International Woodcarving Show

Participants (In the alphabetical order of the country and region represented)

EDUARD GJOPALAJ
ALBANIA

The mystical and unique characteristics of wood, a natural and live material, are what amaze Eduart Gjopalaj from the very start. Many times the grain patterns of the wood itself are what guide and inspire him to bring his creative ideas to life. Eduart’s art work is influenced by different styles including modern, abstract and even religious themes. [Website](http://www.eduartgjopalaj.com)

MAKSIM PAPARIZO
ALBANIA

Maksim Paparizo finished the art high school in 1986. He has worked as a woodcarver in Gjirokaster, Albania. He took part in local and national galleries in Albania and Greece. From 1983 until today, he works as a woodcarver on church, traditional and classic woodworks in Greece.

KAHAILI ALMADHOON
SAHARA

Kahaili Almadhoon is graduated from Helwan University in Egypt in 2010. He is currently doing the master at the same university. He opens two personal art galleries in Bahrain and participates in different art fields. He participated in Muscat/Oman symposium for young sculptors in 2015, and Sahar camping symposium for sculptures Oman 2016.

GILSON FIRMING PEREIRA
BRAZIL

Gilson Firming Pereira is 38 years old. He has 23 years of woodcarving experience. He is married and has 3 children. He is a native of Itabimirim Pernambuco and currently living in Taboão da serra São Paulo.

KALINA PAVLOVA
BULGARIA

Kalina Pavlova’s art is founded on the principles of harmony with its environment and the surrounding architecture. Sometimes architecture and design are her guides in combining parts, at other times this happens more emotionally. She serves aesthetics with faith to detail, which she hopes the viewer will feel for herself.

YACOUBA BONDE
BURKINA FASO

Yacouba Bonde has learned sculpting and carving with his childhood friends since 1980. He travelled with the Mask group of Boni to Belgium in 2004. The same year, he attended the World Festival Culture in France and Switzerland in FIFO. He went to Quai museum in France with the Mask group of Boni in 2006.

ROEURN RIM
CAMBODIA

Roeurn Rim is a teacher of sculpture at School of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. He studied at Royal University of Fine Arts of Cambodia until 2005. He used to work with many projects of promoting of woodcarving in Cambodia and also with other foreign partners. On behalf of Cambodian woodcarver, he is trying his best to promote Cambodian woodcarving to international stage as much as he can.

DAVID ABELSON
CANADA

Received in 1981 a Scholarship from the Greenshield Foundation to paint at the Parke-American Academy. Received in 1984 a Grant from the Scandinavian Foundation to paint in Gotland, Sweden. The Forestal Museum acquired one painting. Exhibitions of works in over a dozen galleries, New-York, Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia. [Website](http://davidabelson.com)

MERVYN CHILD
CANADA

Mervyn Child lives now as Deputy Chief of Bureau of Fine Arts, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts of Cambodia. He is also teacher of sculpture at School of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. He joined WWD2016 in Nepal, and found it was very important event for him and other woodcarvers. Thus, he would like to join WWD2017 again to show Cambodian woodcarving art.

NOLENGAR TANDOJIM
CHAD

Nolengar Tandojim was born on March 19th 1985 in Ndjamena. He is a woodcarver. His primary, secondary and professional studies are all in Ndjamena.

