



FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM PRESENTS:

The Machinery of Heaven: Glass Sculpture by Steven Easton

Artist-designed installation of 'glass architecture' explores ideas of portraiture, classical antiquity, religion, science and the mystery and beauty of the natural world

The Machinery of Heaven: Glass Sculpture by Steven Easton

Alma and Merton Tarlow Gallery, First Floor

May 17 – September 14, 2008

Brockton, MA – Fuller Craft Museum presents *The Machinery of Heaven: Glass Sculpture by Steven Easton*. *The Machinery of Heaven* is an artist-designed, site-specific exhibition that will be on view in Fuller Craft Museum's Merton and Alma Tarlow Gallery from May 17 through September 14, 2008.

"It is a unique and rare occasion for an artist to have the freedom to create an installation of his or her own design," said Fuller Craft Museum Director and Chief Curator, Gretchen Keyworth. "I was delighted to present Steven with the opportunity to create and installation for our Museum. With *The Machinery of Heaven*, he has created an entire constructed environment and taken the construction of his glass sculpture to a larger, more inclusive, and ultimately more compelling scope and scale."

Drawing inspiration from natural patterns and structures, classical sculpture and architecture, Easton begins his sculptures by modeling every element – faces, columns, waves, chairs, spheres, eggs - from wax which he then casts in heat-resistant plaster. The wax is melted out of the plaster mold, a centuries-old technique known as *cire perdue* (literally, "lost wax"). The mold is then placed in a kiln underneath a crucible filled with crushed glass. As the kiln is heated to a high temperature, molten glass flows from the crucible into the plaster mold, making a perfect replica of Easton's original model. In process as well as in concept, Easton pays homage to the past while creating very personal, yet timeless, commentaries on the human condition.

The Machinery of Heaven: Glass Sculpture by Steven Easton installation and companion catalogue has been generously supported by the Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass. The full-color 12-page catalogue is available for free with paid-admission to Fuller Craft Museum.

Let the art touch you ■

Steven Easton lives and works in Providence, Rhode Island. He was born in New York City and studied ceramics at the Philadelphia College of Art before going on to the renowned glass department at the Rhode Island School of Design.

Easton work has exhibited nationally and internationally for twenty years, and can be seen in the collections of the Corning Museum of Glass, the Museum of Arts & Design, and the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Lausanne, Switzerland, among others. In 2005, he was one of the artists selected to represent North America in the Cheongjiu International Craft Biennial in South Korea.

Fuller Craft Museum is located conveniently off of Route 24, a short drive south of Boston. Please visit www.fullercraft.org or call Fuller Craft Museum at 508.588.600 for more detailed information regarding upcoming and current exhibitions, membership, workshops and special events.

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, MA. The Museum is open daily, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$8 adults, \$5 seniors and students, free for members and children under 12. For more information on Fuller Craft exhibitions and events please visit www.fullercraft.org.

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