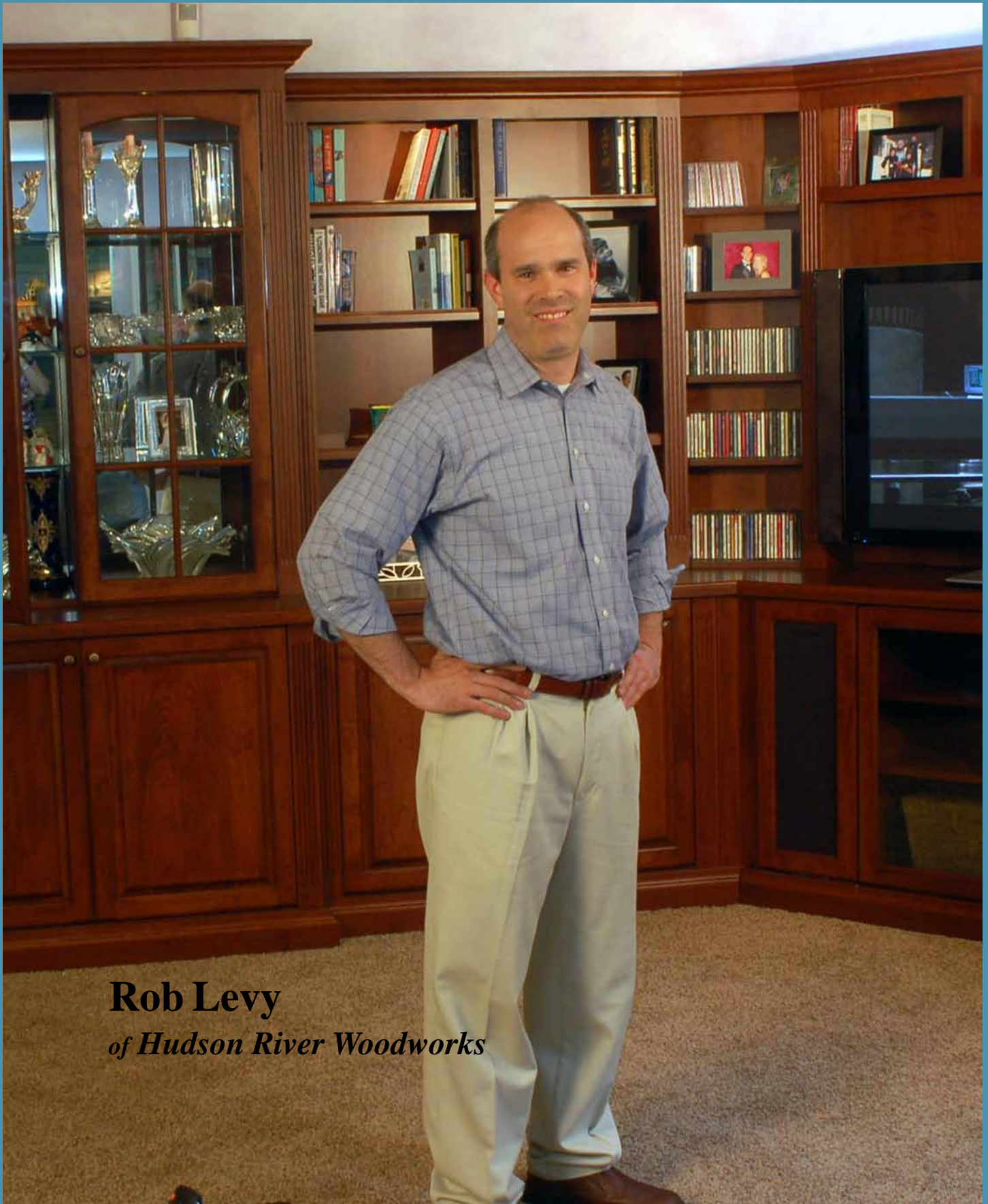


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Rob Levy
of Hudson River Woodworks



Member Shop Profile

Hudson River Woodworks

Rob Levy, owner

Hudson River Woodworks designs and builds custom furniture and fine cabinetry. The company works with

homeowners, builders/contractors and interior designers to create fine custom cabinetry, entertainment centers, built-ins, library rooms, home offices, kitchens, and high-end closets. The company's founder, Rob Levy, brings a lifetime of experience to the business.

