



# Studio Oksa

## WOODWORK STUDIO COFFIN AND URN ATELIER

*“My mission is to craft purified wooden coffins and urns with care and passion to elevate the moment when the temporal and the eternal cross path of a beloved one.”*

### MARKO ESCARTÍN

Cabinet maker / Entrepreneur

#### Handcrafted wooden coffins and urns

Our coffins and urns are designed by Kari Virtanen, Rudi Merz and Marko Escartín. They are always made from solid wood, in a variety of wood species that are available at our local saw mill. The wood is protected using a colourless wax, which preserves its natural, modest, character. Lacquers and paints are not used.

At its most austere, the woodworker's interpretation, the coffin interior is decorated with handplane shavings alone, or "angels, curls". The use of cloth or tapestry are left to the initiative of local habits or personal desires. Our genuine products will complement the assortment of high-end funerary equipment for a funerary office that provides personal and exclusive services to their clients. Our coffins and urns provide an option to reflect the manifold of deepest feelings in the time of sorrow and mourning.

I have established the presence of our funerary products within the Finnish market and I now want to offer our items also to Sweden and Denmark. This, I consider a concrete cultural action, which is made possible with support by the *Kulturfonden för Sverige och Finland* and *Kulturfonden for Danmark og Finland*.

Master cabinet makers Kari Virtanen and Rudi Merz have laid the basis for a line of coffins and urns that allow wood material and wood-work to take the primary role. They achieve a purified elegance by sticking to an unloaded, clear design. It is well received among aesthetically oriented clients.

I started in 2007, my own woodworker's workshop under the name Studio Oksa in the internationally renown design and handicraft valley of Fiskars in Finland. Previously I had been trained in my profession under guidance of masters Kari Virtanen and Rudi Merz in their workshop, Nikari. By their suggestion, I have undertaken the specialization of coffins and urns. To the present date, I have contributed in the same spirit, three coffin models and one urn.

I am a member of the co-operative of local artisans and designers in Fiskars. Fiskars is the place of origin of the bourse enlisted company Fiskars Abp who has maintained an active role in the culturally social operation of converting and consolidating Fiskars Village to a worldwide attractive center for arts, crafts and design.

Studio Oksa    [www.studiooksa.fi](http://www.studiooksa.fi)  
Fiskars Bruk    [www.fiskarsvillage.fi/sv](http://www.fiskarsvillage.fi/sv)  
Our co-operative    [www.onoma.org/sv](http://www.onoma.org/sv)  
Fiskars company    [www.fiskars.com](http://www.fiskars.com)  
Kari Virtanen    [www.nikari.fi](http://www.nikari.fi)  
Rudi Merz    [www.rudimerz.net](http://www.rudimerz.net)

## Urn 1



Model : KU00

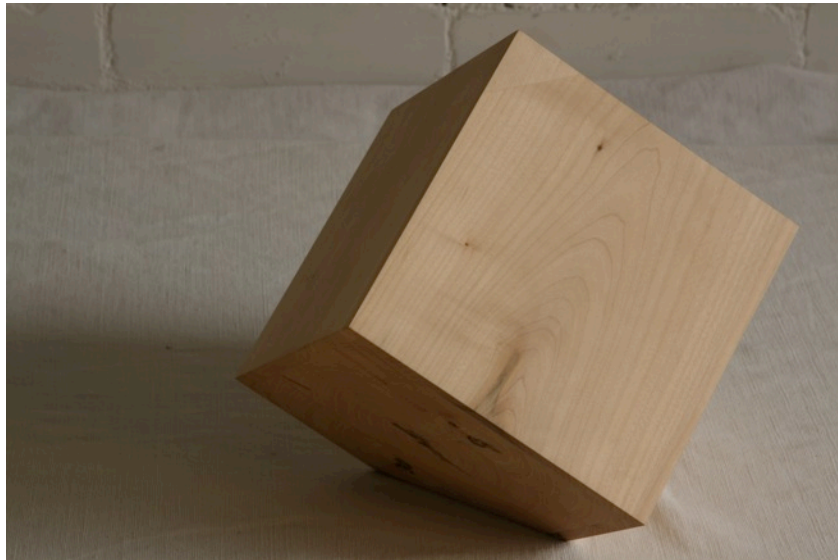
Design: Kari Virtanen

Material: aspen, birch, alder, oak, black walnut and others on request

**This model achieves the minimal essentials of what a purified wooden urn is.**

Ash or oak dowels lock the top. The top performs a squared mosaic composition which allows the interpretation of a Cross if Christian symbolics are desired. The cord is long enough to allow the urn to be lowered down to an earthly grave in a worthy and respectful fashion.

