

SOUTHERN ALBERTA
WOODWORKERS SOCIETY

SaWS

2017

2017 Fine Works In Wood Exhibition
September 8 to September 17 at Southcentre Mall, Calgary

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the SAWS 2017 Fine Works in Wood Exhibition and Sale

The Southern Alberta Woodworkers Society (SAWS) is a non-profit organization which has been operating since 1983 to promote excellence in woodwork, provide a place for woodworkers to meet and exchange ideas and be available as a resource to help the community.

At its core, SAWS is just a group of people who love working with wood and turning it into interesting and beautiful creations. For some, working with wood is a career, for others it's just a hobby; but for all it is a means to create something with passion. Every two years we pause, emerge from our workshops, and share with the world what we have created lately.

The purpose of our exhibition is twofold; first and most obvious, is to showcase our fine works in wood to the public and second is to bring the public to us. We always welcome new members. If you're interested in learning more, please have a look at our website at www.saws.ca to check on upcoming meetings.

Organizing and hosting this exhibition takes a lot of planning and work. I am sincerely grateful to all of the volunteers who contributed their time and talents to make it possible. Also, we are thankful for our sponsors, as the exhibition would not be possible without them. Most of our sponsors are long term supporters of these exhibitions. They have provided us with monetary contributions to make the exhibition a reality year after year and for that I am also grateful.

I hope you find something in the exhibition that makes you stop and wonder. Look at the beautiful wood that nature has given us to work with, or contemplate why or how a maker created what they did. When it comes to the items that we as a society create, I trust that you will agree that these are the flowers worth stopping to smell.

Matt Smith
Exhibition Chair – SAWS 2017

TED BRANTON

LET IT SNOW

These wooden snowflakes were created from patterns, manually generated on a computer, based on images imported from actual photographs of real snowflakes. I had previously created many Christmas tree ornaments based on simpler geometric designs and decided it was time to attempt something more realistic. I believe there is controversy over the perception that 'no two snowflakes are ever alike', however, although my collection is much smaller, there are no identical snowflakes here.



Peruvian Walnut, Maple, Cherry & Brass

15"x 1"x 11"

PAUL FITZPATRICK

BLANKET BOX

I want what I make to be useful, durable and aesthetically pleasing.



Cherry, Walnut & Aromatic Cedar

37" x 19" x 21"

DALLAS GARA



CHERRY ROCKING CHAIR

These are Sam Maloof and Hal Taylor inspired rocking chairs. Each chair is hand sculpted and hand shaped. Over 80 hours is spent making each chair. The 'Maloof Joints' on the chairs are especially unique in the design; both beautiful and functional.



Curly Cherry & Curly Maple

44" x 26" x 46"

DALLAS GARA

WALNUT ROCKING CHAIR



Walnut & Ebony

44" x 26" x 44"

TOM GORMAN



SPIDER



Curly Maple, Kewazinga Bubinga veneer, Figured English Sycamore veneer, Maple, Ebony & Abalone Shell

32" x 28.5" x 41.5"

BRIAN GRAHAM

DECEPTIVELY SIMPLE COMPANION

The bedside table is a companion piece to a bed, and shares the same hyperboloid or negative Gaussian curvature surface detail.

The curved surface raises what could have been a simple rectilinear volume to a very dynamic and interesting shape. The curved theme is echoed in both the pencil rail, and the drawer handles.



American Black Walnut, Alder & Walnut Plywood

24" x 18" x 26.5"

MICHAEL J.C. HOLTON

FOUNDATION BENCH

In this piece I aimed to provide a contemporary context for the old growth Douglas fir that before now had been in a wall of a century house. I hope it likes it.



Reclaimed Douglas Fir & Maple

48" x 17" x 20"

MICHAEL J.C. HOLTON

PIXEL CUTTING BOARD

This board was one of a run of end grain hardwood "scraps" that before now may have ended up in the fire. I am glad I did this experiment.



Walnut, Maple & Cherry

19.75" x 11.25" x 1"

DON JAMES

BOWL WITH ATTITUDE

This is another layered bowl (as I started to describe them) in Claro Walnut. Not the first, nor likely the last but fun to make. I like the contrast of the layers all a bit different and the textured upper surface with the clean bowl interior. Claro Walnut is perhaps my favourite wood. I spoke with a potter named John Chalke regarding these pieces and he suggested (insisted I suppose) that varied layers would be inspiring. Throw caution to the wind so to speak. He was right I think.



