

Seth Janofsky

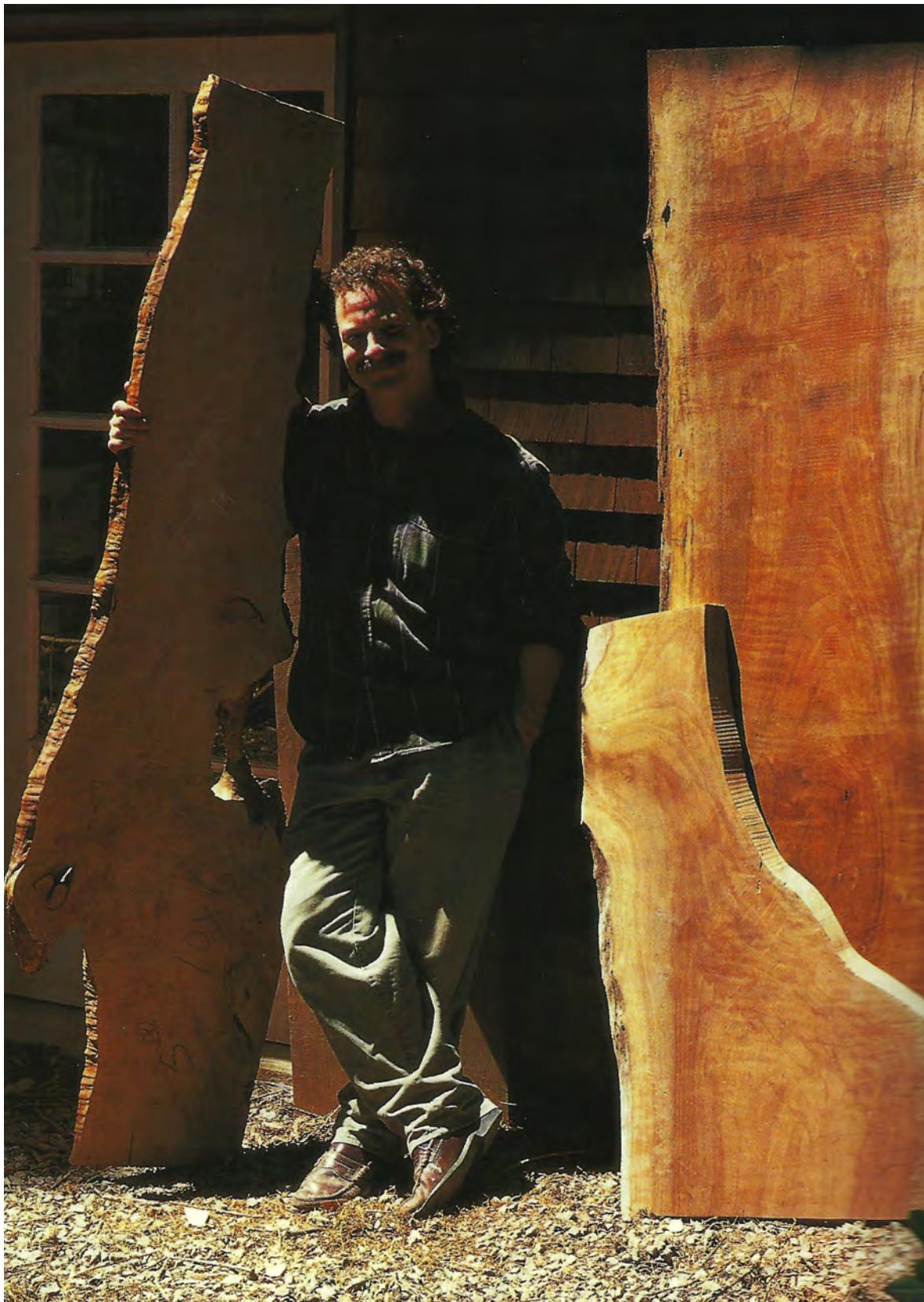
ELOQUENCE: The Furniture of Seth Janofsky



Seth Janofsky, once a studied photographer, has a passion for woodworking that has developed into an artistry. His designs and workmanship are truly incredible. Janofsky has the ability to take his two dimensional ideas on paper and turn them into three dimensional pieces of art. Though his pieces are works of art, they are not meant to be simply observed in their beauty. Janofsky's furniture is not the type of art guarded by "Do Not Touch" signs, but rather openly welcomes you asks you to welcome it into your life.

"The primary purpose of art, I think, is not self-expression but communication- about what it means and feels like to be human. Self-expression is a by-product. Art is not some free-for-all, but an endeavor that can be usefully defined. Art, we might say, is the communication of important things by eloquent means, great art the communication of very important things by very eloquent means. The problem of the artist is not, as some seem to believe, to figure out how to do whatever he or she wants to do, but rather to find the way to do what seems truly worth doing, or needs doing. There is a difference."

