Huarache Sandals

Amidst the sticky neon of cruise ship passengers and warm slush of half-finished margaritas, one can still glimpse a view of the old Puerto Vallarta, before the body shots and clubs with names like "The Zoo" made an appearance. That Puerto Vallarta hides above and below the mess of modern tourism in tiled steps, terracotta roofs, draping vines of bougainvillea, and cobblestone streets. These remnants of a bygone era harbor a sort of quiet dignity, covered slowly, as the rest of the world carries on with its business. One such relic of the old world is Huaracheria Fabiola, a rickety custom sandal shop, piled high with history, leather, and the slightly toxic but delicious smell of shoe polish. Taught by his father, who learned the art of Huarache making in a nearby village, the present owner creates beautifully tanned and woven sandals for ladies and men. While many have forgone leather shoes for a biomorphic variety of footwear that is best not dwelled upon, Huaracheria Fabiola is for those stalwart leather holdouts who don't shy away from the idea of a man in a braided leather shoe. It's an unspeakable truth, but we're going to utter it here: No one actually feels better wearing a plastic spaceship on his or her foot. Keep a bit of dignity in life, buy yourself a pair of custom sandals, and help bring the past into the present, if it has some trouble finding its way there. BC

Huarache Sandals - 20 C - Huaracheria Fabiola