## Urn 2



Model : Sleep lattice / Sömnkristall  
Design: Marko Escartin  
Material: Rowan, red cedar and maple or thoroughly maple.

**This model places itself into an architectural or sculptive landscape.**

The intended symbols are the cubic body standing on its corner representing an earthly body returning to mother-soil. The upper corner or vertex aspires to the higher spheres, representing the soul.

## Coffin 1



Model : KA 00, KA 01

Design: Kari Virtanen

Typical materials: aspen, birch, pine, alder and others on request

**This minimalistic model is popular among aestheticians such as architects, artists, and in general, among persons who want to avoid the ballast of any excessive forms. Natural wood plays a main role.**

The model KA00 is a straight coffin, whereas the model labelled KA01 narrows slightly towards the feet. The top is locked with wooden dowels. If needed to be reopened, the dowels can be hammered through the sideboard until the top becomes unlocked. The dowels can be reused for closure. The structure of the top displays a line along its entire length. If desired, a subtle perpendicular cut can be made to represent the Christian Cross.

## Coffin 2



Model : KA 03  
Design: Kari Virtanen  
Typical materials: Oak, birch, linden and others on request

The top of this model is made from three planks. It narrows downwards and toward the feet.  
In oak, it provides quite an imposing elegance.

## Coffin 3



Model : RA 05

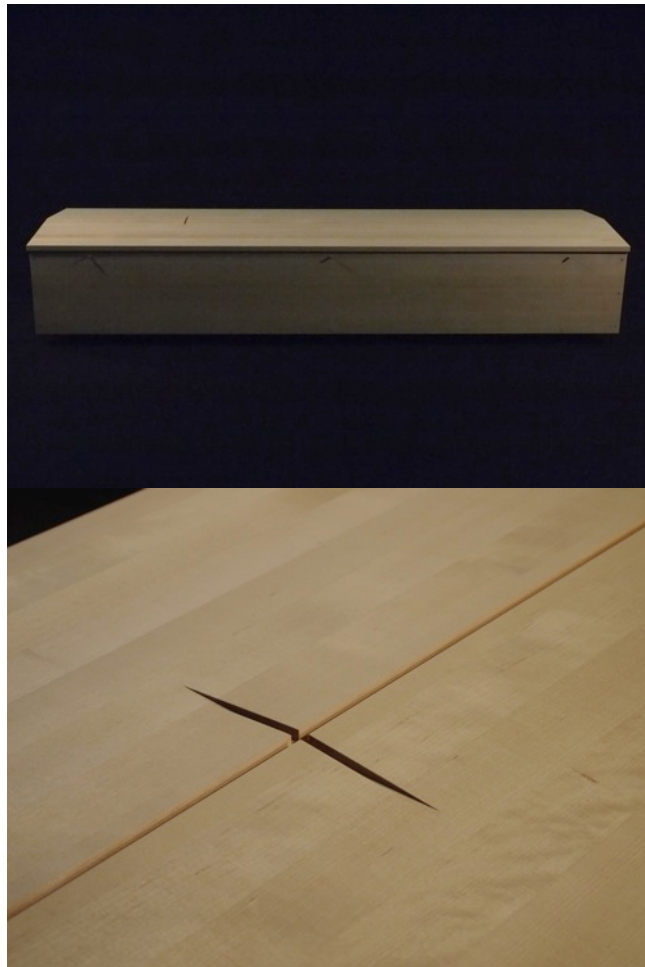
Design: Rudi Merz

Typical materials: Alder, aspen and others on request

The top of this model describes an arch of five boards. It narrows downwards and in a curved fashion towards the feet. The curved shape is reminiscent of a boat. This model may be similar to traditional coffins in some countries.

In alder it provides a delicate interpretation (pinkish) and in aspen (white) it becomes lucid.

## Coffin 4



Model : MA 02

Design: Marko Escartin

Typical materials: Birch, oak and others on request

This model is a version of KA00 with a top folded of two boards. The horizontal stroke of the Cross shows a subtle delicacy when it grows thinner due to the inclined top boards. The ends of the coffin rest solidly on the mark, like a temple.

## Coffin 5



Model : MA 02 AR

Design: Marko Escartin

Typical materials: Birch, oak and others on request

This model is further developed from MA02. As its predecessor its top is folded of two boards. The horizontal stroke of the Cross shows a subtle delicacy when it grows thinner due to the inclined top boards.

The entire coffin becomes sublime as it is floating apart from earth, expressing eagerness to be lifted into the spheres as if awaiting for resurrection.

## Coffin 6



Model : MA 10

Design: Marko Escartin

Typical materials: Alder, birch, and others on request

This model is a geometrical interpretation inspired by a cradle or manger.