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**FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM PRESENTS  
*FRESH FIGURINES: A NEW LOOK AT A HISTORIC ART FORM*  
OCTOBER 8, 2011 — FEBRUARY 5, 2012**

*High resolution images available at [http://www.fullercraft.org/pressimages\\_figurines.html](http://www.fullercraft.org/pressimages_figurines.html). Press preview can be arranged on request.*

(Brockton, Mass – Sept. 13, 2011) Fuller Craft Museum, New England’s home for contemporary craft, presents *Fresh Figurines*, on display Oct. 8, 2011 —Feb. 5, 2012. Curated by Gail M. Brown, *Fresh Figurines* presents the continually evolving traditions of figurative ceramics. Form, scale, the body as object, and the symbolic implications of the human form are explored by a number of artists working in ceramics today.

The ceramic figurine, from European paste and Chinese export porcelain to the modern retail collectible, conjures images of dusty mantels and cluttered end tables, Victorian fancy and kitsch. This exhibition challenges the notion of the safe and sentimental objet d’art, presenting more than 50 works by 40 contemporary American artists or collaborative pairs, whose provocative subjects are belied by their intimate scale. The diverse and sometimes irreverent works address substantial contemporary issues and riff on the history of craft, art, and mass production. Alternatively subtle and overt, their scale demands close inspection, drawing the viewer into an intimate conversation with what is often startling work. The exhibition explores the very current responses of these contemporary artists to an age-old practice of figurative sculpture. New England artists represented in the exhibition include Megan Bogonovich of Concord, N.H.; Cynthia Consentino of Northampton, Mass.; Paul McMullan of Keene, N.H.; Susan Schulz of Stonington, Conn., and Mara Superior of Williamsburg, Mass.

(Please note: There are several pieces with sexual themes in this exhibition that might not be suitable for viewing by children.)

**Gail M. Brown** is an Independent Curator whose focus is to enhance visibility and education about contemporary craft in the larger visual arts community. She trained as a print maker at the Philadelphia College of Art, and she has been watching the contemporary crafts movement since the early 1970’s. She curates focused exhibitions which share the exceptional work of mature and mid-career artists and introduce younger makers. She also lectures and writes on craft and professional practices for emerging

artists. Her impressive resume includes exhibitions curated for NCECA in Baltimore, MD; the Brookfield Craft Center in Brookfield, CT; the Folk Art Center of the SHCG in Ashville, NC; and U Mass Dartmouth in New Bedford, MA. In addition, she has curated two shows of British jewelry which traveled to Boston, New York City, Chicago (SOFA), and St. Louis.

## **Reception**

Fuller Craft will celebrate the opening of *Fresh Figurines*, with a public reception Sunday Oct. 9 at 2 p.m. at the Museum. The reception is free for members and free with museum admission for all others.

## **Lecture**

Join Curator Gail M. Brown in the gallery on Sunday, Oct. 9 at 1 p.m., as she leads an exploration of the works and shares her insights into this new look at a traditional art form. Tickets are \$7 for members, and \$18 for nonmembers (includes museum admission). Registration, which is suggested, can be completed at <http://bit.ly/FCMlecture>.

## **Current Exhibitions at Fuller Craft**

*Changing Waters: Installation by Nathalie Miebach*  
Through Sept. 25, 2011

*Loom and Lathe: The Art of Kay Sekimachi and Bob Stocksdale*  
Through Sept. 11, 2011

*Furniture Divas: Recent Work by Contemporary Makers*  
Through Oct. 30, 2011

*Yanick Lapuh: Your Ladder is on Fire*  
Extended through Oct. 16, 2011

*Michael Janis: A Lighter Hand*  
Through Nov. 6, 2011

*All Things Considered VI: National Basketry Organization Biennial Juried Exhibition*  
Through Dec. 11, 2011

*Icarus: An Installation by Mark Davis*  
Through March 15, 2012

## **Coming Soon to Fuller Craft**

*Fresh Figurines: A New Look at a Historic Art Form*  
Oct. 8, 2011 – Feb. 5, 2012

*Tradition and Innovation: Fuller Craft Museum Collects*  
Opens Oct. 22, 2011

*Michael Cooper: A California Sculptural Odyssey, 1968 – 2010*  
Nov. 12, 2011 – May 13, 2012

### **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](http://www.fullercraft.org) or call (508) 588-6000.

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