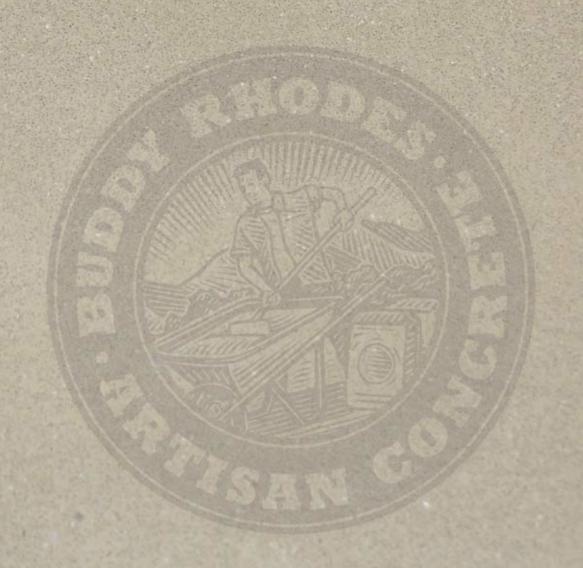
# [ Concrete Style No 1 ]



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[Build] [Imagine]

Specify ]

**Buddy Rhodes Concrete Products, LLC** 

691 Tennessee Street

San Francisco, CA 94107

Buddy Rhodes Studio ] 877-706-5303 Buddy Rhodes Artisan Concrete ]

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## Artisan Concrete

Unlimited potential to realize your unique

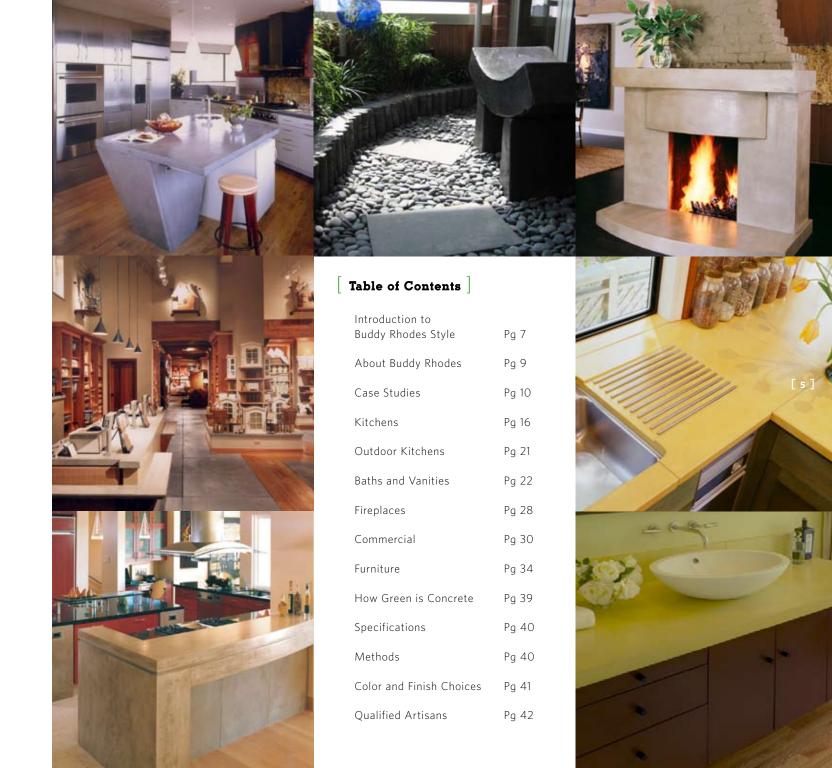
design vision.













## Introduction to Buddy Rhodes Style

Widely associated with the concrete countertop trend in architectural project design, Buddy Rhodes is an artist who has been working in partnership with designers nationwide, crafting finished concrete furnishings for over twenty-five years.

The possibilities of Buddy's approach to concrete can be seen in these pages, shown through his work as well as that of colleagues influenced by his methods and materials. Through the multiple finishes, the work celebrates craftsmanship in project design. You will see the flexibility of form and function available through decorative concrete, the diversity of styles and environments, as well as the personality of individual designs.

Handmade in the workshop by artisans rather than machinists, these projects support the green ideal of local fabrication as well as melding craftsmanship with architecture. Case studies exemplify the kind of problem solving unique to the custom design relationship.

