

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

WE6936 SHAKER BOX MAKING

Tutor: MURRAY MARKS

Dates: WEEKEND FRIDAY 28 APRIL – SUNDAY 30 APRIL

### ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

No previous woodworking experience is needed for this course. You will learn how to make a beautiful set of three nesting Shaker boxes in American red cherry. You will be taken step by step through the box making process, learning traditional Shaker techniques including bending wood in hot water, crafting the iconic Shaker “swallow tail” joint and securing the bands and bases with copper tacks and tiny wooden pins and without using any glue. Along the way there will be time to learn something about the Shakers, their communities and the principles underpinning their designs.

All tools and materials will be provided but please bring an apron. By the end of the course you will know the processes involved in making a Shaker box and be reasonably able to safely use the skills acquired on the course to make a box. An instruction booklet will be provided for you to take home at the end of the course.

### LEVEL: SUITABLE FOR ALL

A subject focused course that is delivered to suit any level of experience from beginner to advanced practitioner. A structured start is followed by guided independent practice.

### ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Murray has been making Shaker wares since 2003. Having started by teaching himself Murray then went to the USA to develop his skills with John Wilson, a master Shaker box maker. Murray has taught box making in various venues including giving two Master-classes at UCL’s Institute of Making.

### TIMETABLE:

#### Arrival day: Friday 28 April

From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students
6.45pm	Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner
7.00pm	Dinner
8.00pm–9.00pm	First teaching session – <b>attendance is an essential part of the course.</b> Introductory talk about the fire drill, health and safety, course timetable etc. Opportunity for you to ask any questions about the course / facilities etc. We will also talk about the Shakers, their history and their designs. We will familiarise ourselves with the materials and tools. If time allows we may make a start with drilling some holes or cutting swallow tails.

#### Other days: Saturday 29 April

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Afternoon classes continue
5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Evening working: workshops are available up to 10pm for those wishing to work on providing this has been discussed with the tutor. These sessions are untutored.

**Departure day: Sunday 30 April**

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.00pm	Classes finish
3.30pm	Tea then departure

**REQUIRED PREPARATION:**

None apart from bringing an apron.

**MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:**

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm.

**Materials included in the course fee:**

The course fee includes the cost of providing **all** materials required for the specific project set by the tutor.

**Please bring:**

An Apron and stout covered footwear to wear in the workshop – essential  
Notebook and pen

**HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

The tutor will instruct students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. Please note that tutor supervision is required at all times when students work in this workshop. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.