

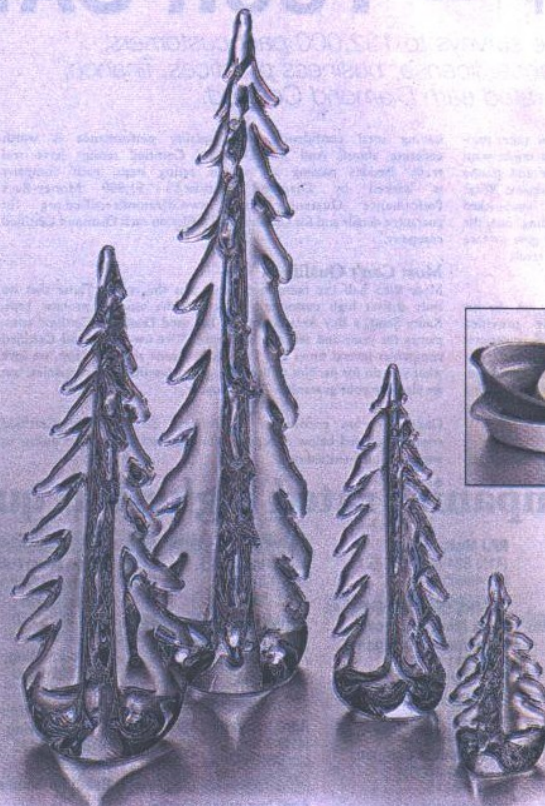
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# HOME

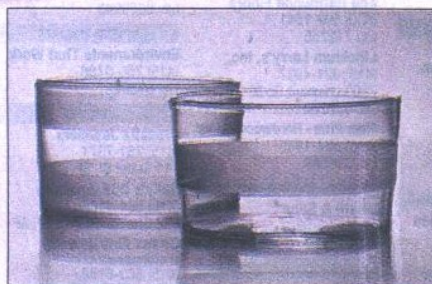
& Garden

## HOT STUFF

By Laura Thomas



**Vermont Evergreens** of hand-blown glass reflect candlelight brilliantly (6-20 inches tall, \$95-\$295 each). Costa bowls, right, with sleek lines and sand-blasted details (6 inches tall, single or double band, \$195 each).



### SHINING REPUTATION

## Pearce's work keeps dazzling

**S**imon Pearce has built a reputation for his glassware and pottery since he came to the United States in 1981 from Ireland. He took over an old woolen mill in Vermont, harnessing hydroelectric power to run his glass furnace.

His glass goblets, multi-level cake plates and hefty ceramic floor vases have graced the covers of dozens of shelter magazines over the years.

Pearce soon opened retail outlets, with a San Francisco store finally in 2005. While other Bay Area stores offer Pearce's products, the Fillmore Street store is a good place to see the complete repertoire, along with the wooden bowls, African baskets, Irish blankets and hand-poured candles of other artisans he promotes.

Products were recently reorganized under four major lines to make it easier to help customers select and match pieces to suit their tastes, said store manager Christine Beliveau.

Many of the standbys, such as the Woodbury glass bowls are in the Classic line. New sand-blasted vases and bowls are part of the Studio line aimed at contemporary lovers (Costa bowls, at left below). The Pantry line includes oven-to-table bakeware and mixing bowls while the Signature line offers more expensive and elaborate pieces.

The eye is drawn to the square Woodbury bowls with their scalloped edges, one of the best-sellers. But there's no denying the appeal of the solid, wavy ringed exterior of the Brookfield bakeware and bowls (shown above, inset, \$60 to \$80) that will be arriving in four dreamy colors — earth, glacier, ocean and valley — or the Belmont dinnerware, with its crackle glaze, now featured in celadon.

For modernists, the Sutton line offers sand-blasted vases and large bowls, for the table, simple square dishes in black with brown flecks, or celadon or white. There's a range of prices: Francisco, a Portuguese pottery line, starts at \$16 a plate while the hand-blown Stratton glasses with "air twists" in the stems are \$80 each.

Beliveau promises those looking for gifts on budgets needn't worry. "If someone comes in here and can spend \$50, we will pull different things together and help. We are good at that."

Simon Pearce will be appearing at the store, 2223 Fillmore St. (at Sacramento), in early November. Check for dates, (415) 409-3700. Open 10 a.m. through 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

