The Stickman No. 5 Puzzle Box

(Borg Box)

Nicknamed the "Borg Box" by collectors due to its unusual similarity to the Borg Cube in the Star Trek series, the Stickman No. 5 puzzlebox is unique in that it is one of only two boxes ever crafted by Robert that uses no glue whatsoever and is entirely held together by the interlocking shapes of its pieces. This box is actually two puzzles in one, and after the 32 moves required to get it open, a few additional moves will allow it to come apart into its 78 solid wood pieces.

The box itself is of moderate difficulty to solve, but the re-assembly of its pieces can be so challenging that Robert charged a \$50 fee for any box that had to be reassembled. The last 15 of these puzzles were not assembled or sold until years later, just



because putting together reciprocal pieces was so challenging, even for Robert.



Most pieces in this puzzle were complex to produce. One required 18 separate machine cuts and left many scratching their head as to just how it was achieved. Because this puzzle uses no glue for joint support, Robert produced a special lacquering process by which pieces were submerged in lacquer within a vacuum until inner pores became saturated against warping. As a testament to this process, scrap pieces in Robert's woodpile remain in a somewhat useable condition after 7 years of being exposed to the elements.

Limited Edition Status: Limited to 45. **Production Dates:** (Mar. 2004 – Sept. 2004)

Original Sale Price: \$550

Wood types: Maple, Cherry, Oak, Bloodwood,

& Walnut

Variations: N/A **Size:** 10 ½" x 6" x 5"

Number of Compartments: One Number of Steps: Minimum of 32. Difficulty Level: Moderate (to open)

Very Difficult (full assembly)

Instruction Book: 8-page, color, illustrated.

Special features: 2 puzzles in one. Held together by shape of its parts.

Goal: Solve puzzle to open its lid, then take puzzle entirely apart and re-assemble all pieces.

