



Within the Curve, 11 x 10 x 10 inches, Sculpture, \$2,400.

Mike Skiba

Artist Bio

Mike Skiba is an Ozark-based woodturner who creates sculptural work from locally harvested hardwoods. Beginning with raw logs, he cuts, turns, carves, and textures each piece by hand, allowing the natural character of the wood to guide the process. His work explores the relationship between clean geometric forms and the warmth of natural wood, often combining traditional woodturning with carving and pyrography. His work has received Best in Show for his Broken Antiquities series and Best in Sculpture for a natural-edge redwood turning.

Artist Statement

I enjoy taking a rough log and turning it into something unexpected.

My work begins with hardwoods harvested in the Ozarks. Every piece starts as a log, is cut into turning blanks, and evolves through turning, carving, burning, and assembly. While I appreciate the natural beauty of wood, I'm equally drawn to geometry, especially cubes. They're not a form people expect to see in woodturning, and I enjoy finding ways to combine crisp angles with flowing curves.

Texture and contrast are an important part of my work. Smooth turned surfaces, carved texture, charred edges, and exposed end grain each reveal a different quality of the wood. Rather than forcing the material into a predetermined design, I let the wood become part of the conversation.

Every piece is an opportunity to explore what happens when traditional woodturning meets contemporary geometric form.