

"CHERRY BLUE" HALL TABLE

Appalachian Black Cherry with Stained Glass Insert

Once in a great while among all of the pieces of timber available, a single unique piece stands out. The marvelous, complex grain pattern and color of the table top have been enhanced by the addition of the blue glass lake...

The basis for this piece of wood art began with the unexpected discovery of a magnificent plank of highly figured Appalachian black cherry (*Prunus serotina*) that was used to create the table top. Properly aged, crafted and finished black cherry timber rivals any other wood in the world for its stability, durability, exotic pattern, intense figuring, chatoyance (opalescence reminiscent of looking into cat's eye) and deep, rich patina that will develop over time. This character will intensify, as cherry tends to darken and the grain gains more depth as it ages. The graceful curves across the ends provide a pleasing balance with the length of the table top while visually tying the top form to the base. The result stands before you as unrivaled beauty.

The book-matched table legs and short spreaders have been fabricated from a single plank of figured Appalachian black cherry. The hand-tapered legs exhibit a slight taper on the inner sides to compliment the fine lines of the table while giving the appearance that the piece is balancing on its toes. Adjustable felt feet allow the table to sit flat and level on uneven floors.

A smaller, but noticeable crotch piece of Appalachian black cherry was selected for the lower shelf to add a bit of flash below the waistline without distracting from the overall design.

The intense blue insert is the result of multiple layers of stained glass placed over a piece of mirrored glass. The intent is to approximate the artist's first impression when viewing into Crater Lake many years ago.

Traditional hand-cut blind mortise-and-tenon joints (Japanese jigoku-kusabi joinery technique) have been used for permanent attachment of the base pieces. This specific joint has been utilized to maximize the strength and stiffness of the table frame to create a table that will last for generations. The table has been hand finished with a durable satin lacquer finish to highlight the natural color and protect the beautiful character of the timbers while giving the piece a warm feeling to the touch.

As with all of his wood art pieces the title of the piece, creation date and artist information has been permanently stamped on the underside of the piece. This piece has been entered in the artist's permanent registry.

Dimensions:

32-3/4 inches in width

8-7/8 inches in depth (top)

12-5/8 inches in depth (overall)

30 inches in height

Artist:
Washington

Gary A. Leake, Coupeville,

Price:

\$1900