We have included information relative to sustainable building practice, and specification details for those interested in choosing Buddy Rhodes Artisan Concrete for current projects.

Unlike any other mix, Buddy's recipe is specifically designed to be consistently malleable, smooth, colorable, dense and very strong, combining the durability of concrete with the fine surface required for interior design.

**Buddy Rhodes** began his career as a potter after an eye opening summer at Rhode Island School of Design, training at New York's College of Ceramics at Alfred University with graduate work at the San Francisco Art Institute. This foundation encouraged the Arts & Crafts era appreciation for surface textures of ordinary materials, with an emerging artist's critical search for new mediums and techniques. Inspired by his training but not hindered by it, he began to use concrete to replace his clay, an extension of the processes and designs he developed through building ceramic forms.

Buddy has influenced an increasing number of regional artisans in the U.S. and Canada, some of whose work can be seen in the following pages. These individuals have added their own creative spark, extending the evolution of richly crafted concrete furnishings.





"I still get a lot of satisfaction from seeing my countertops over time. I like the way the trowel leaves its signature or path on the surface, the leather-like effect of a sealed finish. I like the way the edges are straight, the designs are tight, yet they have the hand of the craftsman about them.

I like the veined surface I make because it looks like it has always been there."

- Buddy Rhodes

Buddy Rhodes invites you to consider the many possibilities of artisan concrete.

Realize your vision in concrete Integrally colored with a warm and natural palette.

Anything you can imagine can be realized in Buddy Rhodes Artisan Concrete.



## Case Studies

Discriminating homeowners have been choosing

Buddy Rhodes countertops for twenty-five years.

## The Becker Kitchen

"After much research, we were frustrated by the lack of options we found for the counter tops in our new kitchen. Synthetics are not recyclable and did not have the feel we were looking for.

Granite or marble felt too cold and harsh. Buddy's concrete has the warmth and natural feel we were looking for. We were able to find the color, finish, and edge detail that worked perfectly with the rest of our kitchen design."

- Philippe Becker

## Buddy Rhodes Technique and Specifications

Graphic designers Philippe Becker and Victor Wong chose a hard trowelled and polished finish in the BR color Universe. Collaborating with their contractor Andrew Moore, they chose a simple eased edge with an undermount porcelain sink.





## Fetzer Kitchen

"My BR countertops are rather special. I was hiking on the Eel River on one of those perfect days - sun, blue sky and warm river rocks. I found a rock the color I wanted to use in my kitchen. I showed it to Buddy and asked him if I could have counters like this. He smiled and put the rock in his pocket, just saying, 'Sure.' Buddy matched that stone; I keep it with a little collection on the window sill over the sink in my kitchen. I love the raw unevenness of the color just as I found it in a single stone."

- Sheila Fetzer



# Buddy Rhodes Technique and Specifications

Rancher, vintner and designer Sheila Fetzer chose the pressed finish, a 2 1/4" return edge with custom colors designed by Buddy Rhodes. The base color is BR Wine; the sink is undermount stainless steel.



#### Edible School Yard

"The Buddy Rhodes countertops we used at the Edible Schoolyard at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School in Berkeley still look beautiful, even after 13 years and 3,000 students. They provide the perfect working surface for cooking and preparing fresh food, whether at the school or in my home kitchen."



- Alice Waters, Chez Panisse

## Buddy Rhodes Technique and Specifications

Founded and inspired by Alice Waters and supported through the Chez Panisse Foundation,
The Edible Schoolyard is an organic kitchen and garden program integrated within the school
curriculum at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School in Berkeley. It involves the students in all
aspects of farming the garden – along with preparing, serving and eating the food.

The teaching kitchen, designed by Wowhaus, gets plenty of use serving 900 students per year. The three preparation tabletops are cast in tone-on-tone pressed finish. The surrounding countertops are hard trowelled; all the concrete tops use BR Universe color.



## Kitchens ]

"It's really great to hear people exclaim ... after years of living with my concrete counters, that they've loved them. And when they buy a new house they want concrete counters again. But it's not just the material. It's the craftsmanship. Workmanship makes the difference. It's the feeling, the process of tuning and adjusting. It's not necessarily easy, but it is very rewarding."

