



fullerCRAFT  
museum™

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FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM PRESENTS

***James Grashow: The Great Monkey Project***

February 15 – September 13, 2020

Reception: Sunday, April 5, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

(Brockton, Mass.)

High Resolution Images are available via Dropbox here <https://tinyurl.com/t4deafp>

Imagine a riotous mob of monkeys, gleefully taking up residence above your heads. That's just what you'll find at Fuller Craft Museum in *James Grashow: The Great Monkey Project*. The site-specific installation consists of eighty life-size monkeys made entirely out of cardboard. Grashow transforms the gallery into a whimsical theatre of simian forms as he elevates a throw-away material into the best kind of monkey business.

Since the early 1900s, cardboard has sparked imaginations, from Picasso's *Still Life with Guitar* to Andy Warhol's *Brillo Boxes* to Banksy's *Dismaland*. Contemporary artists continue to be drawn to this ubiquitous medium for its formal and conceptual possibilities. For decades, Grashow has cut, carved, and bent corrugated cardboard into friendly forms—birds, sea creatures, and cityscapes among them. These familiar subjects, created with a material that is destined to degrade, are rooted in the artist's desire to understand his own bodily decline and eventual demise.

Grashow's grim subtext may appear out of sync with the whimsy of *The Great Monkey Project*, but as he suggests, cardboard understands its fate, regardless of the final form. "It's so ephemeral," the artist explains, "It's so grateful for the opportunity to become something because it knows it's going to be trash." Tough but temporary, the simian intervention reminds us of our physical impermanence and the beauty of everyday materials.

Born in Brooklyn, James Grashow received a Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts from New York City's Pratt Institute. After obtaining his B.F.A., he was awarded a Fulbright travel grant to Florence, Italy for painting and

graphics. His work in multiple media, including papier-mâché, cardboard, and woodcuts, examine universal themes of humankind, nature, and mortality.

*James Grashow: The Great Monkey Project* was made possible by the Gretchen Keyworth Fund.

### **Current Exhibitions:**

*Stephanie Cole: Secular Cathedral*  
January 25 – October 25, 2020

*Tending the Fires: Recent Acquisitions in Clay*  
August 17, 2019 – May 23, 2020

*Striking Gold: Fuller at Fifty*  
September 7, 2019 – April 5, 2020

*Gleam: Golden Selections from the Permanent Collection*  
September 7, 2019 – February 2, 2020

*Human Impact: Stories of the Opioid Epidemic*  
September 28, 2019 – May 3, 2020

*Artists in Their Studios: A Photography Project for Maine*  
August 17, 2019 – TBD

### **Upcoming Exhibitions**

*2020 Biennial Members Exhibition*  
February 8 – November 8, 2020

*Serious Bling: Radical Jewelry Makeover—The Artist Project*  
February 15 – April 5, 2020

*James Grashow: The Great Monkey Project*  
February 15 – September 13, 2020

*Another Crossing: Artists Revisit the Mayflower Voyage*  
May 2 – September 20, 2020

*Making History: The Art of 17th Century Boatbuilding*  
May 30 – November 29, 2020

*Michelle Samour: Mapping Borders and Boundaries*  
September 26, 2020 – March 21, 2021

*Particle & Wave: PaperClay Illuminated*  
October 17, 2020 – April 11, 2021

*Tamara Kositanovsky: Savage Legacy*  
December 19, 2020 – May 16, 2021

*American Clay: Modern Potters, Traditional Pots*  
January 30 – May 2, 2021

## **About Fuller Craft Museum**

Fuller Craft Museum, New England's only museum of contemporary craft, is dedicated to the objects, ideas, and insights 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, Massachusetts. The Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, with free admission for all Thursdays from 5:00 – 9:00 pm. Admission is \$10 adults, \$8 seniors and \$5 students, free for members and children 12 and under. For more information on Fuller Craft exhibitions and events please visit [www.fullercraft.org](http://www.fullercraft.org) or call 508.588.6000.

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