

# Fragmentation

by Wes Hanson

There many methods of fragmentation in use among marquetarians today. I have tried several, but the process I have the best results with is the one taught me by the late Thelmar Berg. Thelmar used the window method. Use two inch wide cellophane tape to covered the face side of the window (Photo 1).

Turn the picture face down and set in place small shavings of veneer to represent stems, limbs, or flowers, or any other special fragments needed to achieve the desired effect (Photo 2)

Now comes Thelmar's special touch. Use a sharp block plane and a

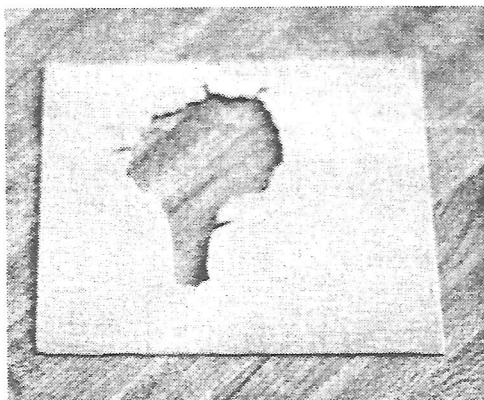


Photo 1

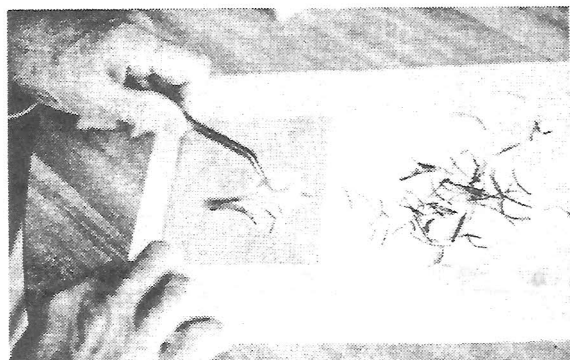


Photo 2



Photo 3

piece of a board about four by six inches with a forty five degree stop at one end. Place the veneer you wish to use for fragments, one end cut at a forty five degree angle to the grain of the veneer, against the stop. Then use the block plane to plane across the exposed grain (Photo 3).

Then taking the shavings in the palm of his hand, he used the thumb of his other hand and by rubbing the shavings he reduced

them to the size he needed (Photo 4).

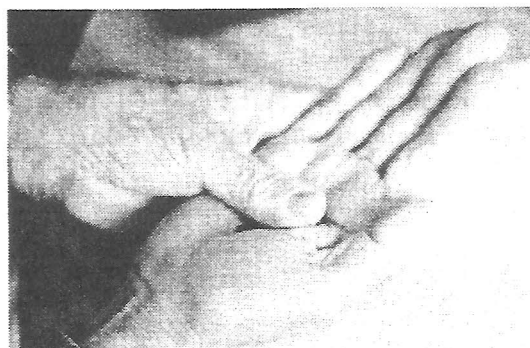


Photo 4

He then filled the window with these fragments and mixing the different colors needed, and in the proper locations. Next he spread some white glue on top, (Photo 5) covered it with a piece of plastic . Then

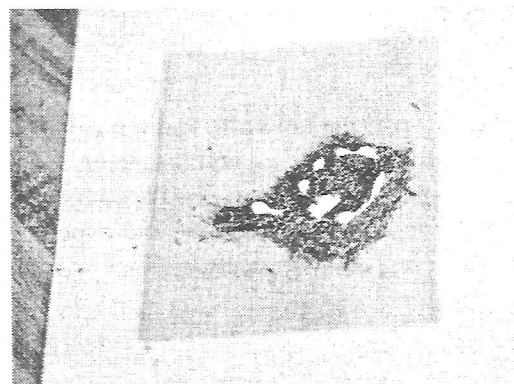


Photo 5

he used his roller to compress it as much as he could (Photo 6), he raised the plastic,

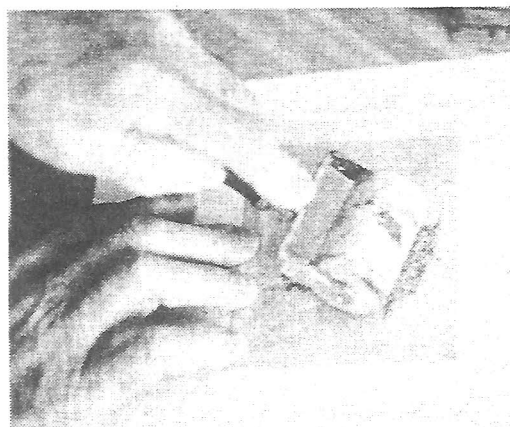


Photo 6

removed any fragments and glue from around the window, added a little more glue and fragments as needed. He then replaced the plastic, he covered the area with a wide putty knife and using a mallet he pounded on the knife blade to complete the compacting (Photo 7), then

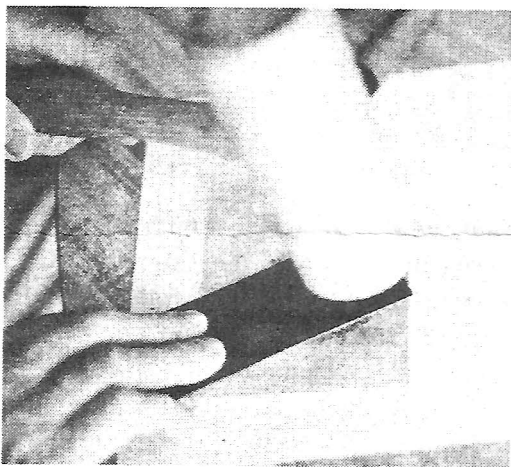


Photo 7

carefully remove the knife and the plastic. Allow to dry, sand flat, then brush on a coat of glue and allow to dry (Photo 8). I find that with some practice and experimenting one can do some very nice work.

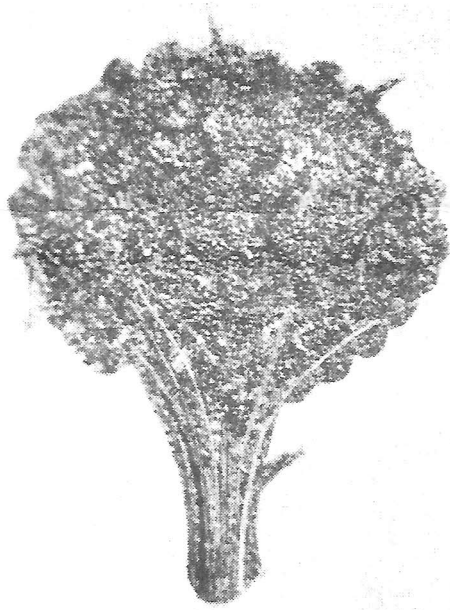


Photo 8

## More Work by Cerrato:

*Editor: Last issue I promised more photos of work by Maria Jose Cerrato of Spain. Here they are. Thanks again to Bob Swanson for sending the pictures.*