Claro Walnut

8.25" x 8" x 3.25"

DON JAMES

MANZANITA DARE

This piece is one of the more challenging turnings I have done. The wood is hard, heavy and brittle and as a result was quite dangerous to work at speed, however the final piece has amazing grain and polish. I was given the burl by a fellow turner who had the piece in his front garden for years. "See what you can do with that," he said. So I did.



Manzanita Root Burl

19.5" x 13.75" x 4.5"

DON JAMES

YE OLDE BOWL

This bowl is not particularly challenging to make based on its shape and thickness, however since it is salvaged from an English Tythe Barn from the mid to late 16 hundreds it's become an interesting piece all on its own. The wood is Elm and quite wormy. The "Barn" has been moved to Canada and has been rebuilt in Pincher Creek. The wood in the bowl is now approaching 450-500 years old. The worms are long gone.



Elm

8.5" x 8.5" x 5"

MERV KRIVOSHEIN

HOLLYWOOD BOX

A new process for securing the mitered corners of this box came from my desire to find an alternative method from the many established techniques.



Holly & Juniper
14.5" x 9.25" x 5.5"

MERV KRIVOSHEIN

MARITIME BENCH

The concept for this project was to create an 1840's maritime bench. The bench was constructed at a Lee Valley workshop and due to time restraints, completed in my studio.



Yellow Poplar

48" x 22" x 41.5"

JOHN LAVOIE

COPPER MESH JEWEL CHEST

Combining copper and maple burl in an artistic and original way. The inside of this chest is rosewood which is visible through the woven copper mesh.



Big Leaf Maple Burl, Ebony, Rosewood Veneer & Copper

18" x 12" x 6"

JOHN LAVOIE

OFF CUTS TABLE

Wood was a gift from a Vancouver Island woodworker. The shapes of the pieces determined my design. Deciding which way to orient the live edges and angle the pieces was a function of balance, both figurative and actual.



Figured Maple

24" x 12" x 20"

JOHN LAVOIE

POOL TABLE

Off-cut pieces with a variety of imperfections. Idea was in the wood and also from the days of my misspent youth in the pool hall.



Curly Eastern Maple, Ash, Holly, Bloodwood, Anigre & Stabilized Maple

24" x 11" x 22.75"

ADRIAN LAY



TWISTED COFFEE TABLE

This coffee table is the result of the desire to create something I had not seen before. I try to produce pieces that are both unique and intriguing.



Curly Maple, Wenge & Glass

36" x 19" x 19"

ANDY LOCKHART

CARVED LESSER SCAUP

A colleague was interested in a carving project and invited me to tag along for company. I elected to carve this Lesser Scaup (Bluebill). It's my first serious carving project, and has led to several other pieces.



Basswood & Tupelo

12"x 6"x 6.5"

DALE LOWE

A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT

This piece of maple burl was close to being unusable with a large bark inclusion thru the middle of the piece. I filled the inclusion with epoxy that is tinted with navy blue color. The epoxy held the piece together to allow a very thin wall in the vessel. Shining a light into the top opening shows the thin blue wall to light up, thus the illusion of water in the river.



Maple Burl & Epoxy

4.25" x 4.25" x 10.25"

DALE LOWE

ANCIENT POT #IV

This high figure maple pot cracked badly during drying. My inspiration was to follow ancient pot repair techniques by stitching cracks in vessels to retain their longevity and use. The stiches are done with waxed cotton thread and with the turned beads the vessel makes an unusual sound when moved, almost musical but mysterious.



Figured Maple

7.5"x 7.5"x 8"

DALE LOWE

WILLOW TEA

This piece is made with figured maple and has been sectioned and re-glued to create the curved body, then sanded to create a smooth transition to the body shape. The spout & handle have both been turned and then cut & carved to match the body shape. The leaves and top lid have been carved and textured and painted with acrylics. A small hint of wood is showing in all of the pieces to verify the integrity of the wood piece.



Figured Maple

8.25" x 4" x 9"

BILL MANIOTAKIS

EAMES HOUSE BIRDS (REPLICAS)

Charles and "Ray" Eames took great pride in the interior of the Eames House and brought back numerous pieces from their travels that spoke to their design aesthetic. One of the most prized of these objects was the figure of a black wooden bird from the Appalachian Mountains. It originated from husband and wife team Charles and Edna Perdew, who passed on their gun repair business to their son and began carving and painting bird decoys for hunters. The simple black bird that would later become famous was crafted around 1910, but caught the attention of mid-century audiences for its striking shape and minimalism.



