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I grew up around handwork, so it came naturally. I always carried a pocket knife just in case I would find a piece of wood to make something. When I was five, my father showed me how to make crossbows out of found objects and wood that could shoot the top window out of a grain elevator. He was my biggest influence throughout my life.

I am always picking up stones and objects of nature when I travel...mementos. I found a piece of coral, old and worn, while walking with close friends on the eastern coast of England. It was years later that this find showed up in my work.

To go beyond material and techniques, where content takes precedence, is an endlessly intriguing journey. I approached these containers as three-dimensional canvasses, working their surfaces to look like they were from the sea. The interaction of friends and couples is woven into their design.

I love woodworking not only for the beauty and mystery of the material, but also for the challenge of inventing new techniques and processes to express ideas. Stories from my life, places I've been, people I've met, architecture, and the environment are interwoven into the objects I create. For me, craft goes beyond the pleasure of the senses. It deals not only with aesthetics, but also with our social and ideological lives.

