



# Frank Müller

Frank Müller's love and passion for the natural product wood is unmistakable. With curiosity and creativity he likes to try out new techniques, which he refines arduously and meticulously in order to emphasize the particularity of the raw material, to accentuate the beauty, but also to come to terms with the irregular structures of the wooden material. Although Frank Müller has an original idea when he selects material to start his work, natural wood has its peculiarities which puts limits to wood working. Thus, the final form of each artistic work is the result of a creative interaction between the craftsman and the material.

His objects are inspired by the accidental forms of natural objects as well as the special momentum of buildings. Using his hands and a variety of machines and with such inspirations in mind, Frank Müller creates completely new forms and objects.

Frank Müller crafts his objects primarily for private purposes, mainly to bring his skills to perfections, to question the limits of existing doctrines and to create unusual, seemingly impossible pieces. He thereby refers to the freedom of the autodidact. If he presents his works on markets now and then, it is mainly to test people's reactions to the wooden pieces. It just makes him happy if visitors are delighted and surprised to see his objects. He is always open to answer questions concerning his works, his "company secrets". Frank Müller explicitly wants to inspire others to imitate his work.

There are many such secrets in the rich repertoire of his sophisticated techniques: sandblasting to emphasize wood grain, combining turned and carved parts, creating sliced forms or wooden surfaces combined with metal or artificial marble, using colors to accentuate contrasts, or producing Lichtenberg figures to add artificial to innate wooden structures.

In order to create Lichtenberg figures, wood is made semiconducting by means of a saline solution. By applying high voltage an electric arc is produced which burns into the wood and produces branching figures. However, the formation of such figures can be influenced by skill and craftsmanship. In this year's exhibition, Frank Müller only shows works crafted with this technique.