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**FULLER CRAFT PRESENTS ONLY EAST COAST EXHIBITION  
OF *CRAFT IN AMERICA—EXPANDING TRADITIONS*  
FEB. 26-MAY 25, 2009**

**See the handmade evolution of American identity – past, present, and future –  
at New England’s premier craft museum.**

**Please note that opening date of this exhibition has changed from Feb. 21 to Feb. 26. Previous  
press releases have the old opening date.**

**(Brockton, Mass. – Dec. 10, 2008)** Fuller Craft Museum presents the only east coast exhibition of *Craft in America—Expanding Traditions*, a multi-faceted journey into the origin and continuation of American craft traditions. This traveling exhibition is associated with the three-part Peabody Award-winning and Emmy-nominated PBS television series of the same name, which first aired nationally in 2007. The exhibition opens on Feb. 26, 2009 and runs through May 25, 2009 (press opening TBA). This will be the final stop on the two-year national tour of Craft in America.

Well-known artists such as Sam Maloof, Warren MacKenzie, Judy Kensley McKie, Garry Knox Bennett and Dale Chihuly are just a few of the pioneers of craft represented in this comprehensive exhibition of close to 150 objects. *Craft in America* at Fuller Craft spans a period from pre-Civil War America to 2007, with an emphasis on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century craft. Objects and media include baskets, quilts, ceramics, furniture, fiber, glass, jewelry, metal and wood.

“We’re thrilled to be hosting this important and lively exhibit,” said Fuller Craft Museum Executive Director Gretchen Keyworth. “It is a slight departure for us, but it makes sense. We pride ourselves on being forward-looking. However, to understand the future of craft, it’s important to understand the traditions, and to see the innovation of every age. In that way, this show is a perfect fit for us.”

Artists who work in or have strong ties to New England are well represented in Craft in America. Among those included are Cambridge furniture maker Judy Kensley McKie, a graduate of RISD, whose table included in the Craft in America exhibit is part of the permanent collection of Fuller Craft; potters Mary and Edwin Scheier, who worked in the WPA and spent much of their careers in New Hampshire; Rhode Island School of Design graduate Dale Chihuly, pioneer of the Studio Glass Movement; New Hampshire furniture maker Jon Brooks; New Hampshire glass artist Dan Dailey, who also graduated from RISD; jewelry maker Bruce Metcalf, an Amherst, Mass. native and former MassArt teacher; furniture maker Wendy Maruyama, a graduate of Boston University's Program in Artisanry; furniture maker Alphonse Mattia, who lives in Westport, Mass. and teaches at RISD; Connecticut furniture maker Tommy Simpson; and sculptor and wood turner Christian Burchard, who attended the School of the Museum of Fine Arts. The exhibition also features early 20<sup>th</sup>-century work by the Deerfield (Mass.) Society of Blue and White Needlework, whose founders revived American colonial embroidery in 1896; Shaker furniture from Enfield, New Hampshire.

A full listing of the pieces that will be included in the exhibition is available on request.

Fuller Craft Museum, New England's home for contemporary craft, is uniquely poised to present this comprehensive and adventurous exhibition, showcasing scores of the most important and exciting examples of American creativity. The Museum is dedicated to the objects and insights that inspire viewers and artists to explore ideas through contemporary craft. This particular exhibit does just that, presenting a beautiful, functional and tactile overview of American cultural history and identity from The Industrial Revolutions through the Arts & Crafts Movement, Depression-era WPA works, post World War II studio craft pioneers and contemporary studio craft artists.

*Craft in America: Expanding Traditions* is organized by Craft in America, Inc., Los Angeles, chief curator Jo Lauria; and Curatorial Assistance Traveling Exhibitions (CATE), Pasadena, Calif. This exhibition tour is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, American Masterpieces: Three Centuries of Artistic Genius. Fuller Craft Museum is grateful for the generous support of the Cristina Callan Charitable Trust in presenting Craft in America.

Fuller Craft Museum, Inc., New England's only museum of contemporary craft, is dedicated to the objects, ideas, and insight that inspire both patrons and artists to explore life through the art of contemporary craft. Fuller Craft Museum is located at 455 Oak Street in Brockton, Mass. The Museum is open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$8 adults, \$5 seniors and students, free for members and children under 12. The Museum is free for all, every Wednesday from 5 to 9 p.m. For more information on Fuller Craft exhibitions and events please call 508.588.6000 or visit [www.fullercraft.org](http://www.fullercraft.org).

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*Fuller Craft Museum, New England's home for contemporary craft*

Note: High resolution images are available for download at [http://www.fullercraft.org/Craft\\_in\\_America\\_Press\\_Images.htm](http://www.fullercraft.org/Craft_in_America_Press_Images.htm), and other images are available by email on request.