

**Wood Turning Center**  
museum of contemporary wood art  
education preservation promotion  
**October 2010 | Issue 15**

# Turning Points

online

## Last Chance

### ***allTURNatives: Form + Spirit 2010*** **August 6 - October 16, 2010**

The International Turning Exchange resident fellows' travel, and work independently and collaboratively from the first week in June through the first week of August at the Univ of the Arts, a longtime partner of the WTC and the ITE program. The *allTURNatives: Form + Spirit* exhibit is the grand finale to the 2010 ITE program. This multi-disciplinary exhibit reflects the fellows' experiences including objects produced before and during the residency. Three-dimensional work will be accompanied by photos and/or films depicting the summer experience and the artists' statements about their experiences and work process.

**Residents for 2010 include:**

[Stefano Catalani](#), Scholar, US, WA  
[Luc DeRoo](#), Artist, Belgium  
[Jay Hervet](#), Artist, United Kingdom  
[Dave Huntley](#), Photojournalist, US, PA  
[Wonjoo Park](#), Artist, South Korea  
[Karl Seifert](#), Photojournalist, US, PA  
[Derek Weidman](#), Artist, US, PA

**[View the exhibition and artist statements online](#)**

The following works have been graciously donated to the Wood Turning Center's Museum Collection by the 2010 ITE Resident Fellows:

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Collection

Ch VII reviewed

WTC on the road

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**Fall reading from  
the Museum Store!**

*Stop in and shop*



Luc De Roo, *Nid De Fourmi*, ITE 2010, Honey locust



Jay Heryet, *The Shedding Skin of Evelyn Mind*, ITE 2010, Maple, gesso

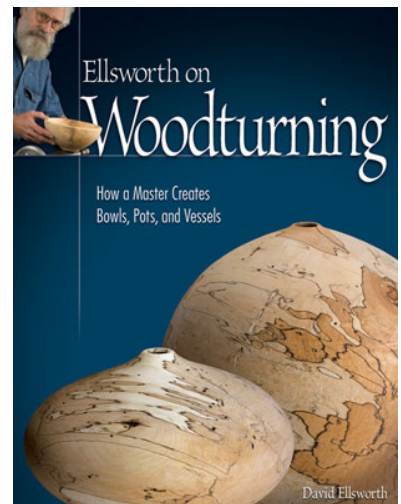
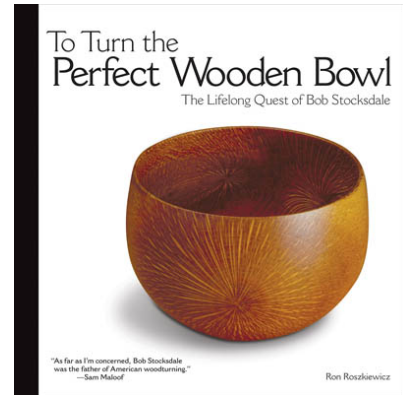


David Huntley's video *Shavings*, [here](#).



Wonjoo Park, *Smoothing - Turning 02*, ITE 2010, Slumped glass, wood

*our great selection!*



***Magic Realism:  
Material Illusions***  
designed by  
Dan Saal, *StudioSaal*

**MAGIC REALISM**

Buy it here for only \$14.95



Karl Seifert, *Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington D.C.*, ITE 2010, Pigment print on Hahnem=FChle paper  
View the other 6 photographs donated on our [website gallery](#)



Derek Weidman, *Mandrill*, ITE 2010, Box elder

## Up Next in the Gallery

### ***Michael Peterson: Evolution | Revolution***

Nov. 5, 2010 - Feb. 19, 2011

### ***Opening Reception party with the Artist***

Friday, November 12th, from 5:30 - 7:30 pm

### **Gallery Talk and Slide Presentation with Michael Peterson**

Saturday, November 13th, from 2 - 4 pm

when you visit the  
[online store](#)

## HAPPENINGS:

### ***Challenge VII: dysFUNCTIONal Tour***

[Southern Alleghenies Museum of  
Art](#)

August 13 - November 7, 2010  
Saint Francis University Mall  
Loretto, PA 15940

[View the Exhibit](#)

