



GORDON DRIVE

LIGHT THE WAY
Brilliant Timepieces and Gems

CELESTIAL WONDERS
Space Travel Takes Flight

CARTE BLANCHE
Fashions, Galas and Spirits of the Moment

2022-2023 | EUPHORIC LUXURY | VOL.2

2

HAND-ENGRAVED BAMBOO RODS

I've long followed my dad to his Southeastern fishing tournaments, but it wasn't until I met Georgia rodmaker Bill Oyster, of Oyster Fine Bamboo Fly Rods, that I learned about the art behind the sport. Oyster's fresh- and saltwater-fly rods are crafted from a single culm of Tonkin bamboo, considered the sport's gold standard. Each rod takes at least 50 hours to complete, with carefully split strips planed to 1/1000th of an inch; guides are attached with fine silk thread. Then, the surface is smoothed, and a Portuguese cork handle is added.

Oyster's artistry shines, as he uses a microscope to hand engrave the reel seat and ferrules with intricate fishing scenes, family crests or portraits of pets, made of nickel silver with the option of adding 24-karat-gold inlay. Oyster has made rods for the likes of President Jimmy Carter (who he took fishing in the waters around the Soque River in North Georgia). These artfully crafted rods become family heirlooms passed down for generations. There's nothing like them. ♦

