft and are able to create their own language," the ceramicist says. "I find I have to compartmentalize between art/sculptural pieces and ceramic work; the sculptural work being more expressive and free whereas the pottery is more controlled and articulate."

Stop in to see bronze bangles made by Lili Tanner in Twentynine Palms, concrete casts by Aili Schmeltz (founder of live-in art gallery, Outpost Projects, in Flamingo Heights) and more. Plus, Brian's planters that you'll want for every room of your home. You'll feel as if you've just visited a dozen Joshua Tree area artist studios – all without the drive up the hill. 🌱