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Matt Dillon
DEFINES SUCCESS ON HIS TERMS

DAVE HALL

ARTIST/FURNITURE DESIGNER

WHEN DAVE HALL LEFT A JOB MAKING signage for the likes of Walt Disney Imagineering in order to manufacture oddball furniture from abandoned airplane parts, not everyone saw the light. “I went from making a lot of money to almost nothing,” he says. “It cost me my marriage.” Eight years later, he and business partner Donovan Fell operate MotoArt, Inc., out of a 12,000-square-foot Torrance hangar and pull in \$2 million annually with their gleaming Brancusi-like sculptures (propeller blades), cylindrical reception desks (engine covers from 747s), vertical fish tanks (MK-84 bomb tail fins) and Mile High beds (DC-9 rear stabilizers connected by a C-130 inner flap). MotoArt pieces, which run from \$100 to \$60,000, are snapped up by aviation-loving celebrities — Hall won’t name names — and such corporate giants as Microsoft, Boeing and Lockheed Martin. A 42-year-old divorced father of two, Hall admits the 24/7 demands of work and family have taken a toll on his relationships. “This is a hard business,” he says. “Not everyone loves fuselage office dividers. But if you believe in something, you can never give up.” ●

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WRITTEN BY / MARGOT DOUGHERTY



Know a singular with an exceptional creative vision? An outstanding amateur or pro — a chef, a musician, a landscape designer, an artist, an architect? Submit their name and a brief description of their talent to vision@singularcity.com.