### Brisbane











old is a noble, precious metal of yellow brilliance. It has exceptional qualities as it resists corrosion and oxidization and is ductile and malleable. In history gold was a symbol of immortality and wealth. Gold objects dating back 6,000 years attest to its early and continuous attraction.

In antiquity objects were embellished by hammering gold on to the surfaces. Over time the techniques of applying a thin sheet of gold (or silver or other metals) to the surface of wooden, metal, stone and ceramic and porcelain objects developed and the trade of gilder was established. Leather can be gilded in a variety of ways and even paper and textiles can be gilded.

Finely gilded masterpieces and prestigious works have been passed down the centuries, their traditional gilding methods lasting due to the high quality of technique. We use traditional European gilding methods on a wide range of surfaces. Metal surfaces most commonly gilded are iron, lead, copper, bronze and aluminium. Wooden and plaster surfaces are frequently gilded.

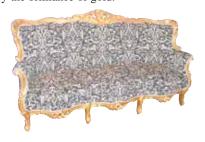
#### Interior gilding

We can apply gold leaf to most parts of your home or office, from the decorative cornices to the ceiling centres, mouldings on walls and doors, arch surrounds, pilasters, pediments, antique furniture and of course your picture frames.

#### Exterior gilding

We gild architectural features such as grids, gates, railings, gables, metal lace effects and lamp posts.

Treasures of the past can be restored to their original beauty with gilding and new treasures can be created in more contemporary style. Buildings of historical importance can be restored to their former glory. Contemporary residences can be transformed into elegant, prestigious interiors by the brilliance of gold.



Our clients are issued with a certificate of authenticity on completion of projects in which real gold is used.

## Trompe I'oeil & decorative painting

An optical illusion that is designed to deceive the viewer into believing that the painting is reality is called trompe l'oeil, which means to deceive the eye. The technique originated in ancient Greece and was also used by the Romans, but the technique was lost during the Dark Ages. It was revived during the Renaissance and became extremely popular in the Baroque age when it was applied to give the illusion that a room was more spacious and also more interesting by incorporating elements of fantasy in the form of structural features, objects and people.

Trompe l'oeil requires the artist to paint a scene so realistically that it looks like a natural, integral part of the area on which it is painted. Working on a client's project Gérard found two butterflies hovering around a flowering vine which was part of a Tuscany landscape, so it is not just the human eye that is convinced by his skill in painting optical illusions.

Gérard has developed his personal style of illusionary painting which he refers to as the 'window effect' in which the frame of the painting replicates a window frame and sill. This results in a window view with a three-dimensional effect to lure the onlooker into believing that the scene of the painting is really just outside a non-existent window. 'I once painted a window scene and after it was completed and hung on the wall, the client's cat tried to jump through the window. The client was astounded, and so was I,' said Gérard.

A vacant wall can be brought to life with a beautiful landscape or seascape view, bringing light and interest to a room. How more romantic and transporting could it be than to look out your 'window' onto your dreamscape?

Gérard is happy to advise on decorative options ■

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# Art on Palls

Murals - Trompe L'oeil - Decorative finishes Commissions - Gilding

