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**FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM PRESENTS
ATELIER JANIYÉ AND THE LEGACY OF MIYÉ MATSUKATA
JANUARY 22, 2010—JULY 24, 2011**

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

(Brockton, MA) Fuller Craft Museum, New England's home for contemporary craft, presents *Atelier Janiyé and the Legacy of Miye Matsukata*, a celebration of the work and legacy of Boston-based jewelry artist Matsukata (1922-1981.) The exhibition runs from Jan. 22—July 24, 2011.

Fuller Craft brings together for the first time a retrospective selection of Matsukata's work alongside the work of her colleagues Nancy Wills Michel, Alexandra Solowij Watkins, and Yoshiko Yamamoto. These artists are known for combining precious and semi-precious stones along with found objects and antiques with high karat multi-textured gold. During her life Matsukata contributed to changing the profile and reception of one-of-a-kind art jewelry and the jeweler as artist.

Born in Japan, Matsukata studied at Principia College and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, before opening her jewelry business in 1949 with two fellow students. The business was called Janiyé, which was a composite of the first names of the three partners. When her partners left the business in 1958, Matsukata kept the name and opened Atelier Janiyé in Boston's Copley Square. She was later joined by colleagues Michel (America, b.1946), Watkins (Poland, b.1933), and Yamamoto (Japan, b.1932), and following Matsukata's death in 1981, the name and studio continue to the present under the ownership of Michel and Watkins.

Matsukata was at the vanguard of studio jewelers who, responding to the abstract expressionism of the period, began constructing painterly jewelry, composing abstract compositions in gold, semi-precious, and precious stones. Matsukata is best known for her use of fine gold and a liberal use of stones and other objects. Her travels in Egypt and Greece resulted in the collection and incorporation of Egyptian faience into her compositions, expanding to include a variety of ancient artifacts from Chinese coins to Mayan figurines.

Matsukata is known for a degree of informality towards her use of precious materials. Diamonds and rubies, often provided by clients, were given no more emphasis than beach glass or tourmaline, and each was subservient to the expressive and open compositions of her forms.

Current Exhibitions at Fuller Craft

Changing Waters: Installation by Nathalie Miebach
Jan. 15 – Sept. 25, 2011

The New Materiality: Digital Dialogues at the Boundaries of Contemporary Craft
Through Feb. 6, 2011

Different Lines: Drawings by Craft Artists
Through Feb. 27, 2011

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

Coming Soon to Fuller Craft

Atelier Janiyé and the Legacy of Miye Matsukata
Jan. 22 – July 24, 2011

Loom and Lathe: The Art of Kay Sekimachi and Bob Stocksdale
Feb. 5 – Sept. 11, 2011

Furniture Divas: New Work by Contemporary Makers
Feb. 19 – Oct. 30, 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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