- Buddy Rhodes

Cone Table

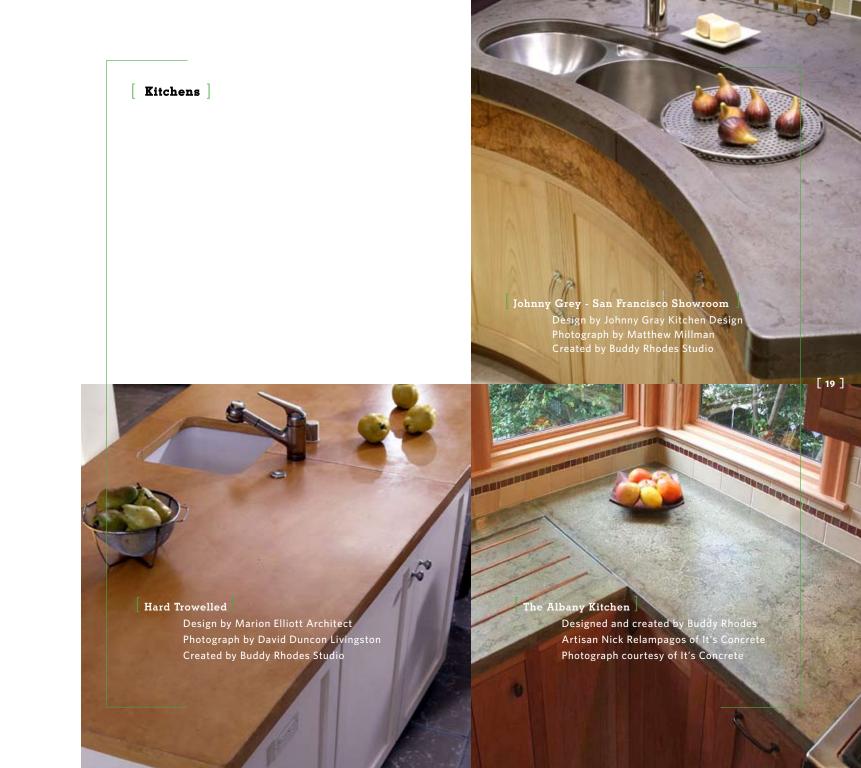
Kitchen design

by Glenn Dugas Cone table designed

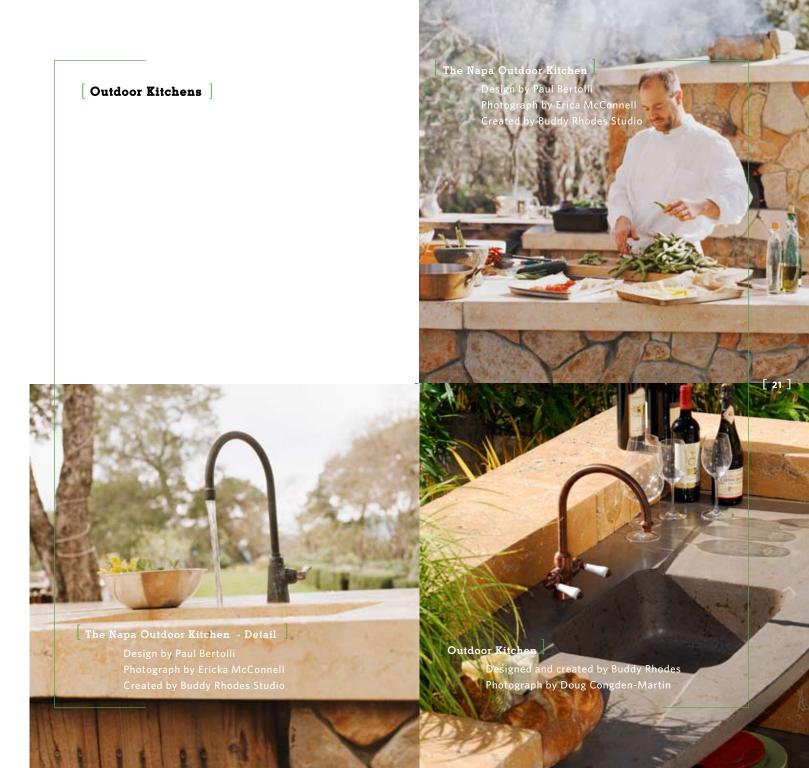
and created by Buddy Rhodes Studio





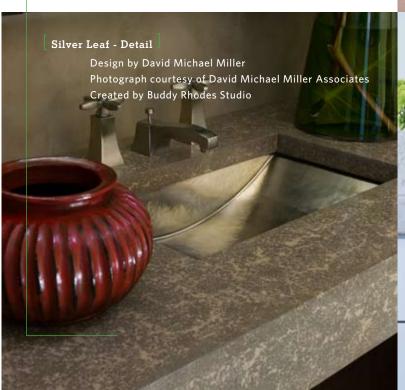






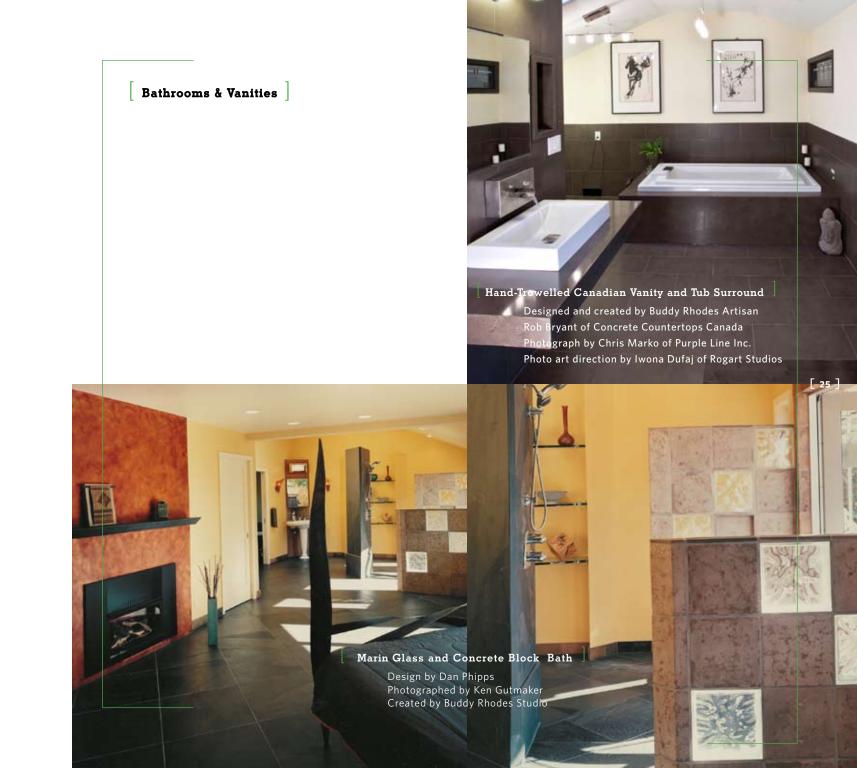


Bathrooms & Vanities



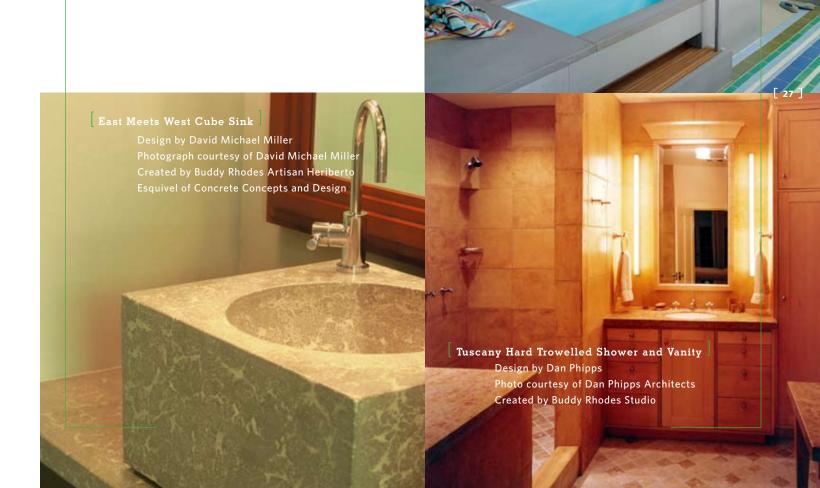








## Bathrooms & Vanities



Kohler Design Center Gallery Room - Child's Bath

Photo courtesy of Kohler Design Center Created by Buddy Rhodes Studio



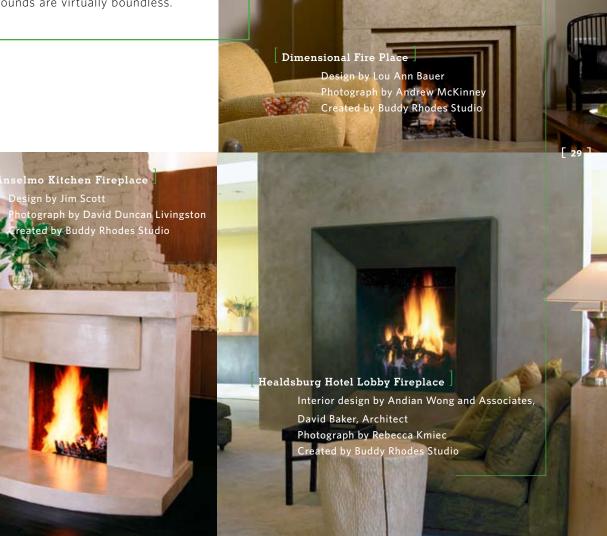
# [ Fireplaces]

From simple slabs to complex geometric forms,