## NEXT STOP!

Bucks County  
Community College  
from  
December 1, 2010  
until March 15, 2011

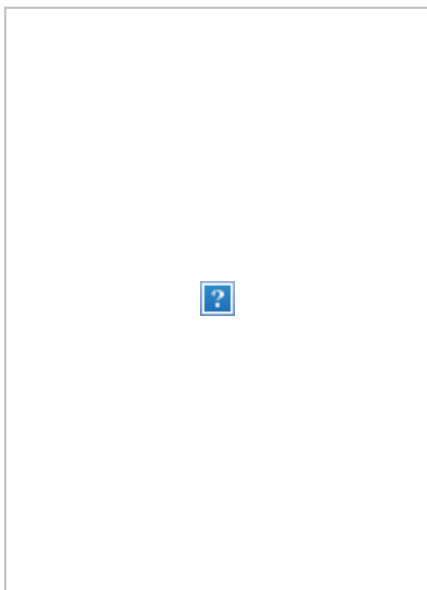
275 Swamp Road  
Newtown, PA 18940

## **WTC is looking for a new Board Treasurer**

If interested please contact  
Albert LeCoff at 215-923-800

## **Andrew Bender awarded the MCCC Alumni Hall of Fame**

The MCCC Alumni Hall of



*Coastal Stack V*, 2008  
46" x 34" x 30"  
Madrone burl  
Carved, sandblasted, bleached, pigmented  
Collection of the Artist  
Photo: Rex Rystedt

Organized by the Bellevue Arts Museum, this exhibition will focus on the artist's oeuvre for the past twenty years tracing his unique trajectory- an EVOLUTION from his early works heavily influenced by lathe-turned vessels- to his current, REVOLUTIONARY and fully realized sculptures, free from the influence of the lathe. This exhibition at the Center is the only east coast venue for this tour.

## Museum Collection & Library Gallery

The objects presented in this exhibition are works chosen by the 2010 ITE resident fellows. Each resident choose works that inspired and drove their passion and work. Artists include: Jean-Francois Escoulen, Liam Flynn, Mark Gardner, Dewey Garrett, Michael Graham, Henri Groll, Todd Hoyer/Hayley Smith, Stephen Hughes, Alain Mailland, Rudiger Marquarding, Thierry Martenon, Rolly Munro, Michael Peterson, David Pye, Marc Ricourt, David Sengel, Mark Sfirri, Remi Verchot, Hans Joachim Weissflog.

[View the exhibition online](#)

Fame induction ceremonies were Oct. 1 at the college's main campus in Blue Bell. Bender, an amateur theoretical physicist, is the webmaster for Wood Turning Center of Philadelphia and author of "Slip String Drive," based on his study of String Theory. After getting his associate's degree from Montco, he studied astronomy at Vassar College, where he was the first student in a wheelchair to live on campus.

"Currently, I am working on a few clean energy ideas," Bender said.

**Congrats Andrew!**

[Read more of the article here](#)

