

Name: Denise Cain

Denise Cain has been a member of Midway Bonsai Society since 2006 and onstage at WBC8. She is a master carver of deadwood and a very capable Bonsai artist. The quality of her trees speak for themselves. She agreed to answer a few questions.

**1. Denise would you mind telling us about your first tree, how you got it and what happened to it?**

Denise Cain: In 1999 I bought a property with 2 dead bonsai trees on the patio. It turned out that they were baobab and not dead. Then I was given a tree from Woolworths for my birthday in Dec 2002. It was a cotoneaster. I still have this tree. See photo below.

Denise Cain: The baobabs died about 10 years later

Denise Cain: But the cotoneaster (below) started the obsession!



**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** Cotoneaster. My first bonsai that I still have.

2. **You were onstage at a previous WBFF demonstration, helping with the wiring when Hannes was presenting.**

I helped Hannes with the wiring on Kimuras bonsai. There were only male demonstrators at WBC8 and Jonathan wanted to see more women involved in bonsai on an international platform. I reluctantly agreed.



WBC8 Denise Cain, Hannes Fritz (demonstrator) and Gary Howse. Tree: Juniper from Masahiko Kimura Nursery.

3. **Denise how many trees do you have at your home and at the Shop that is yours and is not for sale?**

I don't know how many trees I own, too many. The only trees I have at home are Baobab. The rest are on permanent display at the bonsai nursery. All are for sale at the right price or the right person.



**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** Firethorn

**4. What is your favourite style in bonsai?**

The tree will lend itself to a style, but I lean towards informal upright and cascade.





**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** Buddleja Saligna. Fallen tree

**5. What is your Favourite species of tree?**

My favorite species would be buddleja and cotoneaster.



**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** Cotoneaster

**6. Do you have a favourite tree in your collection?**

I do not have a favorite tree. I find all trees a challenge in order to bring out their inner beauty. I find some species a challenge.



**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** Hinoki Cypress Saikei

**7. Your best bonsai advice received?**

My best advice received was to join a workshop. When I first started I met up with Duncan Wiles, who, through his workshop and friends showed me the path. I am still friends with many of the workshop attendees, 20 years later.



**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** Ficus Burt Davyi Root over Rock, started at a Midway Bonsai Society workshop in 2010



**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** Juniperus procumbens nana





**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** Trident Maple next to Rock

**8. Best advice you can give?**

Best advice to give ... find the front, don't be scared to cut, keep the tree alive.



**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** Juniperus Itoigawa





**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** Wild Olive cascade



**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** *Juniperus Procumbens nana*



**Artist:** Denise Cain. **Tree:** Chinese Elm