

DESIGNER /
MANUFACTURER

TOSHIO TOKUNAGA

PRODUCT NAME

Kyoto Chair

SHOWN IN

Created from 250+ Year Old Japanese Zelkova wood from the Rokko mountain finished using the process of "Kanna". This particular tree was also used in the restoration of the Nagoya castle.

DIMENSIONS

27 3/8"w x 20 7/8"d x 31 1/4"h

AVAILABLE
FINISHES

200 - 300 Japanese Zelcova finished using the process of "Kanna"



STORY Considered one of Tokunaga's masterpieces, this Kyoto chair was created from 250+ year old Japanese Zelkova from the Rokko Mountains. The particular tree used for this chair is quite rare to acquire and a part of the same tree was also used in the for the restoration of Nagoya castel.

KANNA Kanna is both the name for a type of woodworking and the planing tool at its heart. Avoiding power tools and sanding of any kind, Kanna is a patient and an intuitive process guided by the hand's touch.

Tokunaga sees the tool as akin to a stethoscope that tells him the condition of the wood and how it will respond. His consciousness as a designer lives as much in his fingertips as in his mind. The process, which resembles sculpting, is a sustained act of attention that involves listening to the sound of the planer makes as it passes over the wood. No two wood blocks respond the same. The result is an immaculate finish that high-tech methods can't equal.

ARTIST BIO Toshio Tokunaga was born in 1952 in Hyogo Prefecture, Japan. He graduated from the Faculty of Agriculture at Iwate University in 1974 and apprenticed under 'Living National Treasure' Hekigai Takeuchi, becoming a member of the Japan Traditional Art Crafts Association in 1985. He built his studio at Yokaway Town, Hyogo in 1990 where he continues his practice with daughter Yuriko Tokunaga.

In 2002, Tokunaga produced the 'Decorated Mulberry Go Board' to celebrate the 1100th anniversary of the founding of the Dazaifu Tenmangu Shrine of Fukuoka, now considered one of its sacred treasures. The following year, he was invited to participate in the 'Contemporary Furniture and Woodworks in Japan' exhibition at the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo.

