

*Visitor's Corner*

## Markus Dönier – inspirational wood artist

Klosters is home to an amazing number of talented artists and none other than Markus who despite his full-time day job still finds the time to carve imaginative creations out of beautiful woods.

cs | Markus was born in Klosters and grew up in the village until he went to Zurich for an apprenticeship in his mid-teens. Even as a little boy, he found wood to be a fascinating material and developed his love for working with wood from his father though he was not allowed to use his lathe as it was too dangerous. Markus left Switzerland to go and work in the US and actually went into the catering business in Seattle and worked there for 25 years until the Grison mountains lured him back to Klosters in 2015. While he was in the US, Markus also found the time to keep up with his wood creations and built up a useful collection of tools too which he brought back with him and also many of the special objects he made. In 2016 Markus invested in a special lathe from Germany and set up a workshop in a lovely old barn where he can work undisturbed though it is pretty chilly in the middle of winter!

Markus spends all day working in nature and gets his inspiration visually from the shapes and different woods. He uses almost exclusively wood of local origin from Klosters and much of this wood finds its way to him through natural sources, after storm damage, avalanches and alike. Marcus likes to leave the objects he creates in as natural a condition as the raw material allows, shaping and cutting to bring out the natural beauty of the individual piece. He often starts with blocks of wood others would not attempt to work with, either because of so called imperfections in the material, or unusual and special grains running through the wood that he sees a natural beauty in. He works with Maple, Black Locust, Cherry, Stone Pine and spalted Beech. Spalting is any form of wood coloration caused by fungi. Although primarily found in dead trees, spalting can also occur in living trees under stress. Spalting can cause weight loss and strength loss in the wood, the unique coloration and patterns of spalted wood are sought by woodworkers and the visual effect is unique.

Markus does not do production and each work of art is individual and often does not keep to the planned direction with the theme changing as he works which he finds rewarding. His pieces are only treated with beeswax which he rubs into



the object with hot friction on the lathe. His pieces are like a symbiosis between the available wood and his ideas and thoughts which he transforms into individual pieces. Wood is a living object, and you touch wood to feel it. Markus's distinctive works not only gives him a lot of joy, but he wants his clients to share and enjoy it too.

You can come and see Marcus's work on

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December from 4.00 pm–7.00 pm in his workshop Höfjiweg 4. Please do not take any private parking places and as **numbers are limited due to the Covid-19 regulations number of visitors at one time is limited. You can book a time slot by ringing tel no: +41 44 991 73 33.**

This event is organised by Susanne Widmer and Global Art Source, a company she co-founded in 2001 with Marco Meier that specializes in Modern and Contemporary Art. Susanne advises private and corporate clients interested in purchasing, selling, and investing in art. Since founding Global Art Source she has been curating and managing numerous exhibitions in and around Zurich as well as in other cities around the world, showcasing the works of rising artists.

For further information go to [www.globalartsource.com](http://www.globalartsource.com)