## VOTE FOR THE CENTER!

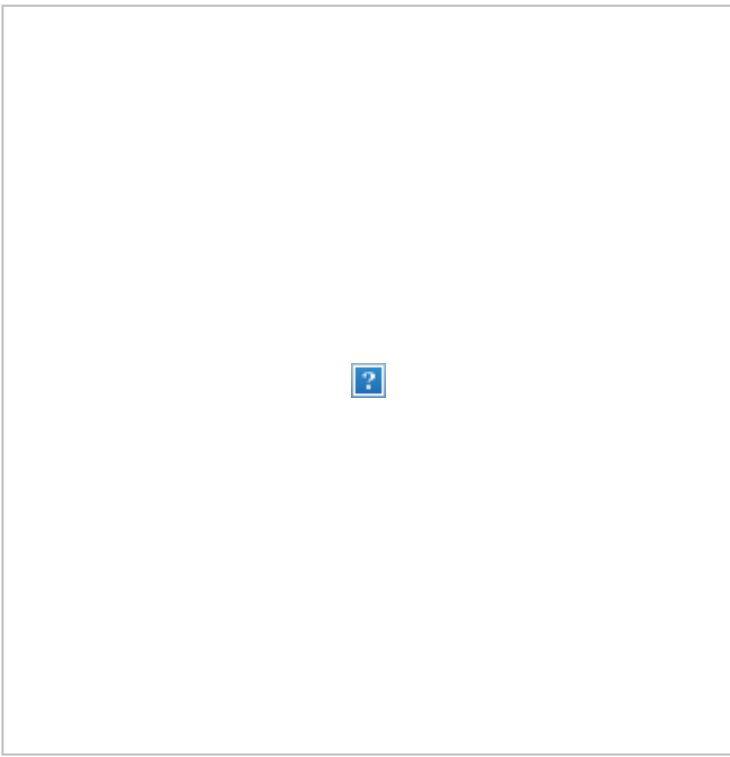
**For a chance to win a iPhone App**

The Wood Turning Center submitted an application to win the free development of an iPhone App from [www.icihere.com](http://www.icihere.com).

Please vote for the Center today!  
You can vote once a day, everyday until October 31st.

[Click here to VOTE!](#)

***Art in City Hall,  
Philadelphia  
Call for Artists!***



Remi Verchot  
*Mobius*, 1999 ITE  
Walnut, paint  
Wood Turning Center Museum Collection, Donated by the Artist

**Books that inspired the 2010 ITE Residents from the Wood Turning Center Library include:**

**"Challenge VI - Roots:** Insights & Inspirations in Contemporary Turned Objects" (2001), Wood Turning Center

**"David Pye" Wood Carver and Turner**" (1986), Craft Council, in association with the Crafts Study Center, Bath, England

**"Hieronymus Bosch"** (1965), Charles De Tolnay

**"Maria van Kesteren"**, catalog from an exhibition at the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, from November 1995 to January 1996, Uitgeverij Thoth, Bussum

**"Re: Turning 1970 - 1990: Works by Stephen Hogbin"** (1990), Ontario Craft Council

**"Wood Turning: The Purpose of the Object"** (1980), the Craft Council of Australia, Stephen Hogbin

**Stefano Catalani, 2010 ITE Scholar Statement**

"Dysfunctional Furniture" is an exploration of form with little regard for functional design. Any medium is eligible that reframes or challenges the formal aesthetics of furniture design including drawings, paintings, maquettes, prototypes, sculpture, installation, photography or other digital media.

Juror:

- Albert LeCoff, Director of the Wood Turning Center

- Jack Larimore, Furniture Maker

[Click here to download the Application](#)

**Craft lecture series  
at the  
Philadelphia Art  
Alliance**

The Philadelphia Art Alliance is thrilled to announce our newest program stream, *The Commonwealth series*.

*The Commonwealth Series* will explore the current issues pertaining to the modern Craft movement, through panel discussions and lectures by artists, academics and curators from the notable craft specific institutions in the city and the larger Northeast Corridor.

The selection of critically acclaimed speakers represent the next generation of craft artists and curators, who will seek to provide a clearer understanding of the place of craft and design in the larger context of modern fine art. This series is the





Stefano Catalani, Luc De Roo, Jay Heryet, David Huntley, Derek Weidman  
*You Are What You Eat #2*, 2010 ITE, Various material, Photo: Karl Seifert

Every year, for the past 15 years, the Wood Turning Center in Philadelphia has sponsored the International Turning Exchange (ITE) residency. Five artists working with wood in different fashions—woodturners *sensu stricto*, furniture makers skilled at lathe work, master carvers, and sculptors—are selected from a pool of national and international applicants to come to Philadelphia and spend the months of June and July together in and out of the woodshop. The residency culminates in an exhibition of their sweltering summer's work. In the effort to capture and document the build-up of relational interactions, both human and professional, the program includes one or two photojournalists who work in close contact with the artists for the full extent of the residency. Last but not least, a scholar, with all the intimidating power that such a picturesque word conveys, is invited to spend a week with the group, to breathe in, so to speak, the sawdust of their labor, with the goal to expand his understanding and appreciation of wood turning and, more generally, of wood as medium of artistic expression.

[Click here to read more of Stefano Catalani's statement](#)

## Letter from the Board - John Grass update

By Richard R. Goldberg, Esq., Wood Turning Center's President of the Board of Trustees

product of collaborations between PAA and nationally featured artist/educator Doug Bucci, who is serving as Program Curator.