MAURICIO ELLIAS PIHUANTE OLGUIN
CHILE

Mauricio Pihuante Olguín is native of Lo Miranda, commune of Orihuela. He currently uses the technique of sculpture with chainsaw. Working on the wood in such a way as to bring out the best of the tool, to give it the shape, thus shaping works of art.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Biography</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quan Lou</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Lou Quan has been in the field of woodcarving for 25 years. Many of her works won awards in 2015.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xueshan Lin</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Master craftsman in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as Master of China Arts and Crafts, Xueshan Lin does well in root carving, especially in Bodhidharma sculptures, and won the title of Bodhidharma Shan in China.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yang Zhou</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Engaged in woodcarving for 25 years, Yang Zhou was apprenticed to Mr. Gao Gongbo, the Master Craftsman in Asia-Pacific for woodcarving and dedicated to root carving until now. His works won national and provincial golden medals for many times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jules Joseph</td>
<td>Commonwealth of Dominica</td>
<td>Jules Joseph is from the Lovely Island of Dominica. He is a Chef, Wood Caver and a musician. He is very creative!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antri Pafiti</td>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>Antri Pafiti is a self-taught woodcarver, working on wood carving for the last 20 years, with a collection of eighty objects. Mainly she is very sensitive in traditional images of Cyprus history, and the culture of her people. As she is an optimistic artist every carve is a guidance for her inspiration. Art-critics and journalists regularly present and criticize her woodcarvings with excellent comments. Website (<a href="http://www.antiwoodcarving.com">http://www.antiwoodcarving.com</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henrik Sigensgaard</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Henrik Sigensgaard’s interest in woodcarving started at 13. He is using traditional Scandinavian methods but has spent many years refining the methods and developing his own techniques. He has been making sculptures for churches, monasteries and movie companies. He has a carving workshop in a hut in the forest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jiri Vyvial</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Solo exhibitions in major cities of Prague, Bratislava, Ostrava, Milano. Main prize at Czech art festival in 2007 for creativity and idea and 1st place in 2010 in the category “Wood”. Audience Award at the 2014 Symposium of Sculpture. Jiri Vyvial enjoys it. This gives the opportunity to fulfill his love creating beauty, harmony and evoke emotions. Website (<a href="http://www.jirivyvial.cz">http://www.jirivyvial.cz</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elamir Mohmed Yones</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Elamir Mohmed Yones is working as a Arts specialist teacher in woodcraft for 17 years. Wood is a way to express his feeling towards local and global events and any problems anywhere in world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armando Abel Bosapa</td>
<td>Equatorial Guinea</td>
<td>Armando Bosapa obtained a degree in Technical and Superior Technician in Plastic Arts and Design in Spain. He volunteered the rehabilitation of architectural and sculptural at two Cathedrals of Salamanca. Participated in numerous art related exhibitions, competitions, courses and seminars, he made his first exhibition in Malabo and later transferred to Oyala. He also makes sculptures for the decoration of Presidential Oyala hotel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ormar Tamm</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>In 1995, Ormar Tamm discovered the art of wood carving for himself and the mystery of wood becomes his main obsession up until now. Every sculpture he produces is truly unique and can never be reproduced or copied as the final design is always dependent on what he finds as the piece is worked. To him, working with wood is the dialog with it. Website (<a href="http://www.ormar.info">http://www.ormar.info</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jørgen Biskopstø</td>
<td>Faroe Islands</td>
<td>From an early stage Jørgen Biskopstø has had an interest for craftsmanship and art. When he was 17, he began as a carpenter apprentice and then later he became a boat builider. After studying for five years at the Danish Design School, he became a product designer. Later, he went to the Chinese National Academy of Art to study Chinese painting.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RISTO ELJAS IMMONEEN
FINLAND
Risto Immonen has worked in art and craft school and University of Lapland. He has had his own workshop/studio for about 35 years. He works with wood, metal, stone, and environment art. He has taken part in many international exhibitions and symposium around the world, including China, Japan, Russia and Europe.

GUILLAUME BOUSSOU
FRANCE
After studying art in France at university, Guillaume Boussou started travelling around the world and found himself settled in China. He discovered the amazing cultural heritage of traditional Chinese woodcarving. Since then he studied with the master woodcarver Lu Tingfeng in Dongyang, China.

HARTMUT RAGEMANN
GERMANY
Hartmut Rademann has been working for 5 years in the Studio of professor Broichmags and received the title of a master craftsman. He is self-employed and has his own shop and a small gallery. He took part in many symposia in Germany and abroad, e.g. in Malaysia, Korea, Czech Republic and China (WWD). He is a member of group of artists called espionArts.

Website (http://www.hotblitzchauser-rademann.de)

OSWALD ROYSTON HUSSEIN
GUYANA
Oswald Hussein has become one of the leading members of that group of Amerindian artist from whom has sprung a flourishing of the art forms of painting, designs and particularly sculpture. He won the Prize for Sculpture at the National Visual Arts Exhibition in 1989 and 1993, and the First Prize for Sculpture at the Great Master Art Competition in 1996.

Website (http://www.ive.lv/viktors.html)

MM SUTARYA
INDONESIA
MM Sutarya has engaged in woodcarving field for more than 30 years. After graduated from Indonesia craft industry high school, he got award as the best works of art carved in race works regional level. He graduated from Indonesia and arts institute in 1991 and started his career in a furniture carving company. His main field of craft is furniture carving.

