

TESTED! 2008 SHIMANO XT p. 58

MOUNTAIN BIKING

A SUPPLEMENT
TO RODALE INC.



**6 BIKES
WITH SOUL:
ONE'S
A 29ER!**

**SAVE YOUR
FRAME** p. 80

**THE NEW
SINGLETRACK
HOT SPOT**

**12 PERFECT
TOOLS** p. 68

STELLA TONG
RIDES THE BMC SUPERSTROKE
NEAR MALIBU. SEE
THE BMC REVIEW, p. 75.



• **WHO YOU'RE LOOKING AT:**

CARL STRONG AND HIS CUSTOM TITANIUM HARDTAIL

- **WHY:** Strong started making frames in his grandma's garage 14 years ago; by 2004, his business was building a thousand frames a year, for the Strong name and other brands. Tired of managing, he's again a one-man show. "The practice I got as a contract builder put me over the top in terms of quality," he says. "When you do something all day, every day, you'll get good at it." Strong is a fan of 29ers and rides one himself. "Ten years ago my buddy asked me to build him a 29er. We used Avocet 44cm tires and a fork with a custom-made bridge. We called it the 'freak bike.' Shows what I knew." *More info at strongframes.com*

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