Cherry Blossom



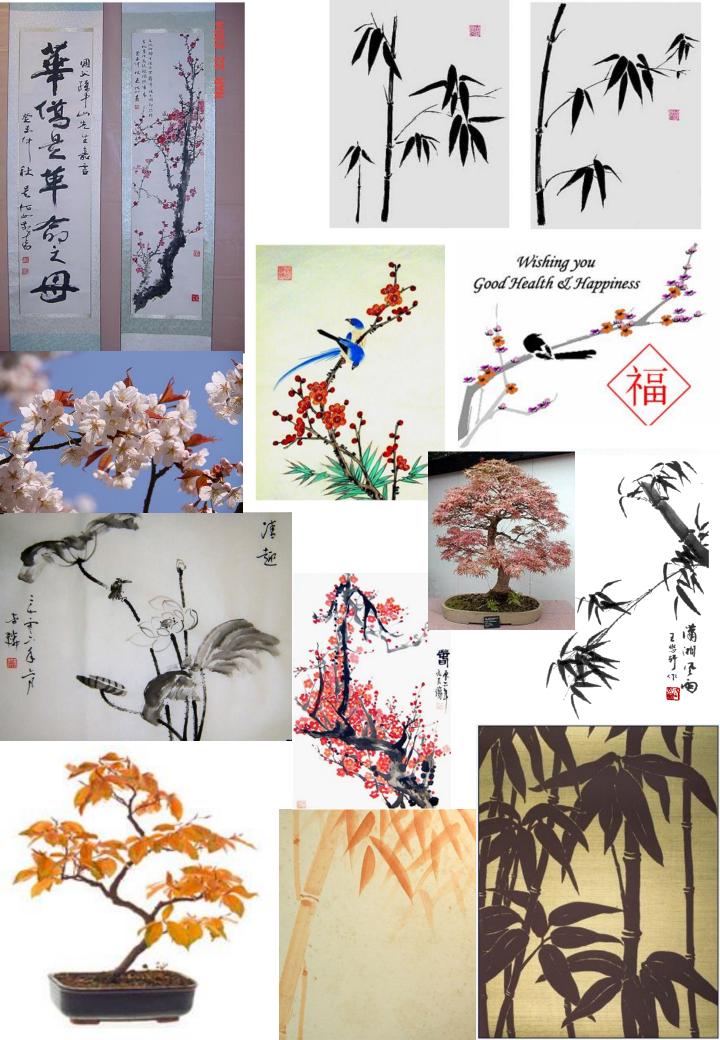


Sakura is the Japanese name for cherry trees and their blossoms & are richly symbolic in Japan with over 100 varieties. Sakura is an omen of good fortune, represents spring and is also an emblem of love and affection. Flowering seasons in Japan during March & April, the bright pink variety is called Kanzan. The cherry tree holds special memories for me as portrayed in Puccini's Madam Butterfly.

> SPALTED EUROPEAN BEECH, MAPLE, YELLOWOOD AFRICAN BLACKWOOD, SPALTED BUBINGA,

Box #12 - January to April 2009 Chris & Ingrid for their 60th's on 22nd March & 21st July 2009

Eddie Power 25th April 2009



## Found: "Ingrid"

This is what the name "Ingrid" looks like in Japanese:

# インダリッド

It is pronounced "INGURIDDO". (Consonants are pronounced more or less the same way as in English. "I" sounds like ee in meet, but shorter. "U" sounds like oo in hook, but with less rounding of the lips. "O" sounds like o in old.)

## Found: "Christopher"

This is what the name "Christopher" looks like in Japanese:

## クリストファー

It is pronounced "KURISUTOFAA". (Consonants are pronounced more or less the same way as in English. "A" sounds like a in father, but shorter. "I" sounds like ee in meet, but shorter. "U" sounds like oo in hook, but with less rounding of the lips. "O" sounds like o in old. Double vowels like "AA" are held for twice the duration of single vowels.)



