

The Process Involved In Making A Gordon Pembridge Piece Of Woodturning

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Here we are taking a break from sawing up a large piece of swamp kauri.

Firstly the timber is obtained from mainly storm felled trees. Some of our timber has been buried underground for thousands of years such as swamp kauri. For various reasons swamp kauri can be very hard on the gear, particularly keeping a chainsaw sharp can be very troublesome indeed. I use a wide variety of timber for woodturning generally. The timber I use for my fine pierced work is macrocarpa.



Each piece of macrocarpa is carefully cut with grain orientation in mind for the final piece.



Some of the wood is wet turned as a rough blank for drying. The blank once dry is then remounted on the lathe for finishing. This process can take years depending on the type of wood.



Typically I turn the macrocarpa for my thin vessels when it is wet. The vessels in this picture are all turned from macrocarpa, being only about one millimetre thick they dry quite quickly.



After carving the feet and sanding the dry blank the design is measured out and drawn directly onto the wood.



The design is carved out with a high speed engraver with careful attention to line and texture. A time consuming process.



My inspiration is derived from a wide variety of photographic studies that I take myself.



Carefully selected colours are airbrushed to form an interesting colour composition.



The finished piece.