

Thuswap School of Woodcarving

September 21- 27, 2008

Carving and painting a European Goldfinch

Skill Level: Suitable for all skill levels. (Some carving experience required)

Instructor – John van Spronsen



TOOLS AND MATERIALS REQUIRED

I will bring the band-sawed Tupelo blanks and guide you through the carving, texturing and painting process. For the more advanced I will bring a more difficult base and perhaps make the feet out of wire, or carved on the branch. If time permits we will do some habitat, or at least describe how to do it. For the beginner it will be a simpler base and pewter feet. Each carver knows his own skill level, and carves at his own speed. Our goal is to enjoy ourselves, have a good time and finish with a completed project. It is to your benefit to do as much research as possible on the European Goldfinch. The benefits will show in your carving. Go on the Internet and ask Google for images of the European Goldfinch

Recommended tools

The following is a list of tools I use and recommend, to carve and texture a bird and a base. This is a recommendation only and does not mean that no other tools will work. If you have carved birds before, use the tools you have and are used to. The product numbers I used are for easy identification only and are not meant to promote a specific supplier.

Chip Bin (CB) or Cam Merkle Woodcarving (CMW)

This is a power carving exercise and you will need the following power tools:

Description of recommended items to bring

Dust collector. If you don't have one, call me at 604-531-2056 or email me at

JohnandMaria@vanspronsen.com I have 3 extras you can borrow.

	CB	CMW
A Dremel with flexible shaft or a micro motor grinder (a micro motor grinder is far superior)	X	X
A Pyrographic tool with tips #5MC Medium Spear Quill-Maker, #14 Medium Knife and #2M Medium Round.	X	X
A set of callipers		
Typhoon cutter KB32915	X	
Stump cutters: #HP218-080, HP219-050 and HP135-100		X
Ruby carvers RC26 and RC20	X	
Diamonds 2721, 2712, D-1029, D1042	X	
Some ceramic blue stones CK352 and CK390	X	
Some White ceramic stones WS4283 and WS649	X	
EZE-LAP Diamond dressing stick	X	
Some sanding cones like #M20 Mandrel and #Cone20RG and Cone30RG		X
Some Swiss sandpaper 120, 220 and 320 grit		

For painting you will need the following Jo Sonja colors:

Provincial Grey	Cadmium Yellow Mid
Raw Umber	Cadmium Yellow Light
Nimbus grey	Norwegian Orange
Warm white Titanium white	Dioxazine purple
Carbon black	

I will bring enough paint for all, but bring your paintbrushes. What I recommend is a good #2, #4 and #6 round and a #4 filbert brush.

The cost of the Tupelo blank, eyes, feet and base is \$50.00.