

PROJECT 3: WOOD

Object | Discursive Material

OBJECTIVE

We share our lives with the objects around us. Objects show the traces of time through use, becoming a record of those who use them. Sometimes they record important moments in history or become a kind of “monument.” You will make a wooden structure using a 48” x 48” x 1/2” sheet of plywood. Your task is to cut this wood into different pieces and then re-assemble into an original, self-supporting structure of your own design. Use as much of your wood as possible. You will then finish your structure with a varnish or paint color of your choosing.

You will also choose an additional object or material to incorporate into the sculpture. Consider disassembling your object into smaller parts before incorporating them into your sculpture. Your goal is to find an object that you find intriguing and use it in a surprising or unexpected way. Another option is to cover a portion of your sculpture with an everyday material in multiples (toothpicks, safety-pins, etc.). This is referred to as a “discursive material.” Consider something from your home, or search for an object at Bring Recycling, Good Will, the Dollar Store, etc. This object/material will interact with your wood form.

FIELDWORK

- 1) 10 isometric drawings
- 2) 1 Orthographic drawing and diagram
- 3) Research on artists that influence your project

ARTISTS

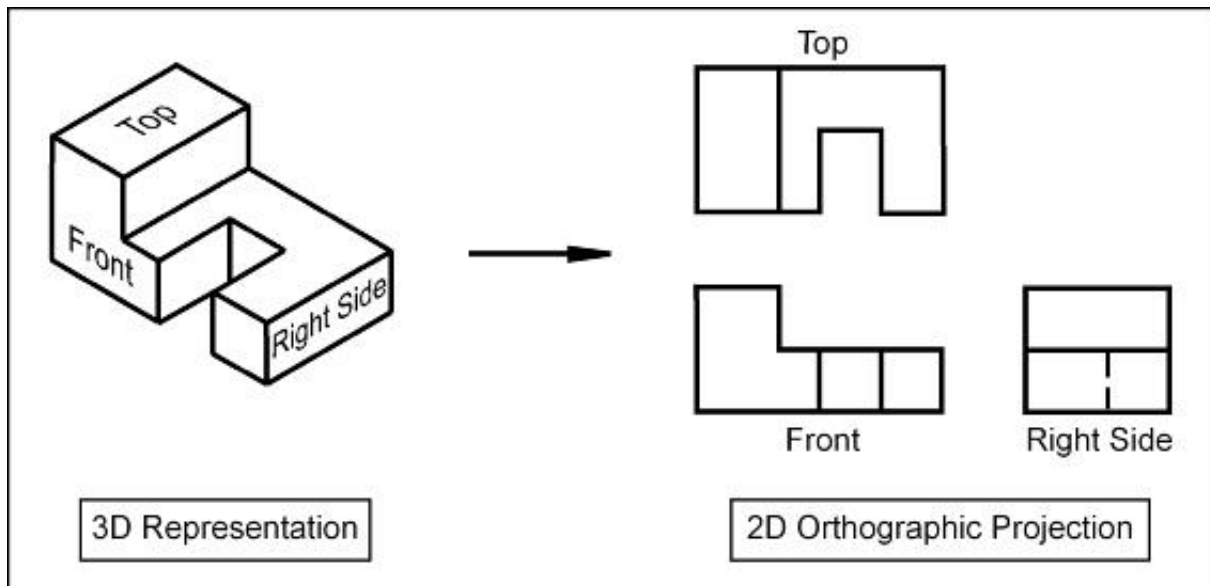
Whiting Tennis
Manfred Pernice
Jason Meadows
Aaron Curry
Rachel Harrison
Miodrag Živković
Martin Puryear

DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS

Balance
Interior/exterior space
Tension
Negative Space
Gravity
Boldness
Emphasis

INSTRUCTIONS & CALENDAR

- 1) Make 10 isometric (3D representation) drawings of different wooden designs. Make more drawings synthesizing wooden designs with a secondary object/material. Be ready to discuss these in class. (Due 05/17)
- 2) Make one orthographic drawing of your chosen design (see diagram below). Use this drawing to make a cutting diagram on paper. Take note of the thickness of the wood ($\frac{1}{2}$ ") and the kerf (width of saw blade) when making your measurements. Draw your diagram on the plywood. (Due 05/19)
- 3) Begin cutting. Assemble your sculpture with glue and pneumatic nail gun, and incorporate your secondary object/material into the form (remember, optional.)
- 4) Decide between emphasizing the wood grain or painting your structure. You will provide any wood finishes or paint.



WARNING:

Refrain from designing a sculpture that requires cutting extremely small pieces of wood, as this is difficult and dangerous. If smaller pieces are integral to your piece, consult with me about it. Do not bring your secondary materials into the woodshop!! Do not use woodshop tools on anything but wood. If you choose to disassemble or break your object, do so in the classroom or at home.