



Custom Shop

Origo Confratres



The latest piece from Marty and the Bark House Custom Shop...

The slab top is a slice through a 75 year old triple trunk silver maple that was harvested due to irreparable storm damage. The finish height of the table top is very close to its actual elevation off the ground that this slice of the tree grew. Season cracks open from the core of each trunk origin, and are stabilized with black walnut bow ties. Visible worm holes directed invading fungi that spalted the wood as evidenced by the colorful organic splotches radiating from each trunk center. Mountain laurel stems supporting the top emerge from the folds of the trunk base as to appear naturally growing from it. All top to base connections are metal to metal as to facilitate easy take-downs and assemblies. The base itself is a strikingly distressed sugar maple stump with partially exposed root flares to stabilize and anchor the top. The base is slightly elevated off the floor with recessed casters as to ease in lateral movement if necessary. Top dimensions across the long axes are 80 and 70. Top height is 30 from the floor.

\$18,500



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Plasma Dispersion



We received a massive Red Maple burl that had formed around the trunk at ground height. In its rotations of being cleaned and prepped for the saw, it became apparent that we had two opportunities. The burl itself is another conversation, but my first focus was directed at the sprawling entanglement of roots that were still attached. Days of hand chiseling the embedded rocks finally allowed us to make this slice. It's over 6 feet across and 3 1/2 thick. Only the sawn face portions were fine sanded as to not betray the rich color and coarseness of the subterranean bark. There are a myriad of possible applications from floor to wall to ceiling but felt that decision would be served by whomever it ends up with.

\$9,500



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Undulating Entanglement



It was hard to watch this piece go. I played up in the branches of the tree we harvested for this as a child. The burly silver maple limbs woven for the base were the result of years of my Dad hat-racking the tree to keep the limbs from growing out over our house. It finally gave out about the time my Dad did. A couple of beloved clients brought a burl cherry top they had been saving for me to attach a base to. Twigs from the same tree varying in length and diameter give the false impression of a curving front.

SOLD



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Cradle of Faunus



One of our loggers phoned in a photo from a boundary he was cutting of a Red Oak burl bulging out of a trunk some 30' up in the air. Couldn't really determine scale from the picture but was overwhelmed by the size when it actually arrived. When the basin was being sculpted out, we were careful to keep perimeter trunk attachment points intact enough to carve and celebrate them as molten over-splash. The grain directional changes are so intense it gives the look of swirling liquids. The coarse bark was left intact for the impression of a fire charred underbelly. This piece is over 4' along the long axis and 3' along the short. It stands about 34 high.

\$11,500



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Memories of Araucaria



Once we explain to our loggers that industry culls become our treasures, they never walk through the woods the same way again. A keen eye for the extraordinary quickly develops. Thus, a small bulge on a trunk in a log pile gets spotted and salvaged before being chipped up at the mill. This unusually symmetrical Chestnut Oak burl came to us as a result of that eye. The unusual bark pattern of this burl is displayed in coarse segmented nuggets. The rippling folds inside the bowl are from carving along the changes in grain direction that flow around ingrown bark. It measures 24 across and is about 9 deep. We perched it up on a burl'd Black Locust trunk but it is just as impressive sitting alone.

\$2,400



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Oberon's Retreat



This piece was actually created for a charity event with the simple instructions to design a whimsical tree-house bed for a child. We started with ancient Mountain Laurel burlled stems for the corner supports, angling and positioning for opportunity for a spiral staircase. Crossing trunks at the top of the stairs provide the royal arch entry into the tree top sleep area. A distressed Black Locust front rail is easily removed for loading bedding. Underneath at the roots, a spalted maple slab mortised into the laurel provides a work surface that a child can pull up to on the rolling toad stool. Round bark covered log drawer units give ample room for treasure storage. You'll need a 10' ceiling for this as well as a 5' x 10' space on the floor. My son was furious that his bedroom is only 8' high.

\$24,500



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Divergence



This hollowed red maple stump is a result of the interesting phenomenon of a cut tree regeneration. After the tree was harvested, the healthy remainder of the stump responded to the loss of its trunk and energy-producing canopy by sprouting rapid growing new shoots. Multiple stems will blossom out from the perimeter of the trunk in a quick attempt to regain food-producing leaves. Ultimately, these sprouts will thin due to inner competition, but a few will remain to continue growing. The old stump will slowly rot away leaving a hollow void. The new stems will begin molding over the form of the old trunk creating a molten flow effect as they grow down to form new roots. These regenerated stumps do not always survive long enough to get large as they tend to have a weak base and are susceptible to a host of parasitic invaders. However, on the rare occasion that they do, the results can be spectacular. Even rarer is to find a balanced configuration such as this.

\$5,200 (glass top not included)