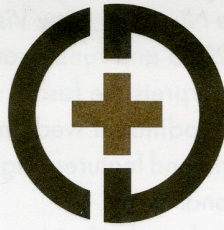


JANUARY 2005



A quarterly newsletter
published to celebrate
and promote the art of
contemporary craft
and design.

SAN FRANCISCO MUSEUM OF CRAFT+DESIGN

550 SUTTER STREET SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA 94102 www.sfmcd.org 415.773.0303 ph

Dear Friends,

On October 21st, SFMC+D opened its doors with smashing success for our inaugural gala and exhibition, *Dovetailing Art and Life: The Bennett Collection*. Over 600 guests filled the museum to celebrate the arrival of our new contemporary craft and design museum on Union Square. The high level of enthusiasm and positive feedback have been most rewarding. Daily we welcome between 100 and 300 visitors. Donations and membership continue to pour in as we make our mark on the Bay Area Community. Museum Store sales continue to soar as we feature new arrivals of merchandise in wood, fiber, clay, metal, and glass. Press coverage has been phenomenal both regionally and nationally via television, radio, magazines, and newspapers. Our educational outreach events include organizations such as the Baulinas Craft Guild, San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, Contra Costa College, College of Marin, Cupertino Senior Citizens, and Art on Site.

Our volunteer list continues to expand and I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to all who volunteer on the museum's behalf. Our Board of Directors and Advisory Board are an unusually talented, experienced and diverse group of professionals. It is my great pleasure to work with them. Importantly, my heartfelt thanks goes to our members and donors who chose to support the idea for this start-up museum trusting that it would become the reality it is today. Coupled with our small staff of dedicated and hardworking people, each of you have contributed to making the San Francisco Museum of Craft+Design possible. Thank you all for your generosity.

Sincerely,
JoAnn Edwards
Co-Founder &
Executive Director



[continued on reverse]

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Swinda Reichelt
Zipper Dress, 2005
mixed media



Kate Cusack
I Do Hairdo, 2005
plastic wrap

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

SFMC+D's second exhibition, *Nouvelle Nuptials: New Visions in Wedding Traditions*, opens February 11, 2005 and runs through June 26, 2005. The exhibition explores and interprets the fashion, accessories and physical elements related to the traditional wedding ceremony. *Nouvelle Nuptials* is curated by Jo Lauria and features original craft and design objects from national and regional artists.

Nouvelle Nuptials features original works that interpret the traditional rituals and objects that surround the wedding ceremony. SFMC+D has challenged 26 artists from around the country to re-fine and invent new wedding-related artifacts that celebrate wedding tradition for the 21st century. Metalsmith Sue Ann Dorman is creating a series of traditional engagement rings and wedding bands using non-traditional materials and techniques such as computer technology, wax and concrete. Artist Gaza Bowen explores the psychological and emotional power of the ancient prenuptial hope chest using worn tool boxes scavenged from a landfill.

Prior to the opening of *Nouvelle Nuptials*, SFMC+D will host a transitional show featuring furniture by students at California College of the Arts. *Restoration*, an exhibition created by Gord Peteran, The Wornick Distinguished Visiting Professor in Wood Arts, in collaboration with students at CCA, will be on display from January 19th through February 6th. The museum will extend its free admission for these exhibitions.

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MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

SFMC+D hosted the first installment of our speaker series on November 18th. The event featured a talk between Garry and Sylvia Bennett, facilitated by Advisory Board member Dr. Suzanne Baizerman, the Imogene Gieling Curator of Crafts and Decorative Arts at the Oakland Museum of California. The event was standing-room only, and guests included artists Gord Peteran, Melani McKim, and David King, all of whom are represented in the Bennett's collection.

The next installment of our speaker series will be held in late February. Our guest speaker will be exhibition designer and Advisory Board member Ted Cohen. In addition to designing SFMC+D's inaugural exhibition, *Dovetailing Art and Life: The Bennett Collection*, Ted will also design *Nouvelle Nuptials: New Visions in Wedding Traditions*.

As part of our Educational Programs, the museum will host a panel discussion lead by *Nouvelle Nuptials* curator Jo Lauria on Saturday, February 12th. The talk will be held from 1:30pm to 3:30pm at the Hotel Rex, adjacent to the museum. The panel will also feature artists taking part in the exhibition. Admission is free to members and \$5 to the public. Seating is limited and will be on a first-come, first-served basis. For reservations, call the museum at 415-773-0303.

*Nouvelle Nuptials:
New Visions in
Wedding Traditions*

February 11th through
June 26, 2005



West Garden donated anonymously in memory of Sue Hamamjian.

WALK AND LEARN

Did you know that the San Francisco Museum of Craft+Design has regular docent tours every Thursday at 11:30am and 2:30pm?

Our docents, such as Bay Area artists Russell Baldon and Ken Edwards, are highly knowledgeable about the work on display at the museum.

The museum is recruiting docents for our next exhibition! If you would like to become a docent, contact us at 415.773.0303 or info@sfmcd.org.



Members receive a 10% discount in the SFMC+D Museum Store!

SFMC+D IN THE MEDIA

Look for SFMC+D on KQED's SPARK! in February. The museum will be featured in an episode focusing on the art of Oakland-based furniture maker Garry Knox Bennett. The installment will air on February 23, 2005.



More than 600 people attended SFMC+D's gala opening on October 21st. Among the attendees were (left to right) Advisory Board member Ken Riding and his wife Marilyn, as well as renowned furniture maker Garry Knox Bennett.