the possibilities for concrete

fireplace surrounds are virtually boundless.

Design by Jim Scott

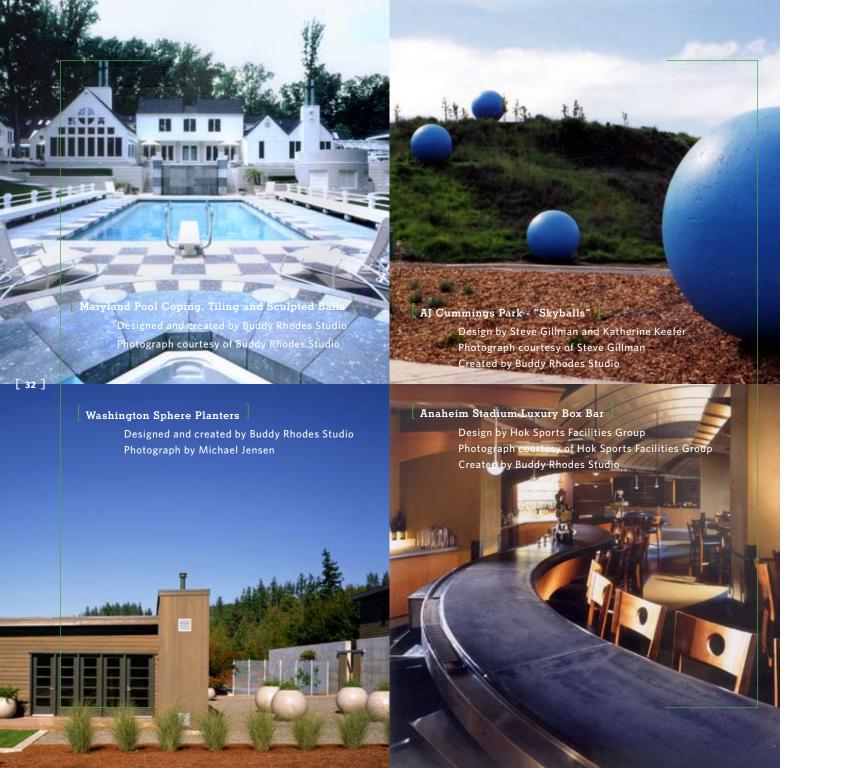




#### Commercial

Soon after Buddy Rhodes moved from designing and creating concrete furniture to fabricating concrete countertops in the mid-1980's, he widened his market to include commercial applications on an increasingly large scale. After producing 20,000 sq. feet of floor and wall tiles, desk and reception counters for a large law office on the San Francisco Embarcadero, his Studio moved into crafting multiple retail store, loft developments, restaurant, corporate office and landscape projects for architects and designers including Richard Altuna, Howard Backen, David Baker, Hans Baldauf, Andrea Cochran and Topher Delaney. He created concrete counters, tiles, fireplaces and exterior store fronts for retail outlets such as Pottery Barn, Williams Sonoma, Illuminations, Apple, Sony, Gap, Good Guys, Oracle and Bank of America. Having developed a way to meld the warmth and earthy handmade quality of pottery with the strength, versatility and architectural applicability of concrete, he grew his Studio with a team of expert craftsmen casting multiples on rows of tables in his expanded San Francisco shop.