**The Commonwealth Series will kick off on October 7th, 2010 and will continue with subsequent lectures each month (excluding January) until the series wrap-up in May 2011.**

[Visit the website and find out more!](#)

## *Wharton Esherick and the Birth of the American Modern*

The first major examination of the Wharton Esherick's work in over fifty years, will survey the remarkable range of this artist's achievement during the critical early years of his career through lively installations of furniture and artwork.

Organized by the Rare Book and Manuscript Library of the University of Pennsylvania Libraries, in collaboration with the Architectural Archives of Penn's School of Design, the Wharton Esherick Museum, and Hedgerow Theater. explore the rich contexts and friendships through which Esherick's art developed and flourished.

On view at Penn from September 7, 2010 through February 13, 2011.



John Grass Building, c. 1990

This is an update on the John Grass initiative in which the Wood Turning Center was involved. Although the Center unfortunately was unable to acquire the John Grass Building, one of the oldest and finest examples of an historic building containing commercial wood turning equipment dating from the Industrial Revolution, we were indeed completely successful in saving the building and equipment for future use.

The Philadelphia Chapter of the United Carpenters and Joiners of America, one of the earliest supporters of the Center's John Grass efforts, purchased the building and all of its equipment from the descendants of John Grass who owned the facility. Through the efforts of Walter Palmer, Jr., former Board Member of the Center and officers of the Center, The Carpenters Union, upon hearing of the difficulty that the Center was experiencing, immediately entered into an agreement to acquire the existing machinery, tools and all other contents. Having secured the machinery, the Carpenters Union entered into negotiations with the owners and successfully acquired the building. The Center was instrumental in putting the parties together and saving this important part of the wood turning craft's history.

The Center would like to thank Lou and Marcia Bower, the former owners of the John Grass building, Edward Coryell, Executive Secretary, Treasurer and Business Manager of the Carpenters Union and Walter Palmer, Jr. for their efforts and foresight in accomplishing the preservation of the building and its original machinery.

[Click here for more information.](#)

## ***A Revolution in Wood: The Bresler Collection***

*A Revolution in Wood* celebrates the magnificent gift of sixty-six pieces of turned and carved wood to the Smithsonian American Art Museum by the noted collectors, Fleur and Charles Bresler. Works by some of the best-known wood artists in the United States highlight the expressive capacity of craft's most organic material, and display wood turning's growing sophistication. Nearly half of the artworks in the exhibition will be on public display for the first time.

[View the exhibition.](#)

## **Apply to the WTC 2011 - 2013 ITE Residency**

**Call for Entries for the  
International Turning  
Exchange (ITE) programs for  
2011, 2012, and 2013.**

**Deadline for applications  
have been extended  
to December 15th, 2010**

For over fifteen years, the Wood Turning Center has awarded seven prestigious fellowships in its annual International Turning Exchange (ITE) program. Included annually are four lathe and/or wood artists, a sculptor or furniture maker, a



## Not One, But Two Challenges in a Row Thanks to an Anonymous Donor!

As the Windgate Charitable Foundation challenge neared its end, the Center received a gift of \$10,000 from an anonymous donor. When the donor, a long time friend of the Center and ornamental turner, learned that the Center had successfully completed the challenge, he instructed the Center to use his donation for a second challenge, and, even more amazing, stated he would raise his donation to \$20,000!

To date, the Center has made amazing progress and raised almost half the amount. The funds raised in this challenge will be used for:

- future programming, including a redesigned website and creation of an integrated, web-based database showcasing the Center's collections and resources,
- the Center's move to a new space on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Old City, and
- the preservation of 200 turned ornamental objects which were recently donated to the Center.

If you would like to contribute to our second challenge or learn more about it, please contact the Center at 215-923-8000. Or donate now by using [PayPal](#) today.

The Board and staff want to thank our amazing friends for their incredible generosity.

## Dateline Washington DC - Renwick/Bresler and CWA weekend

By Tina LeCoff, Philadelphia

Over the weekend of September 23-26, 2010, the friends and family of Fleur and Charlie Bresler gathered from afar for numerous events to celebrate the opening of the Renwick Gallery's exhibition - A

photojournalist, and a scholar/educator selected from an international pool of applicants.

