PENTURNING PRIMER • TURN A MULTIAXIS CHILI PEPPER BOX • TURN A TAPERED-STAVE BOWL

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TURN A WINDSOR-STYLE FOOTSTOOL

NEIL SCOBIE A TURNER FOR US ALL

PHIL BROWN ON UNTRAVERSED SLOPES

TURNING TUBES

MIRIAM CARPENTER PENNSYLVANIA



Pieces begin as sketches on old envelopes or printed emails of commission requests. From these quick sketches, I create detailed full-scale templates or drawings.

Bliss, 2014, Turned, carved, and bleached ash, whitewash, liming wax, 4" × 9" (10cm × 23cm)

I cut little strips of abrasive and taped them to my fingers for sanding the inside contours of *Bliss*.



I would not say at this point in my career that I could call myself a "turner." Someday, I hope that to be true. As I step to the plate, my armpits begin to sweat and I immediately have to pee. Nonetheless, I am compelled to use the lathe. I approach it with respect, curiosity, and delight in the opportunities it provides for experimentation. I have always had an affinity for things that have sensuous sweeping arcs and curves, and nostalgia for the vessel and artifact.

After designing a piece, I like to keep my mind open when making it, to imagine the ways in which the piece could evolve beyond the original concept. Once I have spent some time creating an object with my hands, I have a deeper understanding of its unique characteristics, capacity, and potential. I can then be more thoughtful in how I bring the piece to completion.

Concentra began as an exercise in flipping an object back and forth on the lathe to create a wave cross-section. *Bliss* followed with a tighter ripple and evolved once I had taken it off the lathe and realized I had no way of showing both sides other than presenting it on edge. I began to cut and carve, which led me to bleach, whitewash, and buff with liming wax.





Concentra, 2008, Mahogany, 4" × 13" (10cm × 33cm) Photo: Christian Giannelli