

Mike Sorge ~ Artisan Statement:

Growing up in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains Mike, along with his three brothers and parents, explored the California mountains, deserts, forests, and spent countless glorious days on, in and under the Pacific waves. This foundation, along with Mike's Dad's influence as an industrial arts teacher, led to his appreciation of trees and their incredibly beautiful and diverse timber.

He enjoys rescuing, revealing and preserving the inherent natural beauty of fallen trees through creative woodturning with an emphasis on large non-round geometric forms, bark included natural edge, and burl forms. My geometric turned forms feature flowing undulating lines - sculptural art with utilitarian function. My natural edge winged vase sculptures feature extensive high and low balanced bark – elegant yet rustic. With burl forms he strives to create timeless shapes maximizing the fullness and beauty of each unique burl. And with the traditional round form he creates bowls and boxes that play with light and shadow.

Becoming safely comfortable with what I call “big air” turning techniques is exhilarating and fun; it facilitates a more complete mastery of bowl gauge tool work which naturally opens doors to new realms in turning imagination. - Mike Sorge