

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

### S3D07934 REVEALING THE NARRATIVE IN WOOD – SCULPTURAL CARVING

Tutor: WYCLIFFE STUTCHBURY

Dates: 3 DAYS TUESDAY 12 JUNE – FRIDAY 15 JUNE

#### ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

The aim of this course is to get to the essence of timber's beauty.

Following the first evening session's discussion, we will spend the following morning walking a designated woodland area of the West Dean estate seeking out a branch or root of a tree which has a characteristic that has appeal. This may be found on the forest floor or possibly cut from a tree. We will then return to the workshop and go about enhancing, focussing in on that element which appealed to the maker. Through carving, cutting and surface treatment we will learn to open up and reveal the narrative behind the timber. It may be a scar, a split, an area of rot or a disfigurement that needs to be exposed.

The teaching will centre partly around technique, but it will also concentrate on keeping the maker's intervention to a minimum. We should see ourselves as editors of the natural world. We are removing an element from nature, coaxing out or exaggerating a feature and allowing it to be viewed out of context. Through different texture treatments, shaping and material removal we reveal the story behind the tree.

The sense of place is important. This will be about taking material from a particular place, and the work should be rooted in that location. This course is not about displaying technique but about stepping aside and allowing the timber to speak for itself.

#### 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:

Wycliffe trained at the London College of Furniture and worked as a cabinet maker for many years in his own business and within other businesses in Sussex, London and Ireland. In that time he was awarded the Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers gold award for a bespoke gun cabinet, worked as a prototype and pattern maker for prominent designers and a model maker for industry. He went back to university and emerged at the end having decided to enter the commercial art world but nurturing his love of timber.

As a tutor at Bartlett School of Architecture, students approach him with ideas and he guides them in techniques and materials and encourages them to realise the ideas in an achievable way. His practice is low tech and he is keen for his work not to be admired for its technical ability but for the way it has revealed what was already there.

#### TIMETABLE:

##### Arrival day: Tuesday 12 June

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> After introductions, the first evening will be set aside for an informal discussion by Wycliffe Stutchbury where he will discuss the work he has been making recently, and then open the conversation out to the group.

### **Other days: Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 June**

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: Friday 15 June**

(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**

You are asked to consider the quirks, scars, colours and textures within natural materials, and identify what characteristics interest them.

### **MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:**

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

For any materials you need to purchase from the shop, we suggest you do so during the first morning of your course, after having discussed with your tutor.

### **Materials included in the course fee:**

The course fee includes the cost of abrasives used during the course.

### **Available from the Shop:**

Additional abrasive papers of various grades  
Pencils and sketchbooks

### **Please bring any of the above, if you have them, and in addition:**

A camera may be useful to record development of your piece.

Any carving tools, chisels & gouges you may own (please mark these with your name to identify)

Stout covered footwear for both workshop and the woodland visit

A waterproof coat

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. Students may work unsupervised on agreed projects once they have satisfied the tutor as to their competence. There may be restrictions on the equipment available to students in the tutor's absence. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.