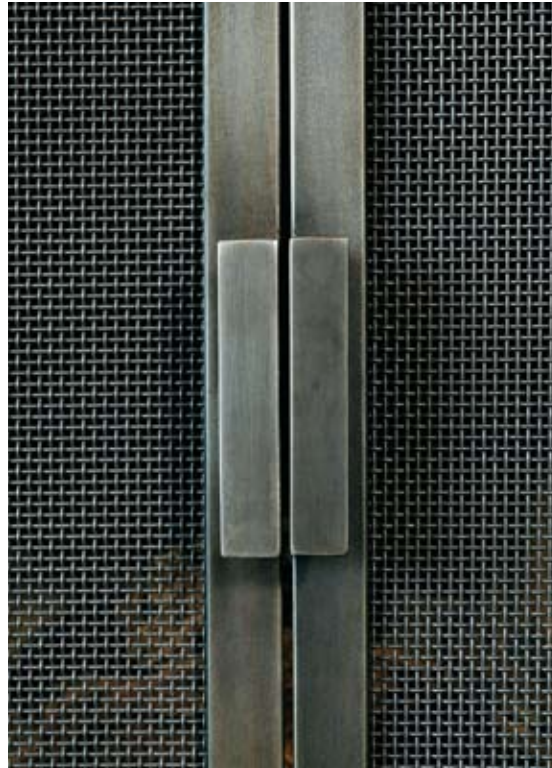




# METAL SOLUTIONS

Seattle, Washington



“I try to take a comprehensive approach to design. I want the inside of the fireplace door to have the same level of finish and aesthetic as the outside.”

—Steven Northey

ABOVE: Cabinet-style doors open to the firebox and are made of industrial mesh and structural steel; we accented the contemporary design with forged handles. The blackened, pitted and hand-waxed finish creates a rich and natural-looking patina.

FACING PAGE: We clad the original masonry fireplace of the mid-century residence in reclaimed scrap and structural steel. The hearth, surround and doors have been darkened and waxed. The use of recycled materials and traditional hand-applied finishes helps reduce the impact of the work on the environment.

*Photographs by Dave Schiefelbein*

“Creating architectural pieces in metal takes careful planning, yet we must allow the design to evolve and reveal itself.”

—Steven Northey



ABOVE: A detail of the railing rivets echoes the precise, geometric design of the steel balustrade. We etched the surface of the metal to expose the crystalline structure of the steel.



FACING PAGE: The Craftsman-style railing is a fine counterpoint to the warm organic tones of the surrounding wood panels.

*Photographs by Dave Schiefelbein*





“It is important to consider each component and how it coexists in its environment. The relationship of the materials to the site is paramount.”

—Steven Northey



ABOVE: Mounted to follow the fluid architecture of the home's curvilinear balcony, the custom fabricated bronze oval railcap has a deep, antiqued finish.  
*Photograph by Dave Schiefelbein*

FACING PAGE TOP LEFT: The custom cast bronze volute and railcap exhibits a rich, patinated luster; we added a bronze wrap to highlight the forged steel handrail bracket.  
*Photograph by Steven Northey*

FACING PAGE TOP RIGHT: From the Japanese term *yareigeta*, or "broken grid," the stair guardrail's design is based on an abstraction of kanji script.  
*Photograph by Steven Northey*

FACING PAGE BOTTOM LEFT: The hand-forged guardrail is reminiscent of wild grasses.  
*Photograph by Dave Schiefelbein*

FACING PAGE BOTTOM RIGHT: Blackened and waxed undulating ribbons of steel transform into artful balusters while the solid newel post mimics split and hewn timbers throughout the home.  
*Photograph by Steven Northey*