



JOSHUA WOODS GUGE
WORLD CHAMPION WOOD SCULPTOR

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

I am a 3rd generation wood sculptor born into a family of talented artists. At an early age I learned the art of wood sculpting from my father and grandfather. Roy Guge, my grandfather, started the family tradition by sculpting duck decoys for hunting. My father, Bob became a full-time wildlife wood carver, a much sought after teacher, and a five-time World Champion sculptor. After years of apprenticing under my father's instruction, I developed my own style and love for wood sculpture.

This art form has captured my family because of its uniqueness. Wood sculpture incorporates drawing, wood-carving, 3-D design, sculpting, and painting. The challenge of this art form is mastering these different forms of art.

My sculptures range from primitive decoys to highly detailed realistic depictions. Each piece is carved with the use of high-speed power tools and wood burners. They are hand painted or airbrushed original works of art. The materials I use are tupelo wood, metals, epoxy, and acrylic paints. My sculptures feature a variety of diverse wildlife, but my passion is for depicting tropical ocean fish and their habitat.

Today I strive to create art that will inspire others. I try to capture the essence of wildlife in my work. My goal is to evoke a mood or emotion. I have a desire to communicate to my audience how God's creation makes me feel. I want to express the emotion I experience when observing something beautiful in nature. With this form of art, comes an intense love not only for creating, but also a lifetime of studying the natural world around me.

Like my father, I have the desire to pass this art form on to others. The past decade of my life, I have taught hundreds of students all over the country from youth to seniors. I want to expose this unique art form to as many people as possible, giving others the opportunity that I was fortunate enough to grow up with. Maybe someday I will accomplish my goal to see wood sculpture thrive in mainstream art. Until then, I will keep creating and sharing my God-given gift to the next generation of artists.

JOSHUA WOODS GUGE

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DESIGN BY JAB

www.JabDesignStudio.com

JOSHUA WOODS GUGE

WORLD CHAMPION WOOD SCULPTOR

EDUCATION

Bachelors of Arts in Visual Communications at Judson University,
Division of Art, Design and Architecture (2002)
1151 N. State St. Elgin, IL 60118 847.695.2500

CLASSES

Advanced Studio Methods, Furniture Design, Illustration,
Design I, Design II, Photography

EXPERIENCE

Art Instructor at The Guge Institute of Wildlife Art (since 2004)
Self-employed Wood Sculptor, Fins in Wood (since 2002)
Instructs Wood Sculpting seminars around the country (since 2002)
Art Instructor at Westminster Christian High School, Elgin Illinois (2002-03)
Commissioned work for Danbury Mint (since 2000)
Commissioned work for Big Sky Carver's (1998)
Commissioned work for Newport House Gallery in Door County, WI (since 1993)
Mentored by World Champion Wood Sculptor Robert Guge

SKILLS

Ability to create various types of art: sculpture,
illustration, painting, furniture design, graphic design, airbrush.
Sculpts with metals, wood and clay.
Experienced in running an independent business.

REFERENCES

Caroline Jacobson

630.668.7551
1 South 617 Hawthorne Lane.
Wheaton, Illinois 60189

Janet Jenkins

920.854.2621
Newport House Gallery
12044 Wisconsin 42
Ellison Bay, Wisconsin 54201

Jay Broast

414-828-3972
N1435 Academy
Fontana, WI 53125

BIO

At the age of thirteen Joshua began his art career by selling his sculptures to art galleries.

By the age of seventeen he began competing in numerous art competitions around the country where he has won many "best of show" honors. In 2000, Joshua began working on a series of cast reproductions for the Danbury Mint. After graduating from Judson University in 2002 with a Bachelor's Degree in Visual Communications, he began his own wood sculpting company called Fins in Wood. He has also taught art at Westminster Christian School in Elgin, Illinois. Josh continues to teach children and adults in his home studio, surrounding communities and around the country.

In 2004, Josh and Bob Guge became co-founders of The Guge Institute of Wildlife Art where they continue to share their passion for the arts with others. This studio is located in the basement of Josh's home in Gilberts, Illinois. G.I.W.A. classes include painting, carving, sculpting, drawing, airbrush, design and more.

Josh achieved one of his lifelong dreams in 2009, by becoming a World Champion sculptor.

He won world titles in both the life-size and miniature divisions at the
World Fish Carving Championships.

