



Photo Credit: Daniel Sene



Plane Making Students at Oficinalab in August



Photo Credit: Daniel Sene

Woodworker Thiago Endrigo & Blacksmith Satoru Nakumo Team Up to Teach Making Wooden Handplanes at Oficinalab in São Paulo, Brazil.

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Longtime Hock Tools customer, Brazilian woodworker Thiago Endrigo and his friend blacksmith Satoru Nakumo have teamed up in São Paulo for an integrated plane and blade workshop at Oficinalab, a local woodworking school and communal shop. These two craftsmen want to restore and promote a more traditional approach to crafts, which means their students learn what it takes to make both plane and blade. And, although it includes making Krenov styled wooden handplanes that are fitted with blades made by Satoru rather than Hock Tools, the project resonates with us. I guess we could say that imitation is the highest form of flattery; yet, what Thiago and Satoru have developed is earnest and beyond simple reproduction.

We understand and share Thiago's enthusiasm for the idea that woodworkers develop a deeper relationship to their tools when they learn more about how the metal parts work. It builds confidence and competence. Plus, bringing the crafts together is just plain cool, not to mention the synergy, freedom, mind-expansion, and all of that!

An email sent by Thiago explains what motivates his and Satoru's workshop at Oficinalab:

Making your own woodworking tools is both satisfying and empowering. Nowadays, there are no shortage of workshops helping you on this rewarding path. Of course, we

like very much to purchase the blades for our planes and knives from Hock Tools. That said, it's inspiring to know that many woodworkers have the time and truly enjoy making the metal parts to go along with the wooden parts. They get to know the process, the vocabulary, the challenge. At least once!

I like to think of myself as being part of a movement that investigates and promotes handtool woodworking. Using the word movement could be inaccurate as the community around this take on the craft is not yet well established here. Things are different in Brazil in comparison to what you have in the US, but there sure are people learning, teaching and practicing woodworking using mainly hand tools, so I am not alone.

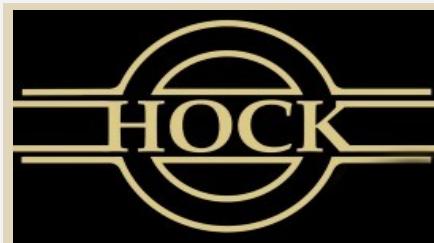


The plane making course I teach is part of that effort. People get to build their own planes and get to use them, reconnecting themselves with the wonderful experience of transforming the wood from a closer perspective, getting a feel for the material and its beauty. James Krenov is a huge influence for me, and so is Ron Hock, since the first plane I built used a Hock blade and I have continued using Hock Tools' blades and knives for quite some time. It is because of all this that I could help Satoru get into toolmaking. He was a knifemaker and when we met he started asking questions about different woodworking tools. Then he started making these plane irons that we have been using. In the course he shows the students how to temper their irons and later they build their planes from these irons with me.

And so it goes — all around the world — giving crafts people the benefit of knowledge, helping themselves, and building, as Thiago says, their vocabulary — in what they do with their minds, spirits, and hands.

— Linda at Hock Tools

Thiago Endrigo's on both [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



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