



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(Brockton, Mass.) Fuller Craft Museum, New England's home for contemporary craft
Museum Hours: Tuesday – Sunday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Thursday 5:00 – 9:00 pm

FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM PRESENTS

Reversible Reactions: Art Meets Science @ The MIT Glass Lab

June 8, 2013 – November 3, 2013

Reception, Sunday, September 29, 2:00 - 5:00 pm

High resolution images available at

<http://fullercraft.org/press/reversible-reactions-art-meets-science-the-mit-glass-lab/>

“Reversible Reactions” is a show about the nexus of art and science at the heart of the Glass Lab’s personality. Conceived by the lab’s director Peter Houk and curated by Fuller Craft Museum’s Beth McLaughlin, the exhibit focuses on work and projects that are crossdisciplinary in nature—the results of collisions of glass and other fields of knowledge at the Institute. Highlights include an interactive computer station where museum visitors can use “Virtual Glass” software developed at MIT to design their own glass cane patterns; video of the “MIT Glass Band” developing and playing musical instruments made of glass; and the artwork of students, instructors and alumni.

Can glass be folded?

In 2011, Peter Houk, Director of the Glass Lab, began regular work/play sessions in the Glass Lab with instructor Martin Demaine and his son Erik (a professor in MIT’s department of Computer Science) to answer that very question. Using the “yes, AND…” method—the rapid generation of ideas and iterations while suspending evaluation until later—the team quickly determined that glass can be folded, and in quite a number of remarkable ways.

History of the Glass Lab

Started in 1972, the Glass Lab was launched as an interdisciplinary course in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s (the Institute) Department of Materials Science and Engineering, called “Materials Processing: An Historical and Engineering Approach.” According to the Glass Lab’s first instructor, Pam Vandiver, the course “combined hands-on labs with lectures that provided contextual, historical, and fundamental understanding of materials...the projects concerned modern ceramics and half-ancient ceramics and glass.”

In 1985, the Glass Lab was completely renovated and its mission updated under the leadership of Michael J. Cima and artist Page Hazlegrove. A newly appointed professor of Materials Science, Cima recognized the Glass Lab's potential as not only a hands-on teaching resource, but also as a place for students from all areas of the Institute to work in teams. This idea coincided with a shift, both national and global, toward teamwork as an increasingly important factor in staying competitive in research and manufacturing. Hazlegrove, a talented glass artist and recent graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, brought an artist's sensibility to the Glass Lab. Together they created the template for a program in which art and science were equal partners.

The Glass Band

The MIT Glass Band was formed in 2012 as a collaborative project between the Glass Lab and MIT's Center for Arts, Science and Technology (CAST). Working with Professor Evan Ziporyn and visiting artist Mark Stewart, Glass Band students explored the sounds of glass and its musical possibilities. In the early stages the focus was on discovering the various types of sounds made by glass and progressed to the students designing, creating, tuning and playing the glass instruments. Stewart, the musical guru of the group, worked with the group to create an understanding of ensemble play.

Current Exhibitions at Fuller Craft

Across the Grain: Turned and Carved Wood

April 7, 2013 – September 22, 2013

About Face: Portraiture Selections from Fuller Craft Museum's Permanent Collection

April 30, 2013 – July 7, 2013

Sharing Inspiration: Work by Fuller Craft Museum Docents

March 12, 2013 – July 7, 2013

Adornments & Delights: Five Jewelers Courting Nature

February 17, 2013 – June 16, 2013

Mark Davis: Icarus

Ongoing

Traditions and Innovations: Fuller Craft Museum Collects

Ongoing

Coming Soon to Fuller Craft

Reversible Reactions: Art Meets Science @ The MIT Glass Lab

June 8, 2013 – October 27, 2013

Made in Massachusetts: Studio Furniture of the Bay State
October 12, 2013 – February 9, 2014

About Fuller Craft Museum

Fuller Craft Museum, 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 St. in Brockton, MA. 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 \$8 adults, \$5 seniors and students, free for members and children 12 and under. For more information on Fuller Craft exhibitions and events please visit www.fullercraft.org or call 508.588.6000.

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