

# Trent Bosch “Vessel of Illusion”

Professional woodturner Trent Bosch will demonstrate making his “Vessel of Illusion” during the KC Woodturners regular October meeting, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm-9:00pm.

This will be a LIVE presentation via the Internet. There will be two-way conversation with questions and answers during Trent’s demo. There will be a voluntary \$10 donation to help defray Trent’s demo fee.



It is Bosch’s sculptural work, the “vessel within a vessel” concept, that brought him to our spotlight at the 1997 AAW symposium in San Antonio.

The idea was to create the illusion of one form emerging from another. The technique came out of working with and studying under Lee Carter at Colorado State University. He taught and I think still teaches “bending” techniques. Lee, now an AAW board member, is retired from Colorado State University and conducts private workshops in all phases of woodturning including “36 ways to chuck a piece of wood on the lathe.”

Talking about the process, Trent says, "The first step is to create the outer hollow form. Once I have achieved exactly the shape I want, I remove it from the lathe and carve and sand to create the "opening up from within" feeling. When I am pleased with the form of the outer vessel, the surface texture is created. This is done by a number of techniques from carving to indenting the wood. I do whatever is necessary to give the effect that I am looking for.

Once I have the outer form, I'm able to visualize what the insert will look like. The insert is about 2-in.-larger than the opening in the hollow form. It is turned very thin, 1/16-in. or so. The insert is then boiled to plasticize the wood, which allows me to bend the piece enough to insert it into the vessel. Once in the vessel, I use a balloon to hold it up against the inside of the vessel. When the insert is dry, I can then glue it into place and remove the balloon giving me the seamless effect of a vessel within a vessel."

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