

# Andis Applewhite

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## Artist Statement

My work is a means and expression of my understanding of life and my existence. My screen and woodblock prints tend toward the abstract expressionist or minimalist styles. The subject matter is an exploration of abstract symbolism and the dualities in life.

For the last three years I have concentrated on translating my work into the medium of woodblock prints. It began with my interest as a woodworker working with my dad building furniture. I started bringing leftover scraps of mesquite, mahogany and pecan wood home from the woodshop to see if I could translate what I had been doing, for many years, in my screenprints into woodcuts. Carving the wood has brought me a greater awareness of its static quality and a deeper focus and awareness of the meaning of my work.

This last year I have been working on a series of cremation boxes. These boxes are being made from trees that I have had milled over the past 6 years and have been drying in my back yard by my studio. They are simple in design and focus on the beauty and character of the wood.