Buddy Rhodes' extensive experience and well practiced understanding of his material coincided with the growth of international interest in concrete as a widely available and sustainable material capable of providing a timeless earth element to a broad spectrum of projects. Experimenting extensively in the early stages of product development, Buddy solved many of the problems of adapting concrete to new applications. He partnered with architects and designers on public and private projects, large as well as small, to help them take advantage of the form and flexibility possible with his uniquely moldable clay-like concrete materials and methods.







## Furniture

McEvory Ranch Lounge Chair 🦙

Photograph by Karen Thompson

Buddy Rhodes furniture blurs the definition between sculpture and furniture. Whether formed to an original BR classic mold, or custom fabricated to a designer's own specifications, Buddy Rhodes pieces are at home in or out of doors.

Designed and created by Buddy Rhodes Studio







#### How Green is Concrete?

Buddy Rhodes Concrete is made from all natural earthen material. The contents are ground and fired white limestone (cement) and mineral sands of different sizes and types. What makes Buddy's Mix unique is the specific choices made of particular kinds, colors, sizes and ratios of these natural materials. There are no chemical additives or plastics in the Mix.

Concrete can itself be considered green in that it is built to last and can be refinished many times. No trees are cut down in fabricating concrete. It can be extended with up to 30% post consumer or post-industrial content; it does not off-gas chemical air pollutants, and it is not shipped from overseas. Buddy Rhodes sealers are water based acrylic formulas, safe and easy to ship and to apply.



Design by Robert Baum AIA, Created by Buddy Rhodes Studio Photograph by Ken Gutmaker

The process of creating Portland Cement, the main active ingredient of all concrete, is an energy intensive process, requiring a lot of water and high temperatures, generally in a coal or gas fired furnace. No one can call concrete 'green' without addressing the impact of cement production. With this understanding, we purchase carbon offsets and look to the near future when it will be possible to use cement made with cogeneration or other sustainable technologies.

The fabricator may use a variety of "post consumer" materials, such as recycled glass. At Buddy Rhodes, we've extended the amount of cement used relative to the square feet covered by adding recycled material such as rock, glass, crushed oyster and abalone shells, CD pieces, old coins, metal shavings, and jewelry. Even recycled countertops can be used as aggregate to extend the Mix in a new one. Only your imagination limits the possibilities.

By choosing local artisans to fabricate concrete counters and other finished concrete projects, you are helping to sustain the local community, and you are not shipping heavy material long distances with the resulting energy expense and carbon emissions.

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System<sup>™</sup> gives points for aspects of construction that indicate sustainable practices. Concrete countertops achieve LEED points for being regionally manufactured, not emitting off-gas (many plastic surfaces do), and the use of post-consumer (recycled glass) and, to a lesser extent, post-industrial material.

## Specifications

#### -Quality Assurance:

Buddy Rhodes has been in business making custom pre-cast concrete components for over 20 years. Qualified Buddy Rhodes Artisans have been fabricating finished concrete for a minimum of one year, trained at Buddy Rhodes Studio and use Buddy Rhodes methods and materials.

#### -Submittals:

- Shop drawings with complete details can be submitted upon request with joint/seam placement provided for approval.
- Color and finish samples are submitted for approval.
- All products are handmade from natural materials; variation in color and texture may occur.
- Non-structural hairline cracking is possible.

#### -Product:

- Standard thickness: 1.5 inches; custom thickness and front edge returns are available.
- Standard edge: eased. Custom edge details available.
- Standard maximum seamless casting: 8 ft. Custom shapes and sizes available.
   All BR Studio products are pre-cast. Regional BR Artisans may offer cast-in-place options at their discretion.
- Backsplashes are 1 inch thick in specified height.
- Sealer: finished concrete projects are sealed and waxed to resist staining.
- MSDS forms are available for all Buddy Rhodes concrete products: Mix, Colors, Sealers, and Wax.