Website (http://www.ive.lv/viktors.html)

VERONICA MARY SEXTON
IRELAND
Veronica Sexton won the coveted William Prize for Outstanding Work and was part of a selected group of artisans chosen to work on the five year restoration of Windsor Castle which had been severely damaged by fire. Since then she has worked on a number of commissions in Ireland, England, USA, Malaysia and Australia.

Website (http://www.ive.lv/viktors.html)

ERICH TROCKER
ITALY
Erich Trocker carefully observes the subjects in his environment and develops his techniques. He attempts to give life to things as he sees them... animals, people in different situations... characters. These are the subjects of his concern. His work evolves slowly as he strives for individually in every piece. He has successfully participated in expositions, symposiums and competitions in Italy and abroad.

Website (http://www.ive.lv/viktors.html)

MASAMICHI NITANI
JAPAN
Japanese wood sculptor from Hidaka, Hokkaido. Masamichi Nitani studied wood carving from old masters during his youth. He carves trays, vases, and pure visual objects as well as traditional Ainu carvings such as the Ainu Bear.

Website (http://www.ive.lv/viktors.html)

LAMEES AREF HAFIZ ASHWA
JORDAN
Lamees Aref Hafiz Ashwa loves painting and most of the art. Sculpture is her most favorable art.

Website (http://www.ive.lv/viktors.html)

ALEKSEY BORISOVICH BYKOV
KAZAKHSTAN
Aleksey Bykov took classes on sculpture and human anatomy from the prominent Soviet sculptor Juravlev Nikolay Stepanovich at university. Influenced by the classic school and folk art, he manages to develop his style where classic shapes melt into exaggerated forms achieving a natural harmoniously accomplished look. He has joined local and international exhibitions since 1997. His work can be found in private art collections in the US, Europe, and Middle Asia.

Website (http://bykovsculptor.com)

ABDULLALI S M ALJERI
KUWAIT

Website (http://www.ive.lv/viktors.html)

FAHAD FALEH ALHAJERI
KUWAIT
Member of Kuwait art association - union of arab arts - the international association of art-pairs - association of handicrafts, Exhibitions, symposiums and workshops in Kuwait and Nepal from 1998 to 2016.

Website (http://www.ive.lv/viktors.html)

VIKTORS KOZERS
LATVIA
Viktors Kozers started his professional career in a major workshop in Riga. In 1998, he started out as a woodcarver’s assistant for several locally known and highly reputable masters. While he learned and mastered different woodcarving techniques there, he specialized in early baroque style ornamental carvings.

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Artistic Pathway</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Naaman El Rifai</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>-Lebanese</td>
<td>Engraving since childhood. His passion and hobby.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohamed El Aadi</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>-Moroccan</td>
<td>Self-taught sculptor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rune Hjelen</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>-Norwegian</td>
<td>Woodcarver and teacher.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khaliul Salim Abdullah Al Kalbani</td>
<td>Oman</td>
<td>-Omani</td>
<td>General Director of Ministry of Education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victor Guadalupe Tineo</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>-Peruvian</td>
<td>Father is an Afro-Andean.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Algimantas Sakalauskas</td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>-Lithuanese</td>
<td>Participated in 22 international and 12 republican</td>
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<td>Maria Francisca Moreno</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>-Mexican</td>
<td>Learnt about how to make forms in wood.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Issam Abdel Aziz Sabbah</td>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>-Palestinian</td>
<td>Participated in local exhibitions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ricardo San Rafael Bagabaldo</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>-Filipino</td>
<td>Worked as a fisherman and woodcarver.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maria Francisca Moreno</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>-Mexican</td>
<td>Dream to work with metallic materials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iwi Le Comte</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>-New Zealander</td>
<td>Māori artist.</td>
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Petri Nosikov has felt the calling in art since childhood when he embodied the imagination in the drawing and molding from plasticine. He studied professional art school of woodcarving where he began to master and conquer new peaks of art, such as drawing, composition, molding. Woodcarving became his creativity and profession. [Website (http://drevomaster.ru/)]


Oumar Dioum is 26 years old and he started to learn carving very early in the artisanal village of Ziguinchor. He continued to learn woodcarving with one of his brothers. He opened an art gallery where he shows all his sculptures and exhibitions in the country at Cape Skirring. [Website (http://www.cap-skirring.fr/village_artisanal_cape_skringali_el_hadji_dioum/sculpteur_el_hadji_dioum.html)]

