

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

Boxes and Their Makers

Messler Gallery
Center for Furniture Craftsmanship
Rockport, Maine
September 11, 2009 – November 25, 2009

On September 11, 2009 the Messler Gallery launches its fall exhibition, *Boxes and Their Makers*, with a public opening from 5:00-7:00 p.m. *Boxes and Their Makers* will appear at the Messler Gallery through November 25th, after which it is scheduled to travel throughout the United States.

Boxes and Their Makers makes a strong case for viewing contemporary craft, in all its forms, as a deeply personal exploration of the human spirit. To do so, it presents the astounding breadth of expression achieved by contemporary artisans within a single form (boxes) of a single medium (wood). “The makers of these boxes didn't go into their workshops because there was a shortage of containers in the world. Rather, they went into their workshops on voyages of creative exploration—to transform raw materials into expressive objects,” says Peter Korn, Executive Director at Center for Furniture Craftsmanship.

The 33 craftspeople in this show come from across the United States and beyond. American exhibitors include: Bonnie Bishoff, Andy Buck, Kip Christensen, Jim Christiansen, Michael Cullen, Jenna Goldberg, Louise Hibbert, Ray Jones, Kim Kelzer, Bonnie Klein, Po Shun Leong, Tom Loeser, Michael Mode, Craig Nutt, Jay and Janet O'Rourke, Emi Ozawa, Jeffrey Seaton, Tommy Simpson, J.M. Syron, Jacques Vesery, and Phil Weber. International exhibitors include: Andrew Potocnik and Richard Raffan from Australia, Michael Hosaluk and Steven Kennard from Canada, Jean-Christophe Couradin from France, Ulrike Scriba and

Hans Weissflog from Germany, Yuji Kubo from Japan, and Andrew Crawford, Robert Ingham, and Peter Lloyd from the United Kingdom.

Future venues to which *Boxes and Their Makers* will travel include the Fuller Craft Museum in Brockton, Massachusetts, the Mobile Art Museum in Mobile, Alabama, and the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau, Wisconsin. In addition, Fox Chapel press has published a 215-page, full-color book that serves as the show's catalog. *New masters of the Wooden Box: Expanding the Boundaries of Box Making* is available at the Messler Gallery.

Further information on *Boxes and Their Makers* and other Messler Gallery exhibitions can be found at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship's website: woodschooll.org. Fall hours are Monday through Friday, 9-5 and Saturday 10-4. Visitors are welcome to view the exhibition and tour the Center's campus.