

# tim sway perspectives

## see things differently...

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i am an independent artist/artisan working exclusively in reclaimed, recycled, upcycled and found materials, usually wood and sometimes more.

i have a penchant for the weird and different; whimsical plays on traditional designs with odd materials and never-before-seen-or-dreamed-of things. i also make more traditional pieces out of one-of-a-kind materials with one-of-a-kind flair. i never make the same thing the same way twice. i like using things in ways for which they were never intended to be used.

from little wood rings made from reclaimed upright bass fingerboards to 8-foot dining tables made from deconstructed railroad trestles, no job is too big or too small for me to consider. i also like reconstructing sentimental items provided by the customer, turning them into something new and heirloom worthy.

i consider myself an artist, not a builder or carpenter. art for art's sake is great, but i like my work to serve a purpose. i'm more interested in making an object you can sit in or put your feet on that doubles as a sculpture than just a sculpture one looks at.

i am fascinated by mankind's interactions with its objects and highlight this in my work. by using reclaimed materials, i seek to showcase the natural textures of the materials as well as the wear marks and signs of its previous life in the hands of man. that's one of the reasons i want my work to be functional. it's all about beauty and purpose.

i like the limitations set by using salvaged materials. in the lack of options, i am forced to be more creative with what i have which results in unique, one-of-a-kind solutions.

i recently fell in love with chainsaw carving. by only working on naturally felled or dying trees, carving fits my mantra of making materials that would be of little use works of art.

even as a child, i was inspired to create things out of things other people had left behind. long before environmentalism was even much thought about, i found wastefulness a sin and sought to use everything rather than throw it away.

i am trained as a musician and have spent most of my life playing music. i still do. as a young adult, my search for the perfect bass instrument brought me back to the woodshop and re-kindled my passion for making things - other than music - with my hands.

making music and making things aren't much different. it's the same part of the brain that lights up and my job to 'make' what it is i imagine. sometimes it's sound, sometimes it's more tangible...it's all related.

what can i make for you?