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## **Wood Delights**

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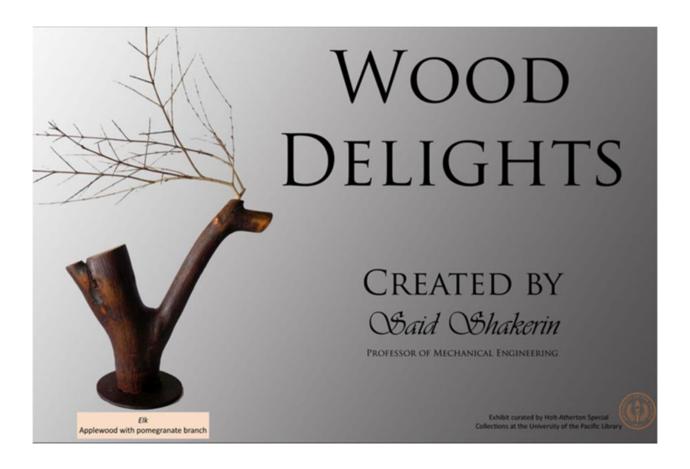




Exhibit poster designed by Nicole Grady, top. Photo of one of the six display cases, bottom.

## **Wood Delights**

I am an outsider to the world of crafts as I used to be an engineering educator before I was struck by a neuro-degenerative disease, but have always been interested in making things with my hands. I slowly make decorative objects from discarded or partially decayed wood. The process of creating something beautiful, especially from discarded materials, to share with others is truly therapeutic for me. A brief overview of my work follows.

The woods come from a variety of sources such as coastal driftwoods, trimmings from fruit trees in our backyard, fallen branches in our neighborhood during storms, old sheds and firewood. In addition to the inherent beauty in wood, there are specific visual delights in these sorts of wood due to, for example, insect-hollowed out cavities and intriguing forms shaped by years of exposure to sun, water, and wind. I am most interested in identifying these surprises and enhancing them in the final object. I also utilize other plant materials such as thorns and oak galls. I use hand tools and occasionally light power tools. The process of making my 3D objects usually includes cleaning, scraping, cutting, carving, sanding, and applying clear finish to bring out wood grain and protect the wood.

With special thanks to Nicole Grady, Special Collections, for printing and layout.

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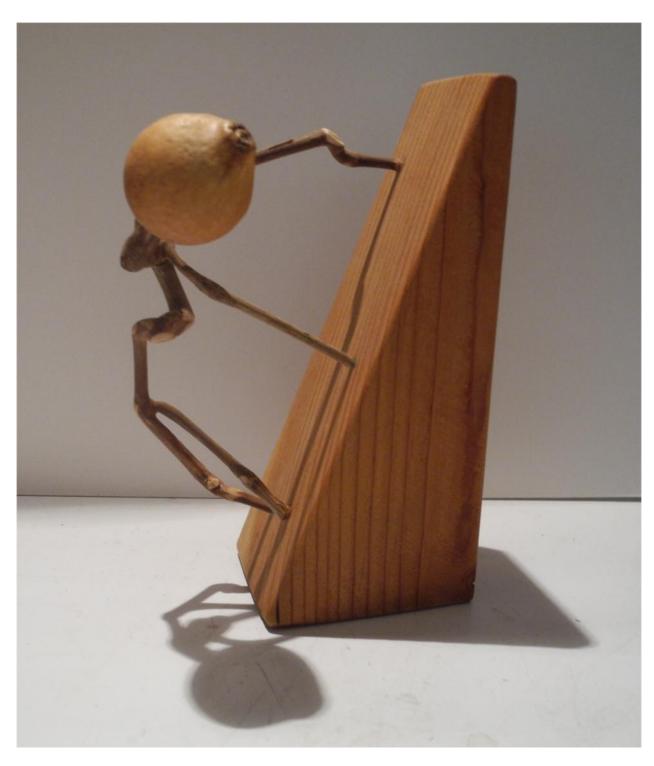
Couple – spalted maple sliced and book-matched on redwood bars. The coloration and patterns were caused by fungi.



Oak galls – carved out



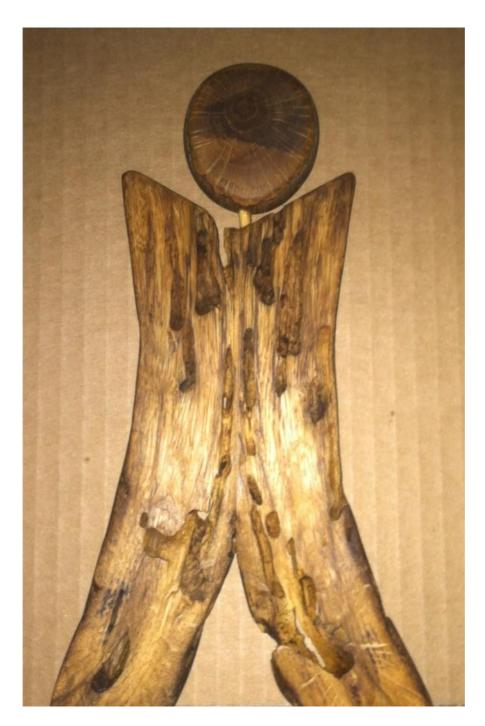
Oak gall and pomegranate branch on fiber board



Ant – oak gall and grape vine on pine



From Master-Disciple series – drift wood on old growth redwood base



Warrior – oak, insect carved



Balance – shank bones on redwood



Calligraphy - grape bunch on oleander



Mountain I – birch, fractured branch weakened by holes made by carpenter bees.



Mountain II – redwood from firewood pile



Convoluted - carved driftwood. Holes were made where rotted wood was scraped.



Geometric Composition – old growth redwood, insect carved and recycled from a railroad tie dated 1922.



Landscape – pine, termite carved and recycled from an old shed



Sacred Mountain II – pine on carved redwood, reclaimed from firewood



Sacred Mountain III – pine on alder and grape bunch on pine base



Sacred Mountain V– pine and bamboo on oak