"I, like many others, find the serenity of traditional Japanese design and architecture and its insistence on the investing of simple objects of use with both beauty and human relevance-very appealing."



Janofsky with a trio of flitchcut planks. Janofsky's sketchbooks contain drawings for works that make use of the "free edges" of planks sawn through and through like these- the edges seen in this picture might well appear in some future work.

Box with Flower Pattern
ca. 3 x 10 x 15"
White oak, maple, other woods



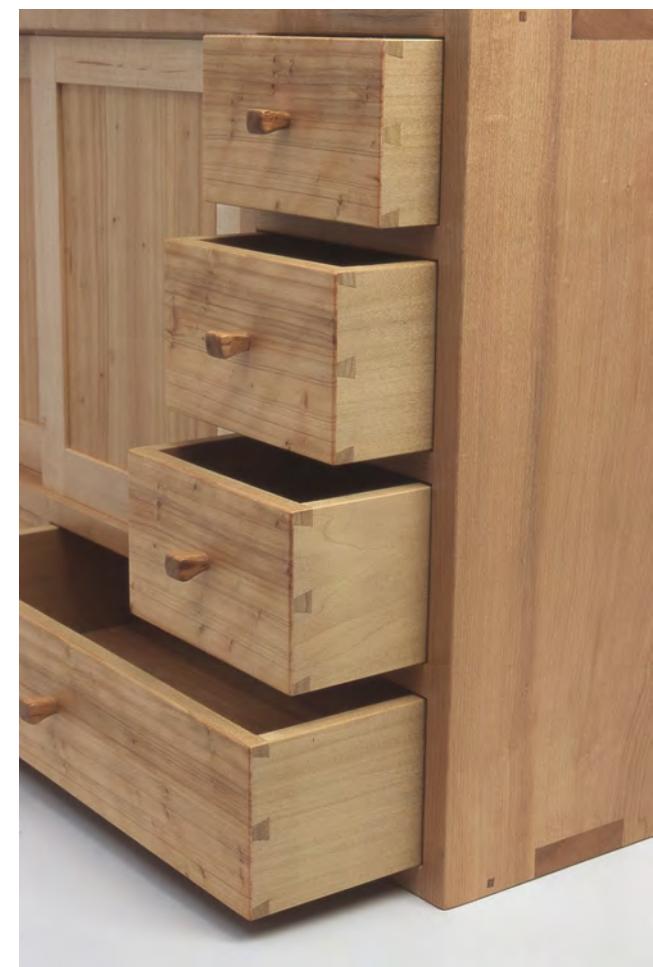
Box with Maple Leaf Pattern
ca. 3 x 9 x 12"
Myrtle, maple, other woods



Cabinet with Butterfly Pattern
ca. 23 x 54 x 16"
Elm, yew, maple, other woods



Writing Chest (tansu)
ca. 18 x 24 x 14"
Maple, cypress



Cabinet with Diagonal Pattern
ca. 59 x 18 x 14"
Red oak, white oak, mahogany



Small Box with Butterfly Pattern
ca. 2.5 x 6 x 6"
Bubinga, other woods



Small Box with Butterfly Pattern

ca. 2.5 x 6 x 6"

Elm, other woods



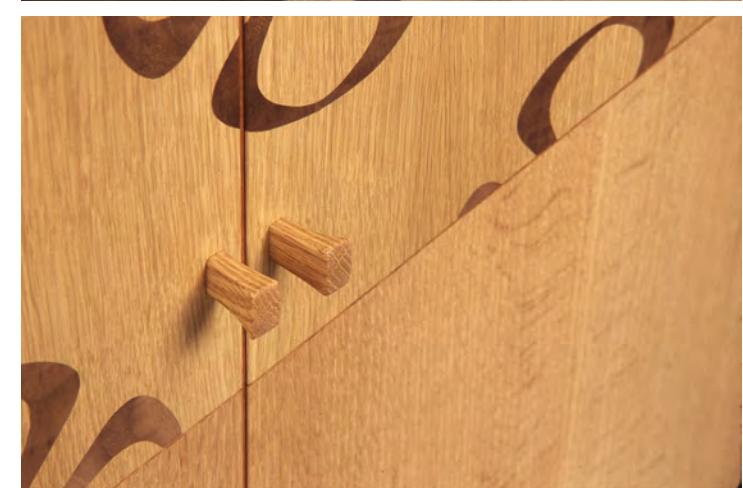
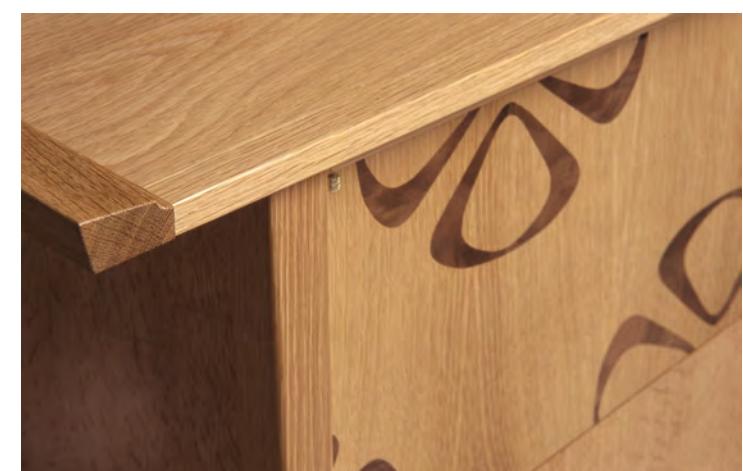
Clothes Chest (tansu)
ca. 34 x 25 x 16"
Elm, Port Orford Cedar