#### -Fabrication:

- Concrete products are custom made according to on-site templates.
- Templates are produced once cabinets are in place by fabricator or fabricator-approved contractor.
- Appliance specifications should be submitted to fabricator prior to production.
- Products are custom reinforced to accommodate appropriate spans and cantilevers.
- Finished slabs may be installed by Buddy Rhodes Artisan or fabricator approved on site contractor.

#### Methodologies

Five concrete finish choices can be attained with the Buddy Rhodes Concrete Mix, each are illustrated in this book and can be specified by designers:

- Hard-trowelled
- Pressed/veined
- Lightly ground
- Aggressively ground (e.g. terrazzo)
- Poured and vibrated.

Hard-trowelled and ground finishes are cast right side up in a mold. The hard-trowelled technique is as it sounds, trowelled to a fine finish, bringing up the cream that covers the aggregate in the concrete. It often shows the expert hand of the artisan. The ground techniques expose either a sand aggregate or larger quartz and marble chips inherent in the Buddy Rhodes Mix. Additional exposed aggregate possibilities are virtually limitless, including post consumer additives such as recycled glass.

The Buddy Rhodes signature veined finish is cast upside-down in the mold with a pressing method which, when turned over and de-molded, exposes voids. These voids, or veins, are then back-filled with either a matching color tone or multiple complementary tones of cement paste. Buddy's early projects were all pressed, then he moved on to hard-trowelling and ground. Hand finishing characterizes all these methods.

**Poured and vibrated, or wet-casting finishes** may be most familiar to architects and designers. This method produces a more machined surface, and the technique is similar to architectural form casting. The molds for this method are designed for casting upside down and prepared to accept a wetter mix to which water reducer and plasticizer are added.

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## Buddy Rhodes Finish Descriptions

Pressed Finish	Hard Trowel Finish	Ground Finish
Pressed finish is cast up side	Smooth and mono-chromatic in	Lightly or aggressively ground to
down in a mold, and appears veined.	appearance, cast right side up in a	reveal a light sand aggregate or larger
It may be tone-on-tone, with the	mold, and steel-trowelled to lightly	marble chip aggregate depending on
voids created in the pressing process	burnish the surface with the cream	the extent of the diamond pad with
in-filled with a slurry paste of a	rising to the surface of the concrete	water ground finish.
matching color, or it may be finished	slab while it is wet.	
with one or more contrasting colors		
filling the voids, creating a more		
mottled effect.		

## Standard Colors



## Buddy Rhodes Qualified Artisans Program

Qualified Buddy Rhodes Artisans are independent concrete fabricators who have been trained in Buddy's methods and are able to successfully utilize the Buddy Rhodes product line to achieve the look and feel of the work of Buddy Rhodes Studio: pressed, trowelled and ground finishes, either pre-cast or cast-in-place. The BR Qualified Artisan values a high quality hand crafted aesthetic. The Artisan may also choose to utilize the wet casting method. The projects of Buddy Rhodes Artisans can be seen throughout this book.

A Buddy Rhodes Artisan is an entrepreneur of high integrity, sound business practices, and a record of success. The Artisan is dedicated to the highest levels of customer service and satisfaction. This network of Artisans, with company evaluated experience and service, provides local craftsmanship for designers in a growing list of regions in the U.S. and Canada.

Please call our studio for information about qualified Buddy Rhodes Artisans for your area.

## [ 43 ]

# Buddy Rhodes Qualified Artisans

#### - West Coast

- Mid States

- East Coast

Dennis Dudley - www.sublime-surfaces.com	
Heriberto "Beto" Esquivel - www.ccdmix.com	
James Hatcher- www.concreteinside.com	
Candace Hixon - www.lavistatile.com	
Nick Relampagos - www.itsconcrete.com	
Chris Becker - www.beckerconcrete.com	
Mike and Kara Sheen - www.sheenconcretedesign.com	
Rob Bryant - www.concretecountertopscanada.com	
Kelly Carr - www.concretejungleonline.com	
Mark Cheung - www.artezens.com	
Zachary Coletti - www.concretecanvasfl.com	
Arrot Donaldson - www.concretecountertopcreations.com	
Brad Herrold - www.appalachianconcretedesigns.com	
Kevin McGovern and John York - www.miragestudiosltd.com	