Nansook Joo started woodcarving 12 years ago and carving mostly 3D pieces and wood reliefs. Woodcarving is literally joy of her life; relax, take a piece of wood and a knife, and create something with her own hands is a rare and special pleasure. She is also currently vice president of the Korea Wood Carving Art Association. [Website (http://www.talkstamanueloliva.com/)]


Tom Nilsson mainly carves animals in their natural size, but carving birds is what he loves doing best. Many of his animals and birds are exposed in nature exhibitions all around Sweden. He also carves figures as Santa Claus. [Website (http://www.gov.sz/)]

Leonel Gonzalez Sanchez was born in Puerto Rico. He fell in love with art since the age of 17. He started to carve the birds and animals because he is passionate with nature. [Website (http://www.gov.sz/)]

PETR NOSIKOV
RUSSIAN FEDERATION

ALI HOMOOD A AL JASER
SAUDI ARABIA

ESSAM YOUSIF M JAMEEL
SAUDI ARABIA

WORLD WOOD DAY IN KATHMANDU, NEPAL 2016.

LEONEL GONZÁLEZ SANCHEZ
PUERTO RICO

OUMAR DIOUM
SENEGAL

MARTIN BILL
SWITZERLAND

SOUTH AFRICA

SWITZERLAND

PORTUGAL

SWEDEN

SUDAN

TOM NILSSON
SWEDEN

ALI HOMOOD A AL JASER
SAUDI ARABIA

Frank Arnoni Ntaluma began his work of communicating his word through wood in 1990. In 1992 he taught a large number of Mozambicans and foreigners in Maputo. He arrived Portugal in 2002 and developed an interchange of artistic sensibilities there. In 2003, he took on the challenge of the school of sculpture of A.L.D.C.I. – Portugal. His work is represented in private collections in the four corners of the world. [Website (http://www.gov.sz/)]

Matamala Meshark Raphalalaini was born in 1947 at Tshakhuma Venda, South Africa. Started Art at an early age, his work reflects his culture both past and present. He uses human figures to express his feelings. He attended World Wood Day in Kathmandu, Nepal in 2016. [Website (http://www.gov.sz/)]

Elhadji Dioum learned carving from his father, who was a great sculptor. He was sculpting and studying at the same time at 15, but decided to dedicate himself to sculpture that he liked the most. In 2001 he opened a gallery at Cape Skirring. In the last 3 years he travelled in France for fairs and exhibition and his ambition is to know other horizon to increase his experience and make himself known all over the world. [Website (http://www.gov.sz/)]

Ali Homood A Al Jaser is a wood sculptor. He graduated from art section of University. He participated in many international events in woodcarving. He got many certificates from these events. [Website (http://www.gov.sz/)]

Oumar Dioum mainly carves animals in their natural size, but carving birds is what he loves doing best. Many of his animals and birds are exposed in nature exhibitions all around Sweden. He also carves figures as Santa Claus. [Website (http://www.gov.sz/)]

