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**CONTACT:** Joyce Linehan (617)

282-2510 x 1,

[joyce@ashmontmedia.com](mailto:joyce@ashmontmedia.com)

## **FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM PRESENTS MARIKO KUSUMOTO: UNFOLDING STORIES**

**MAY 22—AUGUST 8, 2010**

**Lexington-based Japanese artist creates intricate metal sculptures.**

*High resolution images available for download at*

[http://www.fullercraft.org/pressimages\\_kusumoto.html](http://www.fullercraft.org/pressimages_kusumoto.html)

(Brockton, MA— April 14, 2010) Fuller Craft Museum, New England's home for contemporary craft presents *Mariko Kusumoto: Unfolding Stories* from May 22—Aug. 8, 2010. Known for her extraordinary and intricate metal sculptures of music boxes, clocks and other constructions, with multiple doors, compartments, drawers and moving parts, Kusumoto creates meticulously hand-crafted pieces using a variety of metalsmithing techniques. Each box sculpture is created with meticulous detail and artistry.

Much of Kusumoto's inspiration comes from memories of the 400-year-old Buddhist temple where her father was a priest. She was inspired by the gleam of metal ornaments against the dim interior. She tends to use brass in her metalwork— its color is similar to those ornaments— and suggests darkness and age with different kinds of patinas. Other inspirations are the changing seasons and natural world, as interpreted through a Japanese aesthetic. Found objects are added and interplay with one another, creating a strange and often playful world of “shadows, light, silence, spirituality.” The interior spaces become interactive miniature theaters, revealing figures and objects with rotating gears and musical mechanisms.

Says Kusumoto, “Metal has been a familiar material to me since I was a child; polishing the elaborate metal ornaments in the altars in my temple was one of my chores. When the gleam of the gold-colored ornaments would emerge from the darkness, I could sense the spiritual world and its eternal silence.”

Fuller Craft will celebrate the opening of *Mariko Kusumoto: Unfolding Stories* with a public reception on June 13, 2010 from 2—5 p.m. at the Museum. The reception is free for members and free with museum admission for all others. On June 27 at 2 p.m., Kusumoto will lead a special event in the gallery: she will talk about her work and unfold some of her exquisitely crafted sculptures, offering visitors a rare peek inside at multiple layers and hidden interiors. Tickets are \$7 for members, and \$10 for non-members. (Note: Museum admission is not included.)

“History, performance, and a paradoxical pattern inform Mariko Kusumoto’s multi-layered assemblages. Drawing on the work of surrealists, the short films of the Brothers Quay, the cultural icons of Edo- and Meiji-period Japan, and the simple mechanics of pop-up books, Kusumoto constructs miniature worlds in metal boxes.” — *Metalsmith Magazine*

The artist lives in Lexington, Mass. This exhibition organized by Mobilia Gallery, Cambridge, Mass.

#### **Current Exhibitions at Fuller Craft**

*Nancy Crow: Crossroads/New and Recent Quilts*

Through May 9, 2010

*On the Line: Frank and Francine Ozereko*

Through July 18, 2010

*Furniture From the Permanent Collection*

Through Sept. 26, 2010

*Caravan: An Installation by John Garrett*

Through March 27, 2011

#### **Coming Soon to Fuller Craft**

*Josh Simpson: A Visionary Journey in Glass*

May 1—Nov. 28, 2010

*Mariko Kusumoto: Unfolding Stories*

May 22—Aug. 8, 2010 This exhibition organized by Mobilia Gallery, Cambridge, Mass.

*The New Materiality: Digital Dialogues at the Boundaries of Contemporary Craft*

May 29, 2010—Feb. 6, 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](http://www.fullercraft.org) or call (508) 588-6000.

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