



ABOVE: Brazilian house and antique cart.

TOP RIGHT: Andrea explores Tiradentes by foot.

FAR RIGHT: Carved elements that will become furniture pieces in the wood workshop.



detailed hand-painted tables, chests, armoires, benches, and chairs that are waxed and distressed to give an antique look. The handpainted furniture line which includes some of her most popular sellers features Colonial and tropical themes, as well as floral, baroque, wildlife, and other design motifs. Although all pieces on display in the showroom are available for immediate delivery, Brazil Baroque also manufactures custom pieces for clients and designers.

Another exciting aspect of the business includes the Brazilian antiques Fonseca searches out and imports,

Colonial pieces, rustic furniture (circa 1850 and later), and armoires from Northern Brazil reflect the Afro-Brazilian design influence. Unique examples of plantation life such as cheese molding, bread making, and coffee bean sorting tables; religious artifacts including eighteenth and nineteenth century *santos* (painted wooden carvings of saints used in home altars throughout the centuries), niches and *oratorios* (that house the *santos*) are just a few of her ongoing discoveries.

Andrea also searches out recycled architectural elements for architects and designers including rustic doors,

beams, flooring, window frames, and other elements salvaged from haciendas slated for demolition.

All in all, Brazil Baroque offers a cornucopia of South American treasures for the discerning buyer. It's difficult to imagine the enthusiastic, tiny powerhouse slowing down, but when she does take a breath, it's to share her passion and knowledge with all those visiting her interesting and packed-to-the-rafters showroom. ■

**BRAZIL BAROQUE** is open Monday-Friday 10:30 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. The showroom is located at 436 E. Gutierrez, Santa Barbara, California, Phone, 805.962.8868, fax 805.962.0181. [www.brazilbaroque.com](http://www.brazilbaroque.com)