

FLOOR SHOW



Mosaic designs are a speciality of floor cloth painter Lara Koplin.

Lara Koplin became interested in decorative art after creating an elaborate floor covering for an art class at VCU. After graduating with a double major in crafts and art history, she made decorative art her business.

Koplin specializes in floor coverings as well as wall finishes and furniture. She can create floor coverings to match wallpaper or upholstery, however, she likes to incorporate classical images into her art. Koplin's floor coverings are painted canvas with a protective coating on the top and bottom to protect them from moisture. The coverings are very durable and can be wiped clean.

Floor coverings were originally used by peasants in Europe who were too poor to buy rugs and Koplin's coverings sometimes look like the originals, complete with cracks painted into the artwork. Often, Koplin's floor coverings are mosaics, but she can also paint them with leaves or clouds. The mosaic floor coverings are made up of 1-inch squares and range from \$40-50 per square foot.

Koplin creates wall finishes to match the floor coverings and she can even paint ceilings with skies or stones. She can usually complete these projects in a week and prices depend on the size of the area and the design.

For more information, call Koplin at 353-5488.— CLANCY THURSTON