

"About Wood & Dust"

KUNNING DING



ARTIST STATEMENT

My works are inspired by the changes and unchanging things around, and they are sometimes presented in a process. My work usually starts with observation, and finds the relatively constant things in the changing life from day to day. The shape and texture come from my observation and reflection on the surrounding environment and life. I work with precious metals and also with materials within reach, such as waste wood, where I explore the materiality and material relationships.

The works of this series focus on the material itself, trying to express the conversion and conservation between different forms of wood. When one thing gradually disappears until it dies, there must be another thing growing. I hope to use a material to express this sense of balance between growth and death, rebirth and old age.

I am touched by the conservation and transformation of this material and also in our life. I hope to bring some thoughts about change and unchanging to the audience and hopefully that we can find our own balance.

DESIGN INSPIRATION

The inspiration for this design is the change of materials in the surrounding environment over time, such as bark and leaves. Over time, the texture and shape of their surface will change. I present this change on metal through metalworking.



DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

The design mainly revolves around wood as a material. When carving wood, I focus on collecting wood dust during the work. The wood dust are processed and re-used in the design and production. The purpose of this is to show the conversion of wood as a material between different forms. When you see a wood ring gradually disappearing, the wood dust rings are gradually growing.



Final Design

"Material Transformation" Jewellery Object & Exhibition Lookbook

Object 1



Object1: LOST WOOD, 2021
Material: Wood, Wood dust, Resin
Size: 1.5cm*1.2cm

There are a total of 6 works in this series. The wood and wood dust form a complementary shape to show the state of wood conversion in a cycle.



Object 2



Object2: DISSAPEAR AND GROW, 2021
Mateiral: Wood, Wood dust, Resin
Size: 1.7cm*1.1cm

This series of works consists of 10 works. The circles of wood and wood dust form a group, the circles of wood are gradually decreasing, and the reduced wood is transformed into sawdust and gradually grows in another object. This series of works explores the issue of material reduction and growth.



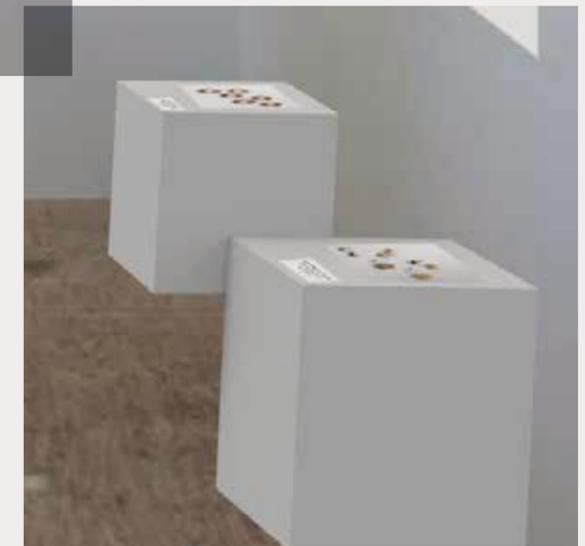
Object 3



This series consists of 5 works. The journey begins with a complete circle of wood, the wood is gradually transformed into sawdust, and the end is a circle made of sawdust.

Object3: JOURNEY, 2021
Material: Wood, Wood dust, Resin
Size: 1.5cm*1.2cm

Exhibition Layout



The exhibition is planned to be held in a space where real plants or trees can be seen through the windows. The sound of my carving wood will be played at the same time in the exhibition, hoping to create an atmosphere where everything is about wood in this space. The audience can see the wood, can hear the wood, but cannot really touch the wood.

Exhibition Layout



In the choice of exhibition space, I hope to make use of natural light as much as possible. For example, in this exhibition design image, my silver project will be set in the best light, hoping to use natural light to show the special texture of the surface of the work. And as the light changes throughout the day, the effect of the work also changes. Hope to convey this performance to the audience.

KUNNING DING

Jewellery Designer

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Education

09/2019 – 05/2021 The University of Edinburgh

MFA Jewellery

09/2015 – 06/2019 Gemological Institute China University of Geosciences (Wuhan) BA Gem and Material Technology

Related Researches

09/2019-03/2020 National Museum of Scotland Project: Participated World Cultures Department: Barkcloth Collection.

04/2018-06/2018 Researches on Ancient Chinese Jade at the Hubei Museum.

Further study about the ancient jade artifacts, ranging from the primitive times to the Qing Dynasty.

10/2016-02/2017 Hand-on Painting and Sketches Researches for Jewellery.

Studied the systematic hand-painting techniques of jewellery and chose materials .

04/2017-07/2017 Jewellery Identification Projects, Studio Based

Identified and assessed the quality of common gemstone types on the market



Related Researches

09/2017 Jewellery Grading Identification Certificate National

03/2017 Talent Scholarship by my hand drawing for four sets of thematic jewellery.

Skills

Gem identification

Digital Work Skills: In-design, Rhino, Zbrush

Practical Jewellery Skills: Wax carving

Silversmithing

BUSINESS CARD

Regarding the design of the business card, I will use the previous tone style, and the photograph of the wood texture will be applied on the background. In the actual production, the technique of transforming will be considered to produce the uneven texture.

