

Jacob von Holzen – Marquetry Project

When respected Guild artisan 'Jacob Von Holzen' asked if anyone would be interested in learning the basics of marquetry (also known as Intarsia from the Italian intarsio) he was inundated by requests for places on his course, as can be seen by the number of scroll saws waiting to get into action.

Jacob prepared kits for each trainee which contained all the materials required to complete a simple but attractive landscape project. The project was broken up into sections to allow the trainees to complete the various stages of production during the normal Group Five 9-30am till noon, monthly sessions.

The progress of the course can be seen below, however, jumping to the end of the course and Jacob conducted a group critique of the completed works - it is testament to what a good teacher Jacob is that the high standard of the finished picture visibly impressed our Jacob.

He then went on to see if there were any members who would like to continue with Intarsia - again impressed by the number of converts - because of the numbers it was suggested that Jacob carry on with the Intarsia tuition, Barry would lead any interested in 'marquetry' and Roy would undertake to help any members of the group needing info on the finer points of scroll sawing.

To assist those want to continue with Intarsia, Joseph undertook to prepare some more kitsets and also gave members a list (reprinted here) of suitable suppliers for materials.

Recommended Suppliers

Aranson Veneers, Veneer, marquetry and bandings. 56 Dennis Lane, Stanmore, Middx HA7 4JW. Tel/Fax: 020 8954 1555. Website <http://www.veneers.org.uk/>

Veneers & Bandings: John Coffey, 22 Aytoun Avenue, Kirkcaldy, Fife, KY2 6ZL. Telephone 01592 201 556. Email: coffeemate9@hotmail.com - EBay ID: JAN1953

John Boddy's Fine Wood & Tool Store Ltd, Timber, veneer & sundries. Riverside Saw Mills, Boroughbridge, N. Yorks, YO5 9LJ. Tel: 01423 322370 <http://www.john-boddys-fwts.co.uk/>

Capital Crispin Veneer Co. Ltd, Decorative and constructional veneers. 12 & 13 Gemini Business Park, Hornet Way, Beckton, London, E6 7FF. Tel: 020 8525 0300. Email capvener@aol.com Web: www.capitalcrispin.com

Freed Veneers (Wood Veneer Hub), Veneer Specialists. Unit 4 Eden Court, Eden Way, Leighton Buzzard, Beds, LU7 4FY. Tel: 01525851166. Web: www.veneeruk.com

Furness Craftwoods, Veneer, exotic hardwoods. 1A Brunel Road, Gorse Lane Ind. Est. Clacton on Sea. Tel: 01255 436407.

Original Marquetry Ltd, Mother of Pearl, bandings, veneers, and all manner of marquetry accessories. Tel: 0117944264 Website: www.originalmarquetry.co.uk

Constantine's Wood Centre - 1040E.Oakland Park Blvd Ft.Lauderdale,
FL33334 - U . S . A . Ph 954-561-1716 fax:305-565-8149
www.constantines.comEmail: rachel@constantines.com



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Session one the trainees learnt how to build up the various features of the picture with pieces of veneer which were selected from a wide range of timbers to enhance the contrast between features.

Session two saw each participant cutting out the various pieces of the picture (puzzle some may have said) on their scroll saws using a very fine blade (also supplied with Jacob's kit).

Session three had the trainees inlaying a tree over the top of the landscape - Some found this to be a bit of a challenge.

Session four Jacob explained and demonstrated the art of gluing up the pictures and demonstrated the suggested method of clamping the whole together to hopefully hold everything in place while the PVA glue dried.

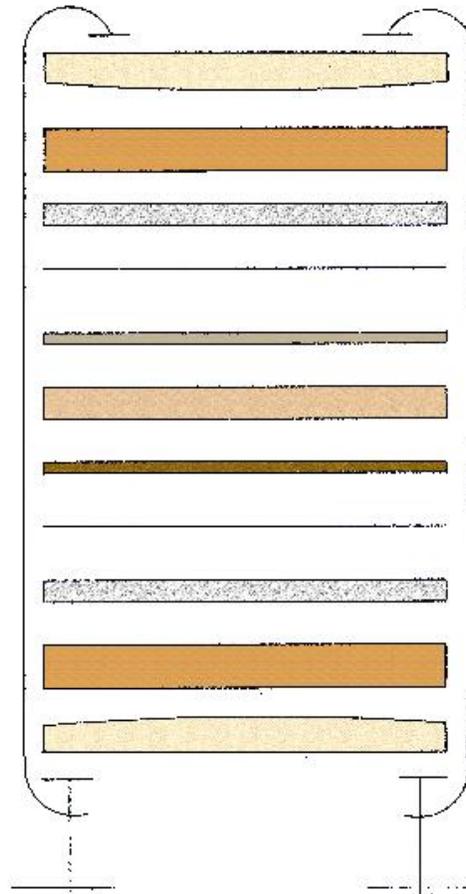
Prior to this stage the pictures themselves, due to the production processes so far, had rather ragged edges which now had to be trimmed to finish to a 'squared' rectangle, which then received a 10mm wide veneer frame (mitred at the corners).

Jacob in concert with Barry Kenworthy went on to discuss various ways of finishing the picture for presentation. Barry had finished his up to the point of wanting to mount it inside of a fancy frame which he had purchased at a reasonable price and then adapted so that its depth would receive his picture.

Jacob has undertaken to look at holding a follow-up project in a couple of month's time - no doubt some of those who missed out on this first project will get their names to Jacob in a hurry.

Jacob prepared these two drawings to assist the trainees - the top shows the makeup of the clamping sandwich for the gluing stage and the bottom shows the suggested use of the craft knife and sharpening techniques

- CAULS _____
- CLAMPING BOARD _____
- FOAM PLASTIC _____
- PLAIN PAPER _____
- MARQUETRY _____
- BASRBOARD _____
- BACKING VENEER _____
- PLAIN PAPER _____
- FOAM PLASTIC _____
- CLAMPING BOARD _____
- CAULS _____
- G-CLAMPS _____

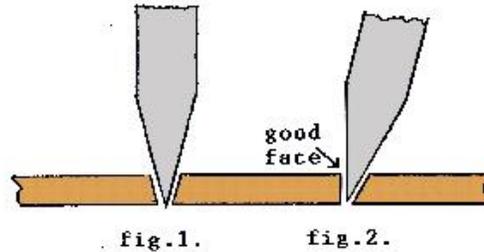


KNIFE CUTTING HINTS.

Most knives have blades with a double bevel, thus cutting a V groove in the veneer when held in a vertical position. (fig.1)

To eliminate this, hold the knife tilted away from the good face to achieve a vertical cut. (fig.2)

This will result in a much tighter fit. Also do not try to cut right through the veneer in one heavy cut, but make progressively deeper cuts until you have cut right through.



SHARPENING BLADES

The simplest way is to hone down the back of the blade, this leaves the factory sharpened edge intact **METHOD:**

Use a fine oilstone or fine glasspaper. Hold the blade at a low angle with the back to the abrasive and draw along the abrasive in long steady strokes. Continue until the blade point is restored. Finish by rolling the blade from side to side as you draw it along the abrasive. This will remove any burr and also round off the back of the blade.

I use my belt sander with a worn out 150 grit belt for this purpose.

