



IN THE FRAME

At Bark Frameworks, veteran gilder Yelena Budylin inspects a custom frame and, in a room reserved for the practice, a worker demonstrates a centuries-old gilding technique by applying one thin gold sheet at a time. Jared Bark started his company in 1969 as a one-man operation in a SoHo loft. He made frames for friends while working as an artist as well in the burgeoning downtown scene. Today, the company occupies a 27,000-square-foot facility in Long Island City, with 42 workers enlisted in an employee stock-ownership plan. They make approximately 5,000 frames per year, for museums and many of New York's biggest galleries.

