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A Sconce Made of Twisted Vines

By TIM McKEOUGH Published: January 5, 2011



Catherine Latson, an artist who lives in Tarrytown, N.Y., began making sculptural sconces from Oriental bittersweet two years ago, after collecting lengths of the invasive vine during hikes in the woods. "The vine itself is a horrible beast," Ms. Latson said, because it can climb as much as 60 feet and choke trees.

Still, it is well suited to sculpture. "It has a wonderful twining, curling, braided nature, which is quite lovely," she said. And because the "torque and spiral" of the raw materials determine the shape of her creations,

"the pieces almost make themselves," she said, as she winds strands together. The sconces start at about \$200; Ms. Latson also makes pedestals, chandeliers and other sculptural pieces from the vine. Information: (914) 406-0813 or <u>catherinelatson.com</u>.

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