AWARDS

Best in World (2011) - Life-size Salt Water Fish, World Fish Carving Championship, Missouri

Judges' Choice (2011) - Salt Water Fish, World Fish Carving Championship, Missouri

People's Choice (2011) - International Congress Show, Iowa

Best in World (2009) - Life-size Salt Water Fish, World Fish Carving Championship, Missouri

Best in World (2009) - Miniature Salt Water Fish, World Fish Carving Championship, Missouri

Judges' Choice (2009) - Salt Water Fish, World Fish Carving Championship, Missouri

Judges' Choice (2009) - Salt Water Fish, Congress Show, Davenport, Iowa

Best of Show (2009) - Song Birds, California Open, San Diego, California

Best of Show (2009) - Salt Water Fish, California Open, San Diego, California

Sculptures Featured (2008-09) - Burpee Museum of Natural History - Rockford, Illinois



PROCESS

1. RESEARCH & DESIGN

I begin the process with research. Several hours are spent studying my subject in its natural environment. This is where I find the essence of the species that I want to reflect in my work. I then create sketches and clay models of the concept I am striving to portray. When I decide on the composition, each element is cut out of tupelo wood with a band saw.

2. SHAPING

Loosely, I tear away at the wood looking for the shapes within. A foredom power tool is used to achieve this technique. The wood slowly begins to take on form.

3. DETAIL

I use a high speed power tool with an assortment of bits, to establish patterns and textures in the wood. This process can take hours, days or even weeks to complete. No detail on the entire sculpture is overlooked. The fine detail is then finished with a wood burner.

4. PAINTING

I use an airbrush to establish the base coats. Then, I go over everything by hand with paint brushes to create a realistic look. All of my sculptures are painted with acrylic paints.



Family of Rubys
Ruby Throated Hummingbirds
on Prickly Pear Cactus
34" x 12" x 9"



Family of Rubys (Detail)



Queen of the Coral

Queen Trigger Fish, Coral Trout, Indigo Hamlet Pair, Damsel Fish, Cleaner Shrimp and Yellow Spotted Sting Ray
42" x 28" x 25"

Awards

Best in World (2011) - Life-size Salt Water Fish, World Fish Carving Championship, Missouri
Judges' Choice (2011) - Salt Water Fish, World Fish Carving Championship, Missouri
People's Choice (2011)
International Congress Show, Iowa



Queen of the Coral (Detail)



June 16, 2007

King Angel, Scythe-Marked
Butterfly Pair and Trunk Fish
47" x 17" x 20"

Awards

Best in World (2009) - Life-size Salt Water Fish,
World Fish Carving Championship, Missouri
Judges' Choice (2009) - Salt Water Fish,
World Fish Carving Championship, Missouri



June 16, 2007 (Detail)



June 16, 2007 (Detail)



June 16, 2007 (Detail)



Playful Feeding

Longnose Butterflies
22" x 5" x 5"

Awards

Best in World (2009) - Miniature Salt Water Fish,
World Fish Carving Championship, Missouri



Playful Feeding (Detail)



The Escape

Saddleback Butterfly with
Baby Sea Turtles

34" x 9" x 8"

Awards

Best of Show (2007) - Salt Water Fish, Starved Rock, Illinois



The Escape (Detail)



Beautiful Creation

Queen Angel Fish
21" x 7" x 7"

Awards

Best of Show (2009) - Salt Water Fish, California Open, San Diego, California
Judges' Choice (2009) - Salt Water Fish, Congress Show, Davenport, Iowa
Second Best in World (2009) - Life-size Salt Water Fish,
World Fish Carving Championship, Missouri

Featured in a private collection



Beautiful Creation (Detail)



Spiritual Warfare

Senior Project at
Judson University
21" x 6" x 7"

Awards

Best in Division (2002) - Salt Water Fish, Putnam Museum, Iowa
Featured at The Burpee Museum of Natural History, Rockford, Illinois (2008-09)



Spiritual Warfare (Detail)



Crown Butterfly

25" x 5" x 6"

Awards

Best in Division (2008) - Salt Water Fish, Congress Show, Davenport Iowa

Second Best of Show (2008) - Salt Water Fish,
Wildfowl Art Classic, Sacramento, California

Featured in a private collection



Crown Butterfly (Detail)



Northern Waterthrush Pair

20" x 5" x 5"

Awards

Best of Show (2009) - Song Birds, California Open, San Diego, California

Best of Show (2008) - Song Birds, Starved Rock, Illinois

Best in Division (2008) - Song Birds, Congress Show, Davenport, Iowa

Best of Show (2008) - Song Birds, World Show, Ocean City, Maryland



Northern Waterthrush Pair (Detail)



Startled at the Swamp

Purple Gallinule with Green Iguana
37" x 20" x 20"

Awards

Third Best of Show (2010) - Congress Show, Bettendorf, Iowa



Startled at the Swamp (Detail)