This is the transliteration to Mandarin Chinese for the name Christopher

Score: 100/100

# 克利斯托佛

Christopher 克利斯托佛 - prononciation (PinYin): kè lì sī tuō fó

Ingrid 因各丽德 - prononciation (PinYin) : yīn gè lí dé

Eddie 艾迪 - prononciation (PinYin) : ài dí

Christopher







Ingrid

Christopher

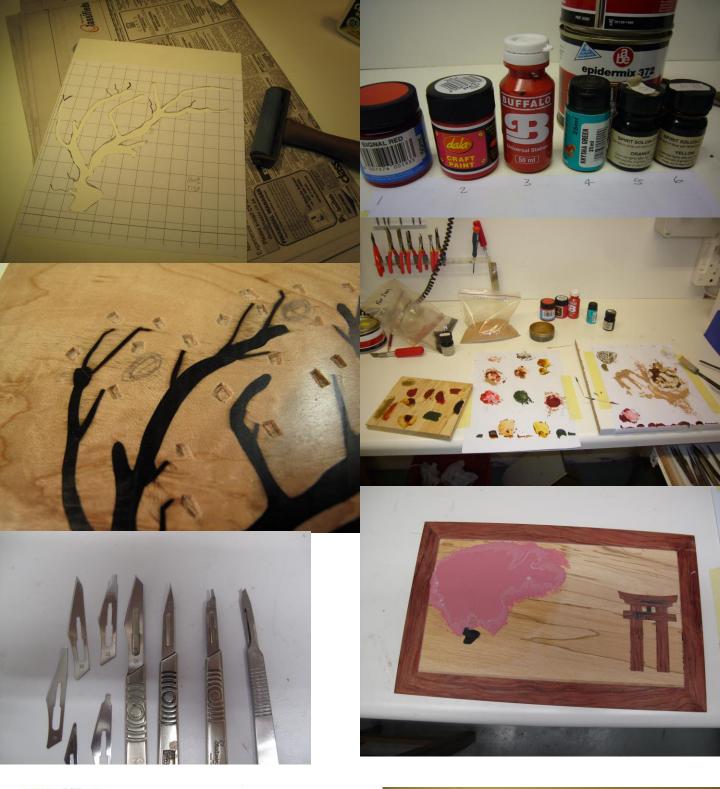
Ingrid

Eddie



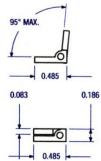






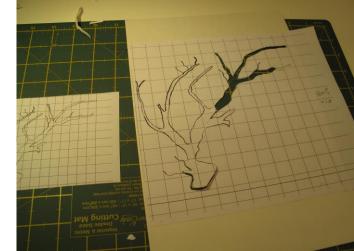






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African Blackwood / Grenadillo Dalbergia melanoxylon Family: Leguminosae

**Other Names:** Congowood, Mozambique ebony, Senegal ebony Cape Damson ebony.

**Distribution:** This African tree has an extensive range on the continent. It can be found in the savanna regions of the Sudan southward to Mozambique, then westward to Angola and northward to Nigeria and Senegal.

The Timber: the heartwood is dark purplish black or brown with black streaks which usually predominate so that the general effect is nearly black. The luster is dull and odor and taste are not distinct. It is very hard and heavy wood with a weight of 82 lb/ft 3 (1,314 kg/m 3). The grain is mostly straight with a fine texture. It has a slightly oily nature. The narrow sapwood is white and very clearly defined.

**Working Qualities:** This wood has exceptionally good working qualities. It cuts very smooth and evenly, taking an excellent finish directly form the tool of the drill or lathe. It can be tapped for screw threads almost like metal. It is considered to be the best wood available for ornamental turnery.

**Uses:** A chief use is for woodwind instruments such as flutes, clarinets, bag pipes, etc... It is superior to ebony for this purpose because of its oily nature and resistance to climactic changes. The wood is also used for turnery in making such items as brush backs. Knife handles, chessmen and pool cues.

## **Spalting** how it Happens

What causes the unusual characteristics in spalted wood is a fungus called "white rot fungi." This fungus causes rotting decay from a microorganism that spreads erratically throughout the wood and causes unsymmetrical markings and coloring. This unusual event occurs in downed timber or in wood that is specifically selected to be spalted by timber men or woodworkers. The spalting may be in different shades of black, pink, gray or even multicolor streaks, making the wood attractive to many woodworkers. The spalting process can take weeks, months and even years to mature. It is an ongoing phenomenon. The two big dynamics that are needed to produce spalting are: the right amount of moisture, which is about 30%, and a temperature of 60 to 90F. Once the spalting process has begun, the wood must be watched carefully so it does not rot for too long. Otherwise, it will get to the point where it can no longer be of use.

### **Bubinga**

Botanical Name: Guibourtia Demeusei Family: Leuminosae

Specific Gravity: .88

Origin: Cameroon, Gabon and Zaire

<u>General Description</u>: This African wood is a reddish-brown color and usually defect free. It is a dense wood that can be used for many purposes. We are able to find this material in both plain and figured material. This material is sometimes available in very wide material for single piece table tops. There are Bubinga Flitches that are over 40" inches wide. We also sometimes find flat sawn and quarter sawn figured material all from the same log.

## Maple

Botanical Name: Acer saccharum Specific.

Typical Furniture, Cabinetry, Architecural Millwork, Guitar Building / Instrument making, Wood Turning, Gunstocks, Automotive / Aircraft Interior, Inlaying, Box Making, Flooring, Veneer and many other uses.

Other Trade Names:Rock Maple, White Maple, Sugar Maple, Birdseye Maple, Curly Maple.

There are many variations of Hard Maple including: plain, curly & birdseye.

\*Known as "Sugar Maple"

\*Best known for producing Maple syrup & beautiful fall foilage

\*Dense / fine textured wood. Birds eye maple is found on the dash boards of some of the world's finest cars.

\*Excellent for fine furniture. Often found in cue sticks, makes a beautiful floor

## Beech

Fagus species

**Description:** Beech trees are large (9 to 24 meters), symmetrical forest trees that have smooth, light-gray bark and dark green foliage. The character of its bark, plus its clusters of prickly seedpods, clearly distinguish the beech tree in the field.

Habitat and Distribution: This tree is found in the Temperate Zone. It grows wild in the eastern United States, Europe, Asia, and North Africa. It is found in moist areas, mainly in the forests. This tree is common throughout southeastern Europe and across temperate Asia. Beech relatives are also found in Chile, New Guinea, and New Zealand.

**Edible Parts:** The mature beechnuts readily fall out of the husklike seedpods.Beechnuts are one of the most delicious of all wild nuts.

Most the wood used to produce this box is spalted and chosen for their unusual characteristics. The spalted European Beech was the first chosen but a little disappointing, rather soft in places and difficult to machine and finish but some very curious figuring. The Bubinga is great to work and produces a very satisfying finish. The Maple is easy to work, relatively hard & dense, this piece is also unusually figured & polishes up beautifully. The African blackwood has a character all of it's own, is rare, hard as nails & very dense, shines up like brass.

A few technicals like upside down writing and other challenges provided some interesting pastimes. I enjoyed the journey with many good thoughts of the two of you along the way & also of times past together.

With fondest wishes

Like superior wood, it takes a long time to grow old friends.