Box with Tray
ca. 4.5 x 6 x 9"
Fir, bubinga, mahogany



Cabinet with Flower Pattern
ca. 32 x 44 x 16"
Red oak, white oak, walnut



Sideboard
ca. 39 x 9 x 12"
White oak, Port Orford Cedar



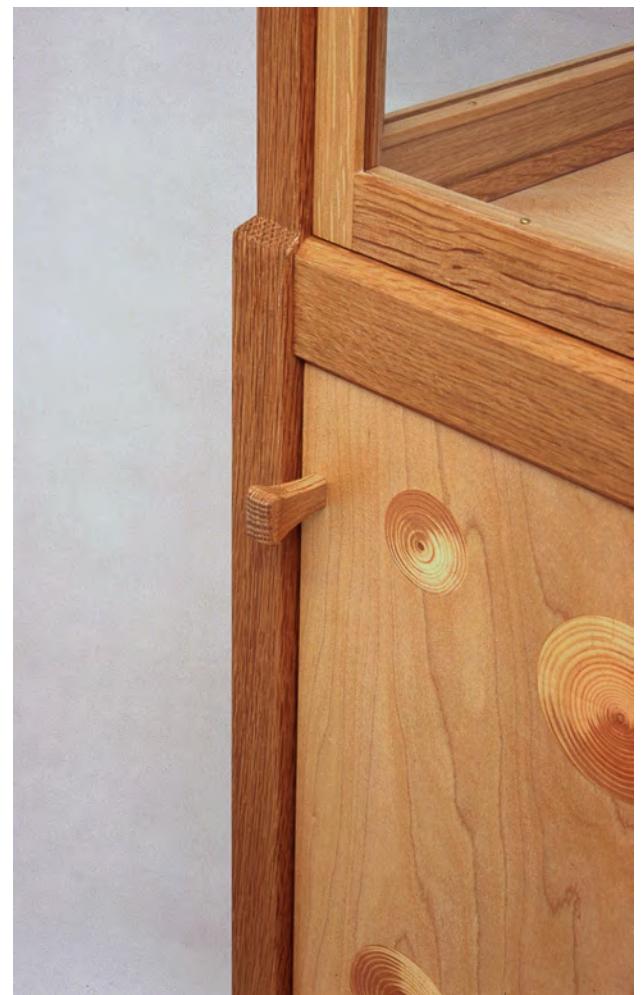
Box with Maple Leaves
ca. 3 x 9 x 12"
Myrtle, maple, other woods



Box with Tray
ca. 4.5 x 6 x 9"
Maple, ebony



Curio (display) Cabinet
ca. 61 x 20 x 15"
White oak, maple, pine



Stacking Trays

ca. 6 x 12 x 12"

Port Orford Cedar, walnut



Bed Side Tables
ca. 24 x 28 x 19"
Maple, cherry, walnut



Low Display Cabinet
ca. 20 x 54 x 16"
Walnut, Port Orford Cedar

Low cabinet in walnut with panels front and back of 1/4"-thick Port Orford cedar. Small shelf on the left side only. There is a knothole in the top that sometimes "lets a small shaft of sunlight into the interior."



Box (humidor)

ca. 6 x 11 x 15"

Walnut, Spanish Cedar



Box with Maple Leaves
ca. 6 x 8 x 10"
Maple, other woods



Tall Display Cabinet
ca. 60 x 43 x 21"
Cherry, pine, red oak



Cabinet for the display of ceramics or other works of art. The figured upper panels are no. 3 common pine with pitch pockets. The superstructure and frames of the panels are cherry; the lower panels and floor, quartersawn red oak.

“Ella’s Cabinet”

Goncalo alves, with door and drawer faces of quartered Douglas Fir, Janofsky says, “I wanted the surfaces, volumes and lines to speak for themselves, without having to fight for attention against a lot of fancy figure or irrelevant details.” The intent was architectural: Space flows through the cabinet, dividing it into a place below, for the child the cabinet is named for, and a place above, for grown ups.

