

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Artisan Wilbur Mock Featured in ZMA Exhibition

ZANESVILLE, Ohio– The Zanesville Museum of Art is opening a new exhibition this fall. *The Wood-Turned Artistry of Wilbur C. “Wib” Mock* opens Wednesday, September 15, 2021. Muskingum County resident Wilbur C. “Wib” Mock has been working with wood since the 1950s, but only discovered his passion for wood-turning using the lathe in the late 1980s. For over 30 years, Mock has created beautiful wood-turned pieces, including bowls, plates, and more. This intimate exhibition features examples of his devotion and commitment to the art of woodworking. The exhibition will be located on the second floor of the ZMA in the R. Donald Cultice Family Cases.

“This is an exciting opportunity for the museum to feature Wilbur Mock’s work,” stated executive director and chief curator Laine Snyder. “It’s exciting to see the beautiful local and exotic woods incorporated into his pieces. The designs are spectacular.”

About the Artist

Wilbur Mock was born in Muskingum County in 1930 and currently resides in Zanesville. Mock established Mock Woodworking Co. in 1954, which specialized in custom residential cabinetry until the late 1980s when it transitioned to commercial cabinetry. During this time, Mock began experimenting creating works using a lathe, which is a machine designed for shaping wood.

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“I always liked to work with my hands,” says Mock. “Woodworking came naturally to me.”

Mock’s pieces have been featured at the Dawes Arboretum and The Works in Newark, Ohio. He has used local woods such as cherry and oak, but also exotic woods such as Bubinga and Sapele. His works are very precise, often glued in multiple layers before being applied to the lathe. Some works, like his Mahogany bowls, are sanded multiple times to achieve the satin finish, while others, like the Ash live-edge bowls, are made to emphasize the rough textures of the wood.

About the Exhibition

The Wood-Turned Artistry of Wilbur C. “Wib” Mock will feature plates, bowls with burl and live edge works, various lidded boxes, vases, and candleholders. Over 25 works in total will be displayed at the ZMA. There will also be an exhibition lecture featuring Wilbur Mock’s son Doug Mock on Thursday, November 11, 2021. The intimate exhibition will be on view when the museum reopens to the public Wednesday, September 15, 2021. The hours upon reopening will be Wednesday, 10–5, Thursday, 10–7, and Friday, 10–5. Guests will also be able to view this exhibition on the ZMA’s webpage.

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