

PENLAND GALLERY

MELISSA ENGLER

Asheville, NC

WOOD | Wood sculpture

Penland Affiliation | Penland Instructor 2016, 2022

Artist Information | Studio artist; teaching: Center for Furniture Craftsmanship (ME), Appalachian Center for Craft (TN), Marc Adams School of Woodworking (IN); exhibitions: Center for Art in Wood (PA), Messler Gallery (ME), Moss Arts Center (VA); publications: American Craft, Carolina Home + Garden, Woodwork Magazine

Artist Bio | Melissa Engler is a woodworker/sculptor based in Asheville, NC. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in sculpture from the University of North Carolina at Asheville and is a graduate of the Haywood Community College Professional Crafts Program in furniture. Melissa's work has been featured in Carolina Home + Garden, WNC Magazine, Woodwork Magazine and American Craft and is held in private collections across the US. She teaches nationally and internationally with her partner and fellow wood-sculptor Graeme Priddle.

Artist Statement | *I am deeply interested in conservation and the sacred quality of plants and animals. Simultaneously I am fascinated by the cycles of consumption and violence that are inherent in natural systems. Being that these two concepts are somewhat at odds with each other, I feel compelled to create work that allows me to examine these concerns without having to find words or perfect answers. My hope is that the pieces convey a sense of our primal connection to our environment and evoke an awareness of its tenuous state.*