### About the Residency:

The International Turning Exchange (ITE) is sponsored by the Wood Turning Center (Center), in Philadelphia, PA, US, and comprises the following:

An 8-week interactive residency program for wood artists, a sculptor or furniture maker, a photojournalist and a visiting scholar, all selected from the international community.

The ITE is a hands-on workshop designed for the residents to interact with each other and create an open exchange of advanced creative and technical innovations, aesthetics, and techniques. They work on individual and collaborative works during the residency. The scholar visits for a middle week in the residency, to gain an in depth understanding of the wood art and turning field and its practitioners. The photojournalist documents the group's ITE experience in traditional and innovative ways. Residents receive \$400 weekly stipend, roundtrip transportation from home to the residency location and return, housing, the use of the group mini van, and a modest allowance for materials to use during the residency.

[Download the 2011 - 2013 ITE application today!](#)



Revolution in Wood: The Bresler Collection. Over a year in the making, the careful installation of sixty-six turned and carved pieces, and the color book that documents them, are impressive accomplishments of the staffs of the Renwick and its mother organization, the Smithsonian American Art Museum. In the book, the Renwick's youthful curator, Nicholas R. Bell, chronicles the Bresler collection with fresh insights on contemporary wood art, while showcasing the objects the Breslers donated to commemorate former Curator-In-Charge, Kenneth R. Trapp's, tenure at the Renwick. The final quarter of the book presents the rest of the wood objects in the Renwick collection, with photographs, titles and artist information, to round out a comprehensive review of the Renwick's contemporary wood collection. The bibliography end cap is the most up-to-date list of good reading available to wood art lovers.

[Click here to read more](#)

## Ornamental Turners International Meets in San Jose, CA

By Albert and Tina LeCoff



Joshua Salesin at work at his ornamental lathe

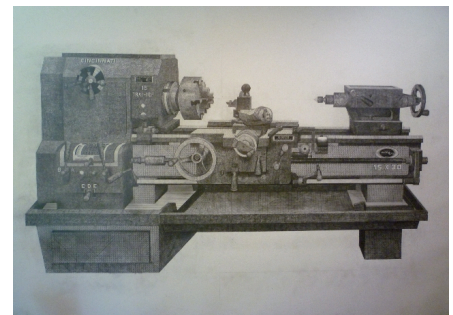
The Ornamental Turning International (OTI) organization passionately focuses on the art, machinery and tools utilized in ornamental turning ([www.ornamentaltourners.org](http://www.ornamentaltourners.org))

The OTI meets every two years and attracts US and international turners of renown. The meetings provide stellar opportunities to get updated on this ancient and contemporary specialty and to catch up with veteran and new ornamental turners. The September 2010 OTI meeting in San Jose, CA welcomed 80 turners plus 22 guests/spouses and this made it a friendly, informative update on the OT niche. A number of the ornamental turners also are "plain"

## Congratulations to David M. Bender

David M. Bender, 2009 ITE Resident Fellow was awarded the Albany Center Galleries Juror's Award at the 2010 Artists of the *Mohawk-Hudson Region Juried Exhibition*. This exhibition was held at the Hyde Collection Art Museum on October 1st. The work exhibit was Bender's latest drawing series of a lathe.

In addition to the Juror's Award, the work has been purchased into the Albany Museum of History and Art, New York.



turners - Dewey Garrett, Bonnie Klein. This year's OTI meeting also attracted three turners from England and one from New Zealand.

Throughout the three day meeting, participants were stimulated by the informal gallery of classic and contemporary work executed by veteran and newly "infected" ornamental turners, displays of tools and machines, and publications and antiques associated with OT. Sessions included materials, cutting tools, sharpening, maintenance of cutting frames, work made with oval chucks, overviews on the work of Joshua Salesin, Jon Sauer and George Baumgartl. A highlight of the sessions was a precedent-setting review of how volunteer ornamental turners helped the London Science Museum catalogue its OT objects and machines during this past year. Kudos to President Steve White and local master OT turner Jon Sauer for their organization of a very memorable OTI weekend.

