

Hans Weissflog

Hildensheim, Germany

I started woodturning in 1979 when I went to college to become an interior designer. My professor offered an apprenticeship so that I could bring contemporary design and turning together. My aim was to create different things than other woodturners were making and to find my own style. At a woodturning seminar I saw an exhibition of pierced work that was made 100 years ago and thought that this could be my direction. One of the things I created was the Ball-Box. The sphere turned out to be the perfect basic shape. Cut with grooves from both sides to the middle of the wall thickness, it made for an interesting turned piece.



Woodturning as a profession just happened. I started making small boxes. And, I mean SMALL boxes: less than 1" diameter. Some people wanted to buy my work and told other collectors about it, so it happened that I had more and more to do and I just went on turning.

For this exhibition I have combined three Ball-Boxes of different sizes on one stand to create a single larger piece. The stand is made from a burl and shows the natural growth as a contrast to the technical aspect of the boxes. To do this kind of work is the most satisfying thing for me. I need new challenges from the field of woodturning all the time. I really hope that I'll never be out of ideas and that I have enough power to go on for many years.