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**FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM PRESENTS
THE NEW MATERIALITY: DIGITAL DIALOGUES
AT THE BOUNDARIES OF CONTEMPORARY CRAFT
MAY 29, 2010—FEBRUARY 6, 2011**

Exhibition presents innovative work by master craftsmen and women who uphold age-old traditions while incorporating digital matter into their work.

High resolution images available for download at www.fullercraft.org/pressimages_newmateriality.html

(Brockton, MA— April 27, 2010) Fuller Craft Museum, New England's home for contemporary craft presents *The New Materiality: Digital Dialogues at the Boundaries of Contemporary Craft*, from May 29, 2010—Feb. 6, 2011. Curated by Fo Wilson, this exhibition steps beyond the boundaries that currently exist among technology, art, and craft. The featured artists use new technologies in tandem with traditional craft materials – clay, glass, wood, metal and fiber – to forge new artistic directions.

Organized by Fuller Craft, and expected to travel to other locations in the United States in the next few years, *The New Materiality* looks at a growing development in the United States toward the use of digital technologies as a new material and means of expression in craft. In recent years, American craft artists have begun to ignore boundaries and conventional means of categorization to embrace emergent technologies as credible subject matter and compelling content in their work. Digital video and audio, computerized design, and other technologies are viewed as new materials to be exploited, manipulated and co-opted to enrich artistic expression.

Says Wilson, "If craft is tied to the hand, how do we judge the skill with which a craft artist incorporates digital technology into their work? How might this issue affect the debate about the boundaries of art, craft and design? And what quandaries do new technologies present in craft? *The New Materiality* seeks to answer these questions, providing us with new questions and proposing new answers about what craft is and what it can be."

Brookline artist Nathalie Miebach begins with the basic warp and weft structure of basket making as the foundation grid for the visual communication of scientific data. The resulting form becomes a three dimensional representation of that collected information, able to be read as a chart yet synthesizing an aesthetic experience of scientific data. The furniture of Wendy Maruyama of San Diego continues to push the boundaries of studio furniture. Her pieces in this exhibition invoke and challenge notions and stereotypes of Maruyama's Japanese-American identity, using video and audio embedded in her exquisite forms.

In addition to Miebach and Maruyama, contributing artists include: Brian Boldon (Minneapolis), Shaun Bullens (Providence), Sonya Clark (Richmond, Va.), Lia Cook (Berkeley, Calif.), Susan Working (Snowmass Village, Colo.), E.G. Crichton (San Francisco), Donald Fortescue and Lawrence LaBianca (San Francisco), Christy Matson (Chicago), Cat Mazza (Providence), Mike and Maaike (San Francisco), Tim Tate (Mt. Rainier, Wash.), and Mark Zirpel (Seattle).

This exhibition is sponsored by George Washington Toma.

Fuller Craft will celebrate the opening of *The New Materiality: Digital Dialogues at the Boundaries of Contemporary Craft* with a public reception on June 13, 2010 from 2—5 p.m. at the Museum. The reception is free for members and free with museum admission for all others. Also on June 13, at 1 p.m., Wilson will share her perspective on the new directions and new materials influencing contemporary craft. The lecture is \$7 for members and \$10 for non-members. (Museum admission is not included.)

About Fo Wilson

An artist, educator, writer and independent curator, Fo Wilson is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. She previously taught at the Rhode Island School of Design and University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, as well as the California College of Art and Parsons School of Design. She studied at New York University and graduated from RISD's Furniture Design program in 2005 with a concentration in art history. She writes and lectures about art, design and craft. Her own work has been exhibited nationally, and is included in the collection of The Cooper Hewitt National Museum of Design. In 2005, she co-curated *Bodies of Evidence: Contemporary Perspectives* for the Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art. The exhibition was inspired by the prevalence of contemporary work in the Museum's collection by women that referenced the body and embodied content related to gender, religion, race, sexuality and personal relationships.

Current Exhibitions at Fuller Craft

Nancy Crow: Crossroads/New and Recent Quilts
Through May 9, 2010

On the Line: Frank and Francine Ozereko
Through July 18, 2010

Furniture From the Permanent Collection
Through Sept. 26, 2010

Caravan: An Installation by John Garrett
Through March 27, 2011

Coming Soon to Fuller Craft

Josh Simpson: A Visionary Journey in Glass
May 1—Nov. 28, 2010

Mariko Kusumoto: Unfolding Stories
May 22—Aug. 8, 2010
(This exhibition organized by Mobilia Gallery, Cambridge, Mass.)

The New Materiality: Digital Dialogues at the Boundaries of Contemporary Craft
May 29, 2010—Feb. 6, 2011

Migration: Nancy Train Smith
June 21—Oct. 31, 2010

Different Lines: Drawings by Craft Artists
July 31, 2010— Feb. 27, 2011

Boxes and their Makers
Aug. 21—Oct. 31, 2010

Photo Clay: In the Picture with Warren Mather
Oct. 9, 2010—January 23, 2011

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, Mass. The Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m.— 5 p.m., with free admission for all Wednesdays from 5—9 p.m. 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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Fuller Craft Museum, New England's home for contemporary craft.

