



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Joyce Linehan (617) 282-2510 x 1, joyce@ashmontmedia.com

**FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM PRESENTS
A LIGHTER HAND: THE GLASS DRAWINGS OF MICHAEL JANIS
AUGUST 6 — NOVEMBER 6, 2011**

High resolution images available at http://www.fullercraft.org/pressimages_janis.html

(Brockton, Mass.—July 8, 2011) Fuller Craft Museum, New England's home for contemporary craft, presents *A Lighter Hand: The Glass Drawings of Michael Janis*, on display Aug. 6 —Nov. 6, 2011. The exhibition features the recent work of the virtuosic Washington, DC-based artist, who was recently named a Fulbright Scholar.

Janis' work is the result of a laborious and challenging process. Similar to *scrafftio*, where a design is scratched through a colored ground revealing another color beneath; to produce the image Janis sifts black glass powder onto sheet glass, scraping away the powder to produce the detail. The image is suspended between layers of sheet glass and fired in a kiln to fuse the constituent pieces together. In this manner any number of images can be combined to produce complex juxtapositions. The result is a collage produced entirely in glass, built from a time-consuming process allowing for an extended contemplation of his subjects.

Building on the legacy of Surrealist artists of the early 20th century, in particular Giorgio de Chirico whose paintings juxtaposed disparate objects in moody and indistinct landscapes, Janis is able to construct a contemplative feeling from the layering of seemingly inanimate objects and ambiguous characters. His images in glass, particularly those examples in a tall and narrow format, also allude to the narrative quality of stained glass. The juxtaposition of text, symbols, and figures seem to imply a hidden message or meaning, but like an ink blot or word association Janis leaves the viewer to provide their own conclusions.

Janis lives and works in Washington, DC, where he is Co-Director and an instructor at the Washington Glass School. He first began working with glass as an architect, evident in his dedication to sheet glass and the precision draftsmanship in his drawings.

Fuller Craft will celebrate the opening of *A Lighter Hand*, with a public reception August 7 at 2 p.m. at the Museum. The reception is free for members and free with museum admission for all others.

Current Exhibitions at Fuller Craft

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

Atelier Janiyé and the Legacy of Master Jeweler Miyé Matsukata
Through July 24, 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

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

Coming Soon to Fuller Craft

All Things Considered VI: National Basketry Organization Biennial Juried Exhibition
July 30 – Dec. 4, 2011

Michael Janis: A Lighter Hand
Aug. 6 – Nov. 6, 2011

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

The Permanent Collection
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 or call (508) 588-6000.

#

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

