

Visual Arts

Title: Arrived Perfect

Medium: sculpture/product

Materials: Stick-Horse - cherry wood, metal springs
Case - maple, pine, Plexiglas, metal springs

Arrived Perfect addresses animal stewardship issues, and the lost reality of society's daily dependence and relationship with a specific animal.

First, you experience an easily transportable case. The case symbolizes important contents and the need or desire to keep the contents with you at all times. Closer examination reveals a pattern of holes near the case handle, although the inside contents are still unknown, the patterned holes suggest openings for breathing and the possibility of something living inside the case. When the case is opened, the title, "Arrived Perfect – Some Assembly Required", is clearly presented, but the object and purpose still remains illusive. The maple wood and pine compartment snugly cradles the contrasting cherry wood object, suggesting the precious nature of the contents. Just below the title is a small lid that lifts up to display a set of assembly instructions.

Now the wood assemblage can be carefully removed from the molded, womb-like compartment, and gently trained into its final Stick-Horse form with a series of rotations and manipulations described in the assembly instructions. The initial image of a compact, folded wood assemblage is analogous to a newborn foal. A new foal deliberately untangles its head, body, and legs; then struggles to stand. Likewise, the owner of Arrived Perfect gently trains or transforms the folded wood assemblage, through deliberate manipulations, into a functional stick-horse form. The same care and patience is required to disassemble the horse and replace it snugly in its compartment.

Arrived Perfect is about a love of having and caring for horses. There are two identical horses and cases, twins, so that two people can enjoy the experience simultaneously. The Stick-Horse handle and height is ergonomically designed for a small adult, and weighted, or balanced, appropriately for comfortable riding.

This project was created shortly after circumstances required the artist and family to sell their only horse.