Figured Maple

9" x 3.5" x 9"

BILL MANIOTAKIS

SIMPLICITY

The design for this desk was a collaboration with my son Bryan. His initial criterion was for 'something minimalistic' to suit his small downtown Calgary apartment. Walnut was his wood of choice and he had no requirement for a drawer. Simple, I thought. What started out as a 'simple minimalistic desk' concept, proved to be more of a challenge than anticipated because of the splayed legs and angled mortise and tenon joinery. Consequently, I named it 'Simplicity', as a play on words.



Walnut

65" x 28" x 30"

IAN McLENNAN

OVAL BOX WITH WOOD HINGE

My inspiration for this project was to create a fully functional box, but to move away from the typical square or rectangular format to a more sculpted form. The oval shape of the body contrasts nicely with the angular, faceted shape of the ends. I have been a woodworker for 35 years, starting with guitar building. I now build boxes, furniture and also some wood turning.



Quilted Maple, Wenge, Santos Rosewood, Maple & Leather

14" x 8.5" x 4"

KAI MUENZER

PLANETARY SYSTEM

The Planetary System can store your precious items without losing them in space. Floating spheres is the theme of this all turned cabinet. The design exhibits the unique opportunities woodturning offers to cabinet building. Walnut and Maple are contrasting woods displayed here in workmanship, colour, texture and finish. As a woodturner I enjoy exploring the creative aspects and design possibilities the craft allows.



Maple & Walnut

27" x 24" x 57"

KAI MUENZER

STANDING LAMP

A decorative standing lamp with millefiori glass insets. The clear and simple shapes of the elements of the magnolia lamp are contrasted by the highly irregular character of the spalting of the wood and glass pattern. The lamp has a unique appearance at daytime as well as when illuminated at night. As a woodturner I enjoy exploring the creative aspects and design possibilities the craft allows.



Spalted Magnolia & Maple

9"x 2.5"x 12"

MIKE MULVEY

JEWELRY BOX



Bubinga, Maple, Yellow Cedar & Cork

6" x 12" x 4"

MIKE MULVEY

MUSIC STAND



Sapele, Dyed Cherry

16" x 11" x 56"

MIKE MULVEY



WRITING DESK



Walnut, Burl Walnut Veneer & Ebony

46" x 24" x 29.5"

DOUG PERRAS

SAWS

I have attempted, in the design and construction of these saws, to bring together aesthetics and pragmatism.



Reclaimed Jatoba, Brass, Steel, Epoxy & Hemp Cord

32" x 24" x 1.5", 15" x 13" x 1.5"

29" x 19" x 1.5", 19" x 17" x 1.5"

DAVID ROSS

WALNUT AND METAL DESK

The desk was commissioned by a client who wanted metal legs on a walnut desk. I thought metal panels would be more interesting than four legs. I then designed and made metal drawer pulls to complement the graphic design of the steel panels.



Walnut, Walnut Veneer & Steel

48" x 18" x 31"

DAVID ROSS

WHITE OAK BENCH

I acquired some white oak backer board for a commission. Upon sorting the wood, I found this interesting piece that must have come from the butt end of the log. This inspired me to incorporate this natural shape into a bench.



White Oak & Poplar

44.5" x 15" x 19"

JUERG SALZGEBER

NUTTY

A couple years ago I saw a similar design in a gift shop in Switzerland. In my shop I played with angles and proportions until I was happy with the design.



Baltic Birch Plywood & Red Gum Veneer

24" x 24" x 5"

JUERG SALZGEBER

STEPPING ON THE CORNICE

Walking through a thrift store in Winnipeg earlier this year I could see the design for a side table the moment I saw this pair of snowshoes.



Cherry, Maple, Purpleheart, Padauk, Acrylic & Glass

48" x 17" x 19"

JUERG SALZGEBER



TRANSCENDENT WARP

Ever since building the first twisted box some 20 years ago I have been dreaming of making a complex towering column. Transcendent Warp has turned out to be a much bigger challenge than anticipated and is the most difficult piece I have ever built.



Poplar, Myrtle Burl Veneer & Glass

18" x 18" x 74"

HERM STOLTE

NATURALLY LILAC

Thanks to a local arborist, I received this rather large trunk of Villosa Lilac shrub grown in the Chinook Park area. This beautiful wood had an equally pleasing aroma as I turned it.



