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ANN SACKS® FEATURES BLAKE STUDIOS AT KBIS 2009
Expressive New Collection Fuses A Free-spirited Blend of Brilliant Colors and Organic Forms

PORTLAND, Ore. (May 1, 2009) – At the 2009 Kitchen/Bath Industry Show in Atlanta, ANN SACKS, a premier manufacturer and distributor of tile, stone and plumbing products, unveiled its new Blake Studios collection. The three organic designs, Nautilus, Botanical and Dahlia, can be applied vertically or horizontally to create dramatic, show-stopping murals, with an individual beauty that is also striking as a backsplash or fireplace surround.

Sculptural and lush, the Blake Studios collection tiles are individually made by hand using the Italian Old World technique of *sgraffito* carving, which means “to scratch.” No molds or dies are used to create the elaborate designs making each tile truly a one-of-a-kind work of art. To achieve its undulating surface, clay is draped over spacers creating a textural effect. Wet clay is then brushed onto white porcelain clay and when almost dry, the artisan carves the design in relief.

The 11x11 tiles are meant for indoor installations and offered in an expressive, 18 color palette, including a plain field tile. The sensuous tiles curve downward for easy grouting. ANN SACKS will also accommodate special orders using any custom design specified.

Founded in 1981, ANN SACKS has built its reputation with inspiring designs in tile, stone, plumbing, lighting and accessories. Based in Portland, Ore., the company is a division of the Kohler Co. Interiors Group, a wholly owned subsidiary of Kohler Co., which also includes Kallista plumbing, Baker Knapp & Tubbs, Inc., Baker furniture, Baker Knapp & Tubbs Showrooms and Baker Stores, McGuire Furniture Company, and Mark David hospitality furniture.

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Founded in 1873 and headquartered in Kohler, Wis., Kohler Co. is one of America's oldest and largest privately held companies. Kohler is a global leader in the manufacture of kitchen and bath products, engines and power generation systems, cabinetry, tile and home interiors, and international host to award-winning hospitality and world-class golf destinations.

For additional information regarding the Blake Studios collection or other ANN SACKS products, consumers may call toll-free 1-800-278-TILE or visit the ANN SACKS website at www.annsacks.com.

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