Rob recently said, "I started the business in my father's four-car garage." As a child Rob would stand on his toes and hold on to the edge of his dad's workbench to see what he was doing. Because of Rob's interest his father built a mini-size workbench and placed it next to his own so they could work together.

At age 14 Rob started working for his dad on client projects. It's there where he first learned the elements of craftsmanship. Rob's parents encouraged him to get formal training if he wanted to pursue this as a career.

Rob went on to acquire two degrees in fine furniture making and design. At Buck's County Community College Rob studied under Mark Sfirri, a nationally recognized furniture maker known for his innovative techniques in lathe turned objects of art and turned furniture. Rob perfected his furniture design and building techniques at the University of Massachusetts North Dartmouth. He studied under nationally recognized woodworkers Alfonse Mattia, Stephen Whittlesey, and the late Michael Paschalla, completing his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1991.

Early in his career Rob worked in New York City with the Peter Joseph Gallery , widely considered as one of the most important



contemporary, one-of-a-kind art furniture galleries. Before starting Hudson River Woodworks he also worked at a Manhattan-based showroom representing three high-end kitchen manufacturers designing kitchens for New York's most discriminating clientele.

Located in Rockland County, NY (25 miles north of New York City) Hudson River Woodworks is a full service design and build company. Serving the residential market, they manufacture both frame and frameless cabinetry and design their own profiles for custom moldings.

"We primarily use domestic woods for our projects. We have taken on jobs working with exotic woods. Last year we did an entire room with highly figured anigre wall panels and furniture to match using solid anigre wood. Our customers are mostly upscale

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professionals and suburban homeowners with very high expectations, so we have to provide the finest quality product and excellent customer service.”

“We have the capability to manufacture just about any project but we use outsourcing as an option to expand our capabilities and increase efficiency when necessary. We have three employees and do our own installations engaging a supplemental crew as required.”

Hudson River Woodworks has a 3800 square foot facility, which includes a full showroom, workshop and office space. Tools used include a SAC 3200-CS40 sliding table saw, Gannomat Proline 50 for line drilling, Brandt KD-54, Castle Pocket Machine, Planer, Joiner, Bandsaw, Wide Belt Sander, SCMI R9 Pin Router, W&H Moulder, Omal Hinge Inserter, and a Grass Ecopress. Hudson River Woodworks uses KCDw software to create new designs and Cutlist Plus for optimization. Besides creating their



focused on shop efficiency and workflow. Throughout the manufacturing process raw materials come in and cut parts are moved through individual work areas, where specific tasks are grouped with the associated tools needed to complete each task. Many of these ideas for workflow improvement have come from the company’s involvement with the CMA.

“The CMA is a great organization and has been tremendous in helping me in almost every aspect of my business. Since joining the CMA, many of the relationships I’ve developed with fellow members have made a huge difference both personally and professionally. It’s great to be involved and

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own designs, Hudson River Woodworks also works with architectural drawings provided by contractors, architects, or designers.

“We assemble our cabinets before we finish to cut down on the amount of pieces that need to be handled. This also helps us maintain efficiency.”

The company has an enclosed spraybooth where they do all their own finishing using a Kremlin spray system and cup guns for stain application, primarily using Mohawk stains, vinyl sealers, and pre and post catalyzed lacquers or a conversion varnish.

Hudson River Woodworks maintains a healthy customer base with more than 50% of its revenue derived from referrals and repeat business. Right now the company is



Shop Profile continued

it's nice to get together with CMA members at trade shows, regional events, or just meet for dinner. It's really valuable to be able to call up a fellow CMA member to share ideas or seek advice on certain manufacturing issues or speak to them about how they



work. Sometimes we brainstorm ideas on how to build the business or deal with everyday issues. Overall the CMA is incredibly valuable and one of the most important tools I have.”

Rob Levy is married to his wife Suzanne, who is an executive and business coach. They have two children, Julia age four and Jake, six months. As a family they all practice martial arts and enjoy outdoor activities.



Hudson River Woodworks

If you would like to share ideas with Rob or ask any questions give him a call at 845-638-1210. Be sure and check out his company's website: www.hudsonriverwoodworks.com.



HUDSON RIVER WOODWORKS

