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FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM PRESENTS

Mens et Manus: Folded Paper of MIT

February 4, 2012 – April 29, 2012

*High resolution images available at http://www.fullercraft.org/pressimages_mensetmanus.html.
Press preview can be arranged on request.*

(Brockton, Mass.) Fuller Craft Museum, New England's home for contemporary craft, presents *Mens et Manus* on display February 4, 2012 – April 29, 2012.

Mens et Manus is an exhibition of complex folded paper sculptures by staff, students, faculty, and alumni of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Latin for “mind and hand,” the MIT motto *mens et manus* is meant to exemplify the relationship between the work of the intellect and the work of the hand. This holistic approach uniting hand and mind emerges in a community of paper folders that has garnered a reputation for new, innovative, and extreme patterns.

Paper folding—or origami as it is also popularly known—is the practice of transforming paper into complex representational and abstract three-dimensional sculpture through a series of complex folds. Typically artists will use only one sheet of square paper and avoid any cuts or adhesive, a challenging yet relatively recent restriction. The more complicated patterns, small as the finished piece may be, can begin with enormous sheets of paper, include hundreds of folds, and require days to complete. The sequence and location of folds on the single sheet of paper, called a crease pattern, is a complex geometric relationship reserving areas of paper for the constituent parts of a representational sculpture.

This exhibit draws a connection between origami, a folk art with roots in the 17th century and contemporary complex mathematical inquiry. Abstract or geometric expressions in paper folding may be used to explore mathematical questions or problems, and often result in new patterns, new forms, and new ideas. For these artists, folded paper serves as the nexus between mathematical and aesthetic inquiry, uniting mind and hand.

Reception

Fuller Craft will celebrate the opening of *Mens et Manus*, with a public reception Sunday, February 5, 2012 at 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Museum. The reception is free for members and free with museum admission for all others.

Lecture

Folding Paper: Visual Art Meets Mathematics

Right before the reception, on Sunday, February 5, at 1:00 p.m., MIT mathematicians Martin and Erik Demaine will share their observations and innovations in the wonderfully complex and intriguing world of Mathematical paper folding.

Current Exhibitions at Fuller Craft

Dan Dailey: Working Methods

Feb. 18 – September 3, 2012

Mens et Manus: Folded Paper of MIT

Feb. 4 – April 29, 2012

Michael Cooper: A California Sculptural Odyssey, 1968 – 2010

Nov. 12, 2011 – May 13, 2012

Mark Davis: Icarus

Through March 15, 2012

Traditions and Innovations: Fuller Craft Museum Collects

Ongoing

Coming Soon to Fuller Craft

Iron Twenty Ten

June 2 – Oct. 7, 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 Thursday through Sunday, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, with free admission for all Thursdays from 5:00 – 9:00 pm. 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.

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