

Michael Gibson

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In his early years growing up in Essex, England, Michael helped to construct wooden sailing yachts along the banks of the River Crouch. Mike was fascinated with the skill of the master boat builders and spent most of his time in the boatyards. A love of wood working and



construction followed Mike throughout his life. Moving to the US in the eighties, Mike began a career as a finish carpenter and later a home builder. Michael was always on the go and very athletic. Fencing, boating, photography and auto racing captured most of his free time. After minor surgery and being told to slow down, Mike spent time tinkering in his workshop with an old lathe and a set of less than desirable old turning tools that he purchased in a garage sale. A new hobby was born but a new lathe and tools were mandatory! Mike bought himself a Powermatic lathe, a few good turning

tools and taught himself to turn. Mike says that one of his regrets is that he didn't seek out woodturning instruction sooner. Everything was learned by trial and error. After a year or so, Mike joined a woodturning club and attended symposia to learn from the professionals. He found that he had acquired a few bad habits and needed to make changes in his turning techniques. Mike studied for many years to perfect the craft. Michael is recognised internationally for his turned and carved teapots. Michael and his wife, pyrographer Cynthia Gibson, collaborate to create beautiful teapots with lovely surface embellishment. Michael and Cynthia



were featured demonstrators at the American Association of Woodturners International Symposium in 2013 and received high honours as recipients of the "Award of Excellence" for one of their pieces. Together they have demonstrated for numerous chapters of the AAW and have been feature demonstrators in several States symposiums. The artwork created by this duo has garnered the attention of many collectors and has been included in corporate and private collections. Their work is sought after by high end galleries throughout the world.



Demonstrations

Making of a Teapot

In this demo Michael will show the construction process of making one of his classic teapots. As he cannot complete a finished piece in the time allocated, he will describe every aspect from beginning to end. Michael will show why form and balance are vital in creating a



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pleasing teapot. These thoughts will also apply to your other turnings. He will explain how he attaches the handle, spout and knob on the lid to line up properly. Michael's teapots are as smooth on the inside as outside. He will show you how he achieves his smooth finishes. The only turning Mike will be doing in this demo will be the lid and knob. These will be turned on the body of the teapot to create a pleasing shape to suit the pot.



Candlesticks

Candlesticks are fun to make and can enhance your turning skills. In this demo Mike will turn Rude Osolnik inspired candlesticks. He will also turn a candle to match complete with wick. Emphasis will be placed on form and achieving flowing lines throughout the length of the candlestick using the Golden Ratio. Michael will show you how different tools can be used to achieve the same finished results.



Turn and Embellish an Asian Style Bowl

Joint Demonstration by Michael and Cynthia Gibson

This is a collaborative demo and will consist of two parts. In the first part of this demo, Michael will turn an Asian style footed bowl. Bowl



chucking and the hollowing process followed by jam

chucking to finish the foot will be shown. This demo will cover design elements such as beads and coves that can be created on the lathe to assist Cynthia's embellishments. In the second part, Cynthia will demonstrate easy pyroengraving techniques to embellish your Asian bowls. She will discuss how to choose the proper designs for different styles of footed bowls.