


BUSINESSLENS

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When I visited Gutierrez Studios, the shop was so large and had so much going on that combining multiple aspects of their work into one image seemed like an interesting way of bringing it all together. This photo is actually three exposures, each shot on top of the previous one in the camera, in the same way that a photographer would shoot multiple images on film without advancing it, producing a layered image. The primary image here is of Drew Walker, a metal fabricator, welding on Tuesday afternoon. That image has been layered atop a wider image of the shop that also includes Walker welding, and those have been layered atop the third image, which is a medium shot of Antony West, another metal fabricator, at his workbench.

The Gutierrez Touch

When the late John Gutierrez founded Gutierrez Studios at Clipper Mill in 1991, he specialized in handmade wooden furniture. But in the nearly 25 years since its opening, the operation has branched into a wide variety of mediums. A team of craftsmen trained in both wood and metalwork create custom products and installations for residential and commercial clients out of a 20,000-square-foot space in Woodberry. The studio's work is everywhere – in Baltimore and beyond – but you'd never guess by looking at its unassuming shop. From the banister at the American Visionary Art Museum to sculptures for a Northern Virginia apartment complex, the studio's portfolio is varied and expanding.



Far left, though the expertise of Gutierrez Studios' employees extends far beyond custom furniture and stair railings, the workshop's showroom offers a glimpse of their techniques and abilities; left, Sean Volz and Chris Parrish apply finishes to a project; above, Antony West, a metal fabricator, works on an order of barstools that were originally designed nearly 10 years ago for Fells Point restaurant Red Star Bar & Grill.