Villosa Lilac
6.5" x 6.5" x 7"

HERM STOLTE

CUBAN COLLAR VASE

It always amazes me how an unwanted tree can contain so much beauty inside it. This piece too, has a wide variety of colour and figure, enhanced by a rim made of reclaimed mahogany (likely Cuban – *Swietenia mahagoni*)



Manitoba Maple & Mahogany

6.5" x 6.5" x 7"

HERM STOLTE

RING-NECK VASE

I try to create pleasing shapes out of pleasing pieces of mostly locally grown woods. This one also incorporates a small piece of reclaimed mahogany (likely Cuban – *Swietenia mahagoni*) that came into my shop as part of a bed post.



Manitoba Maple & Mahogany

7" x 7" x 7.5"

WILF TALBOT

GENTLEMAN'S SHAVING KIT

A gentleman needs to have a shaving kit that reflects back to the time when shaving was an art form. Only recently has this retro influence created the need to reflect upon silver tip badger hair brush and the creation of a perfect lather from special soap held in a wooden lidded bowl to help with the daily ritual of shaving. Three of these sets were made from a single board of Desert Ironwood. One was for a Fortieth birthday, one was a Christmas present and one for myself. Now they link three men.

Inspiration started with a request to pick up some Christmas presents from G. F. Trumper at 9 Curzon Street in Mayfair, London, established in the late 19th century. The shop interior retains the original mahogany cubicles and glass display cases.



Desert Ironwood

7"x 7"x 6"

WILF TALBOT

NESTED BOWLS

There are three forms of "F" wood – Free, Found and Fire. This piece of Manitoba maple burl matched all the categories when cleaning up and sorting through my wood pile. Too good to make only one bowl, the piece has provided four nesting bowls.

The grain, pattern and character in the burl can be followed from bowl to bowl providing insight into the growth of the tree.



Manitoba Maple Burl

11" x 11" x 6"

WILF TALBOT

NOWHERE TO HIDE

The pear has to go! Unfortunately, the centre of the tree shows the reason. The axis of the tree is horizontal in the piece which provides the intrigue on the sides and interior. A hollow vessel usually has a small opening that provides the only availability to feel or view the inside. The opening also restricts entry into the vessel and the ability to judge finish and wall thickness. The deteriorated heartwood in this vessel extends through the sides of the vessel, and therefore one cannot hide the interior which proves to be interesting.



Ussurian Pear

7"x 7"x 7"

SIDE EXHIBITS: 2x4 CHALLENGE

BILL MANIOTAKIS

Japanese Shoji Screen, Asa-no-ha Kumiko Pattern
36"x 6"x 30"



RICHARD SWAKA

Tool Tote
18"x 11"x 8"



DAVID ROSS

Cedar Stool
14" x 8" x 19"



JOHN LAVOIE

Bent House
12" x 8" x 16"



DOUG DRURY

2x4 Segmented Vase
10"x 10"x 9"



BRIAN ERHARDT

#3
10"x 5"x 5"



MATT SMITH

Glow

17" x 14" x 16"



SIDE EXHIBITS: WHIMSY

BUILDING AN ONLINE COMMUNITY

Have you ever played that game where a group of people is sitting around a campfire, or maybe with a few family members driving somewhere in the car and one person starts telling a story, stops, and the next person continues telling the story changing it as they want, and so on...

I organized a group of like-minded people on Instagram, put two pieces of wood together and mailed it off to the next person on the group list. Each participant added their pieces to what I had sent and mailed it off to the next person, and so on and so forth. An ongoing story that arrives in the mail that someone could actually hold and build on was very exciting for most people.

There is a certain amount of fear that goes with the excitement of expectation when your name is next, but that is all part of it.

These whimsy projects are the result of many contributions from many creative, artistic and adventuresome people around the world.

Construction processes can be seen on Instagram at the hashtagged with the titles.

