

# ALDE VALLEY SPRING FESTIVAL EXHIBITION 2020

*On a Turning Wing : A Celebration of Birds, Flight & Migration*

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE : JON WARNES

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It is easy to use wood in construction or for carpentry, joinery and woodturning; but it takes great skill to work *with* wood: to use it in ways that resonate with its structure and grain; that somehow liberate or celebrate these internal qualities. In line with this observation, it is a delight to be able to welcome to the Exhibition a collection of beautiful hand-turned cherry wood bowls made by the wood turner and furniture maker Jon Warnes who is also taking part in the Open Studios. These are presented alongside Emma Green's cherry blossom paintings and images from the Collingwood 'Cherry' Ingram archive.

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT

"This series of Cherry Bowls, vessels and platters have been made from farm-grown cherry for the Alde Valley Spring Festival at White House Farm.

The starting point and inspiration comes from the festival theme based around cherry trees and the link between the Gathorne-Hardy family and Japanese Cherry trees recently written about by Naoko Abe.

Using cherry grown and harvested at the farm, I have worked on making delicate, thin-walled pared-back forms with minimalist design to display the inherent beauty of the texture and grain of the wood. I have attempted to highlight elements such as knots, pattern and colour from ageing within the form.

These bowl forms are made semi-wet so they need to be completed within a day or they dry quickly and change shape before I can finish them. I work from the inside out, cutting the inside volume first, which then defines the external shape. The forms are reduced to the lightest wall thickness I can risk before the vessel becomes too weak, using very sharp hand tools and focused hand work. The inside is left hand-finished while the outside is polished. When they are oiled the two textures give a pleasing contrast. The interior of the small foot is finely carved by hand. Finally, the piece is signed and dated.

The form relies on the simplicity of design and inherent beauty within the log. I have been inspired by functional Japanese tableware and design; and a small group of outstanding wood turners. I am also very interested in the Japanese practise of *Kintsugi*, repairing broken vessels, which is also seen as enhancing them. Some of the vessels I make can unpredictably split because I am pushing the limits of the material and I think it would be interesting to repair these in a way that enhances or complements the design and materials.

These forms follow-on from a series of thin-walled vessels in Cherry and Laburnum made for an exhibition at Falkland in Scotland, ten years ago. Visiting an exhibition at Snape Maltings several years ago I was inspired by the lightness and simplicity of work in an exhibition by visiting Japanese artists. I was able to take part in a tea ceremony and this was really special.

I am now working on thin walled open platters and then larger forms.

Jon Warnes. April 2020.

For all sales please contact : [enquiries@aldevalleyspringfestival.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@aldevalleyspringfestival.co.uk)



*Cherry Bowl No.1* £85

Cherry bowl with a small knot near the rim.

The exterior has a fine oil finish to enhance the grain. The interior has a finish straight off the tool which gives a texture and colour that contrast with the exterior. The base has a small area of hand carving to finish. All weights and dimensions are approximate.

82mm diameter

93mm high

55grams



*Cherry Bowl No.2* £85

Cherry bowl with very fine walls.

The exterior has a fine oil finish to enhance the grain. The interior has a finish straight off the tool which gives a texture and colour that contrast with the exterior. The base has a small area of hand carving to finish it. All weights and dimensions are approximate.

75mm diameter

96mm high

35grams



*Cherry Bowl No.3*    £85

Cherry bowl with remnant hole from a hungry beetle.

The exterior has a fine oil finish to enhance the grain. The interior has a finish straight off the tool which gives a texture and colour that contrast with the exterior. The base has a small area of hand carving to finish it. All weights and dimensions are approximate.

81mm diameter

74mm high

40grams



*Cherry Bowl No.4* £85

Cherry bowl with two pinholes from an exploring beetle.

The exterior has a fine oil finish to enhance the grain. The interior has a finish straight off the tool which gives a texture and colour that contrast with the exterior. The base has a small area of hand carving to finish it. All weights and dimensions are approximate.

85mm diameter

80mm high

40grams



*Cherry Bowl No.5* £125

Cherry bowl with a small knot on base and inside, full rounded shape.

The exterior has a fine oil finish to enhance the grain. The interior has a finish straight off the tool which gives a texture and colour that contrast with the exterior. The base has a small area of hand carving to finish it. All weights and dimensions are approximate.

118mm diameter

95mm high

100grams



*Cherry Bowl No.6* £125

Cherry bowl with large dark knot near rim and yellow streaking from ageing.

The exterior has a fine oil finish to enhance the grain. The interior has a finish straight off the tool which gives a texture and colour that contrast with the exterior. The base has a small area of hand carving to finish it. All weights and dimensions are approximate.

95mm diameter

85mm high

55grams



*Cherry Bowl No 7.* £85

Yellow with a very light green streak.

The exterior has a fine oil finish to enhance the grain. The interior has a finish straight off the tool which gives a texture and colour that contrast with the exterior. The base has a small area of hand carving to finish it. All weights and dimensions are approximate.

88mm diameter

98mm high

55grams





*Cherry Bowl No 8. £75*

The exterior has a fine oil finish to enhance the grain. The interior has a finish straight off the tool which gives a texture and colour that contrast with the exterior. The base has a small area of hand carving to finish it. All weights and dimensions are approximate.

74mm diameter  
93mm high  
35grams



*Cherry Bowl No 9.* £65

Very fine with near translucent base.

The exterior has a fine oil finish to enhance the grain. The interior has a finish straight off the tool which gives a texture and colour that contrast with the exterior. The base has a small area of hand carving to finish it. All weights and dimensions are approximate.

66mm diameter

78mm high

20grams



*Cherry Bowl No 10.* £145

Very fine walled with knot in base and yellow streaking from ageing.

The exterior has a fine oil finish to enhance the grain. The interior has a finish straight off the tool which gives a texture and colour that contrast with the exterior. The base has a small area of hand carving to finish it. All weights and dimensions are approximate.

102mm diameter

88mm height

55grams



*Cherry Bowl No 11.* £145

Cherry pink interior with knots and bark inclusion. Pronounced contrast between colours. The exterior has a fine oil finish to enhance the grain. The interior has a finish straight off the tool which gives a texture and colour that contrast with the exterior. The base has a small area of hand carving to finish it. All weights and dimensions are approximate.

107mm diameter  
106mm height  
100grams

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