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<tr>
<td>KUAN-HSUN CHEN</td>
<td>TAIWAN</td>
<td>Kuan-Hsun Chen is currently Associate Professor of Hsinghua University in Taichung, Taiwan. He completed his Ph.D program in Design at Chung Yuan Christian University in TAIWAN. He participated in many solo exhibitions in Taiwan. He likes to combine clay and wood carvings to create sculptures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MING-WANG SHEN</td>
<td>TAIWAN</td>
<td>Ming-Wang Shen is a professional technical teacher of National Taiwan University of Arts and National University of Kaohsiung. Inspired by traditional art, he hoped to create with the style of harmonics and metaphors, and use symbols to convey spiritual meanings. The carving techniques he uses are relief, openwork carving, and circular carving.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLEKSANDR KONIAIEV</td>
<td>UKRAINE</td>
<td>Oleksandr Koniaiev graduated from the Bogorodyskaya school of artistic carving on wood with honors. When he retired in 1999, he decided to start carving full time. He teaches wood carving and sculpts from his studio. He is a member of the Society of Wildlife Artists and has won several international awards for his sculpture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILLIAM ROBERT PRICKETT</td>
<td>UNITED KINGDOM</td>
<td>Always fascinated with animals, William Robert Prickett started a career with marine mammals at 17. He traveled all over the world and participated in several expeditions. He carved a few pieces during his spare time, but in 1999 he decided to start carving full time. He teaches wood carving and sculpts from his studio. He is a member of the Society of Wildlife Artists and has won several international awards for his sculpture. Website (<a href="http://www.biliprickett.co.uk/">http://www.biliprickett.co.uk/</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DURWOOD THRASHER</td>
<td>UNITED STATES</td>
<td>Durwood Thrasher and his wife took their first carving class from Ken Rucker in Pasadena, California in 1969. Since then, woodcarving became a lifelong hobby for both of them. His carvings have competed successfully in several California Carvers Guild shows and county fairs. He enjoys many different carving styles, including realistic humans and animals, caricature, and relief carving.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN EDWARD SMITH</td>
<td>UNITED STATES</td>
<td>John Smith from the Skokimish Tribe works with members of his community as well as intertribal to pass on traditional knowledge of his ancestors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINDA CONN</td>
<td>UNITED STATES</td>
<td>Linda Conn discovered carving when she retired from a second career as a public school teacher. She started carving on hard-shelled gourds to begin with. Eventually, she discovered wood carving as it was a perfect cross-over from gourd carving. She tried different styles of carving and has a preference for caricature carving. She takes as many classes as she possibly can and has been working to perfect her skill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOLA NELSON</td>
<td>UNITED STATES</td>
<td>Lola Nelson’s fascination with wood started in 1986. She was raised on a family farm in the mountains. In 1991 she entered her first wood carving show and took 3rd place. This was just the beginning of winning many top awards in local fairs and carving shows throughout California. Horses and a variety of North American wildlife, cowboys, mountain men, Indians are her favorite subjects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LYNN NICHOLSON</td>
<td>UNITED STATES</td>
<td>Lynn Nicholson started carving seriously in 1978 when he took an adult education class. After attending a couple of woodcarving shows he joined the Pomona Valley Carvers for their Tuesday evening sessions, later joining the California Carvers Guild, the Craft T Carvers RV chapter, and the Glendora Woodcarvers. For him woodcarving is as much a social event as well as learning event.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Richard Smith started carving just a few years before retirement. He has been carving for 27 years, taken a numbers of classes and he has taught woodcarving in Seattle, Arizona and California as well as while he was traveling in an RV. He has written several articles for Chip Chats in the nineties under the title “Carving On The Road’. He has worked with cottonwood bark, in the round, chain saw and relief carving.

Sharon Terrel is a 70+ years old woodcarver from northern CA. She is a pen turner, Native American Flute maker, and woodworker who has been playing with wood since 1994. She is the beginning woodcarving teacher for her club, the Sonoma County Woodcarvers. She has taught a few carving classes for the kids, students and their parents.

Woodcarving captured Theda Mobley’s imagination and has been her artistic passion for about 15 years now. She carves a variety of subjects, both relief and in the round, although animals are most prominent in her body of work. She also prefer a more stylized approach. Her interest in Pyrography began as a way to texture and detail carvings. She has exhibited in both carving and pyrography at the Fairs in recent years.

Tj Young was born into the Yaadaas Eagle Clan of the Kaigani Haida and was given the Haida name Sgwaayaans. Tj cites his grandfather, Claude Morrison, as a major influence in his life, as he introduced him to Haida art and practices, instructing him on how to hand-carve halibut hooks. Tj creates many carvings and items for ceremonies and cultural purposes and considers it an honor to carry on the traditions of his ancestors.

Glauco Mirandetti Benitez received Recognition of Excellence of the World Craft Council for Handicrafts of the Southern Cone with the patronage of UNESCO. In 2012, he attended National Handicraft Competition. In 2011, he received Recognition Banamex Cultural Fostering as Master Artisan and participated in permanent exhibition. In 2001, his won Outstanding work and 1st. Prize of Crafts in the 1st National Contest of Furniture and Handicrafts in Eucalyptus Grandis.

Mirmakhsood Tursunovich Mirrakhimbayev

Begun as an an engineer, Mirmakhsood Mirrakhimbayev became interested in woodcarving and read a lot of historical and current literature on this subject. His master teacher was Artik Fayzullaev. For 20 years, he has participated in many international competitions, exhibitions, fairs. And he won top places.

I graduated from Vietnam Fine Arts University in 1997 in sculpture. I obtained my master degree in sculpture in Vietnam Fine Arts University in 2008. Now I am working as a teacher of Fine Arts at National University of Art Education. My interests are fine arts teaching, especially creating sculpture works and participating festival or events relating to arts.