John Lavoie

WHIMSY I

8" x 3" x 6"



John Lavoie	@john.lavoie	Calgary, AB
Brian McCallister	@bjmacwoodwork	Saltspring Island, BC
Brian Guenther	@brian.guenther	Edmonton, AB
Meg Tilston	@mackilston	Toronto, ONT
Joseph Nemeth	@tempestfurniture	Ramsey, NJ USA
Keith Mitchell	@shipwrightskills	Williston, VT USA

WHIMSY 2

16" x 6" x 8"



Maarten Meerman	@nanotray	Vancouver, BC
John Lavoie	@john.lavoie	Calgary, AB
Maia Dilorenzo	@Rockydock	Chelsea, VT USA
Travis Knapp	@rarewoods.us	Morrisville, VT USA
Anne Briggs Bohnet	@anneofalltrades	Seattle, WA
Sam Soet	@samsoetart	Farwell, MI
Jason Mollak	@jpmconstructioninc	Omaha, NE
Justin Mollak	@mollak_custom_carpentry	Omaha, NE
Bill Maniotakis	@bill_maniotakis	Calgary, AB
Dave Ross		Calgary, AB
Matt Smith	@newwestdesign.ca	Calgary, AB

WHIMSY ARCHITECTURE

12" x 8" x 16"



John Lavoie	@john.lavoie	Calgary, AB
Samuel Acford	@pocketsfullofsawdust	Comox, BC
Jason Musso	@jasonmusso	Phoenix, AZ USA
Ramon Valdez	@ramonartful	Farmington, NM USA
Zach Petersen	@deepwoodworkshop	Indianapolis, IN USA
Bob Gurule	@bobgurule	Farmington, NM USA
Andrea	@dreabearhugz	Farmington, NM USA
Brian Guenther	@brian.guenther	Edmonton, AB

CANADA WHIMSY

12" x 10" x 18"



John Lavoie	@john.lavoie	Calgary, AB
Nicholas Holmes	@hamiltonholmes	Hamilton, ONT
Anthony Moore	@anthony.g.moore	Dundas, ONT
Nicholas Brygidyr	@ngbfurniture	Montreal, PQ
Nathan Carlson	@hgcarpentry	Winnipeg, MB
Nathan Sterkenburg	@sterkworks	Medicine Hat, AB
Neil Dorin	@neildorin	Calgary, AB
Debra Hunter	@debramhunter	Red Deer, AB
Greg Reed		Calgary, AB
Gary Gunthorpe	@garysworkshopsaws	Calgary, AB

AUSSIE WHIMSY

14" x 5" x 10"



Kerryn Carter	@toolschool	NSW, AUS
Steph Le Poidevin	@createdbys	NSW, AUS
Charlie Hurcomb	@itscoolart_and_furniture	QLD, AUS
Dale Eisele	@charliechopcustoms	WA, AUS
Ben Crossweller	@madebyben14	NSW, AUS
Kristian King	@kristiankingfurniture	VIC, AUS
Tony Platt	@plattcavecreations	VIC, AUS
Andrew McCarthy	@anchorathome	TAS, AUS

OVER THE POND WHIMSY

10" x 5" x 6"



John Lavoie	@john.lavoie	Calgary, AB
Michiel Van Dijk	@mikeyvandyk	Utrecht, The Netherlands
Jacqueline Rodenburg	@spoenk.goudsmid	Utrecht, The Netherlands
Steve Morris	@stephenmorris.furniture	Staffordshire, UK
Susie Chillcott	@erthewoodworks	
Steve Cashmore	@steveswoodcave	Berkshire, UK
Jonathan Ferguson	@crafted_timber	Swanland, East Yorkshire, UK
Bernard Billsberry	@berncarpenter	Kenfig Hills, Wales, UK

SAWS WHIMSY 1

12" x 6" x 16"



Matt Smith	Calgary, AB
Gary Gunthorpe	Calgary, AB
Tam Godfrey	Calgary, AB
Marion Hood	Calgary, AB
Mike Frampton	Calgary, AB

SAWS WHIMSY 2

8" x 8" x 12"



Fred Coates	Calgary, AB
Herm Stolte	Calgary, AB
Andy Lockhart	Calgary, AB
Dave Ross	Calgary, AB
Murray Lundberg	Calgary, AB

SAWS would like to thank the following people who helped make this exhibition possible:

Matt Smith (exhibition chair)

Don James (sponsorship)

John Lavoie (sponsorship)

Brian Graham (display planning)

Dave Old (communications)

Brian Erhardt (grant applications & stewarding)

Herm Stolte (standards committee)

Dave Ross (standards committee)

Fred Coates (standards committee)

Bill Maniotakis (standards committee)

Don James (Jameswood Homes Inc.) (construction of People's Choice award)

Ted Branton (photography)

Barry Blatz (photography & catalog design)

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