The OTI also presents awards of excellence. This year's included (Images below):

- =B7 OTI Masters Cup to Joshua Salesin for Pagoda
- =B7 OTI Straight Line Cup to Robert Sakauye
- OTI Rose Cup to Robert Sakauye
- =B7 Newly established OTI Friendship Cup to Bill Ooms (acknowledges excellent work by an OT who has worked five years or less in the field)

[Click here to read more with images of the OTI awards](#)

## **Focus on the Collection - Balliet Collection of ornamental turned objects**

Walter Balliet of New Jersey has just donated his personal collection of over 175 ornamental turned (OT) objects to the Center's museum collection. This gift adds diverse examples to the Center's OT selection. Balliet's donation reflects his long-time fascination and expertise with ornamental and rose engine turning. From his machinist background, he discovered OT by reading a 1976 article about Frank Knox in the fourth issue of Fine Woodworking Magazine (the article that captured other persons as well). Walter said to himself, "I can do that..." Walter then purchased an original set of Holtzapffel books and made a Holtzapffel lathe in his basement shop, based on the drawings published in the "Holtz" books. When he met Frank Knox and saw his lathe, Balliet discovered that he had oversized his lathe by 2, due to the Holtzapffel drawings having no scale ! Walter and Frank became close OT friends and six of the donated objects were made by Frank and gifted to Walter over the years.

In the same vein, 70 donated objects are by the late Dale Chase of California. Walter first met Dale in 1988 at the opening of the Wood Turning Center's International Turned Objects Show (ITOS) in Philadelphia. Of all the works, Walter was attracted to Dale's and they met at the exhibition. Their acquaintance grew into friendship over the years with Walter making many tools and cutters for Dale. In exchange, Dale sent Walter the first example of each new series made with the new cutter. This makes the Balliet Collection a wonderful survey of Dale Chase's OT box art (from wood to jade to precious metal inserts). The remaining objects are gifts from other

ornamental turners or by Walter, executed on his oversized lathe and later Rose Engine attachment. The Balliet Collection will be available for inspection at the Center's new location in the Spring of 2011. Be sure to call ahead to ensure availability during your visit.



Walter Balliet, Untitled, three teir decorative piece, Ty Box wood, 1998  
Recent Donation to the Wood turning Center's Museum Collection

## **Challenge VII exhibition reviewed in Loretto, PA**

***'dysFUNctional' | Touring exhibition in Loretto features 'wild stuff' by 30 artists***

BY RUTH RICE

In this exhibit, everything has lost its function.

"Challenge VII: dysFUNctional," the touring exhibition from The Wood Turning Center in Philadelphia, will be on display through Nov. 6 at Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Loretto on the campus of St. Francis University.

The exhibition features 33 works by 30 artists from throughout the United States, Australia, Canada, England, France and Italy. The dysfunctional title with the emphasis on fun comes from the fact that many of the entries are nonsensical.

[Click here to read more of the article!](#)

## **WTC Collection on the Road**



Richard Tuttle, *Pop-A-Top: From the Junk Series*, 2000  
Oak, iron oxides, MDF, acrylics  
Wood Turning Center Museum Collection  
Donated by the Tuttle Family In Memory of Richard Tuttle

Richard Tuttle's work "Pop-A-Top: From the Junk Series" and Mark Sfirri/Amy Forsyth "Figurati..." are included in the exhibition "The Things Themselves" at the Pelham Art Center, Pelham NY, from September 10 until October 30, 2010.

Visit the Pelham Art Center!

[More information click here](#)



Amy Forsyth and Mark Sfirri, *"Figurati..." (go figure yourself)*, 2002  
Assorted wood, milk paint, paper, leather, ink, colored pencil  
On Loan from the Wood Turning Center from the artists

## Your Turn

We welcome your feedback to *Turning Points* and other Center programs. Find the "M Turn" section to share your thoughts on *Turning Points* articles and/or trends in the field of wood and lathe-turned art. Unless otherwise indicated, comments sent to *Turning Points* will be treated as letters to the editor.

***Turning Points Online*** is the electronic publication of the Wood Turning Center which helps disseminate news to international followers of wood art.

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