

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Craft PDX celebrates Museum of Contemporary Craft's one year anniversary in the Pearl

Craft PDX: A Block Party  
Sunday, July 13, 11 AM - 6 PM  
North Park Blocks (NW 8th & Davis)

**PORTLAND, OR — June 5, 2008** — Sunday, July 13, Museum of Contemporary Craft presents its biggest event of the year, Craft PDX: A Block Party, a free outdoor festival attended by more than 8,000 participants last summer. This marks the festival's second annual celebration and honors the Museum's first year in its Pearl District location. Outside the Museum, there will be art projects, artist demonstrations, food carts, a beer and wine garden and live music, while inside a lecture and two artist talks will provide insight to the exhibitions on display.

*The festival features outdoor activities for all ages and interests including:*

- Live music on the main stage
- Raku pottery station where visitors can decorate and fire a pot to take home
- Stitch-o-rama, in which participants contribute to a community embroidery project
- Clay Town, a miniature grid of Portland's city streets, in which children create their own clay cityscape
- Tacoma's Museum of Glass Mobile Hot Shop demonstrating live glass blowing with guest appearances by local glass artists
- Artist and craft guild booths where artists demonstrate techniques in metal, glass, wood, textiles, basketry, beads and more
- Food and beverage vendors, including: Aybla Mediterranean Grill, BridgePort Brewing Company, Mio Gelato, Pizzicato, Sawasdee Thai and The Whole Bowl

*Programs inside the Museum include:*

### **Unpacking the Collection: 1960-Present | 11:30 AM**

Curator Namita Gupta Wiggers highlights Museum of Contemporary Craft's role in shaping craft in the Northwest, the importance of the Museum's collection and the colorful history of the organization from the 1960s to today.

### **Artist Talk: Melissa Dyne | 1:30 PM**

Melissa Dyne presents a lecture on her boundary-pushing installation *Glass*. Breaking down her artistic process, Dyne will show slides of her past work and describe the greater context for her installation.

- more -

724 Northwest Davis Street | Portland, Oregon 97209 | 503.223.2654

# Museum of Contemporary Craft

### **Regional Focus: Glass in Portland Panel Discussion | 3:30 PM**

How can glass artists continue creating work that is both environmentally and financially sustainable? How are the economic recession and concerns over “green” practices affecting glass studio operations? Gallery artists Andy Paiko, Jeremy Newman and Lynn Everett Read will discuss these common questions facing glass makers in the Northwest.

### **Unpacking the Collection Book Release**

Craft PDX will also be the public release of the Museum’s first publication about its permanent collection – *Unpacking the Collection: Selections from Museum of Contemporary Craft*. This publication, edited by Anjali Gupta, focuses on the importance of Museum of Contemporary Craft’s permanent collection and its role in the history of craft in the Northwest. Copies will be available for purchase during Craft PDX.

### **ABOUT MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY CRAFT**

Committed to the advancement of craft since 1937, Museum of Contemporary Craft is one of Oregon’s oldest cultural institutions. Centrally located at a new site on Portland’s North Park Blocks, the Museum is a vibrant center for investigation and dialogue, expanding the definition of craft and the way audiences experience it. Admission to the Museum is free; donations are welcome.

### **A NOTE TO MEDIA**

For more information about this event, to schedule an interview with Museum staff, or for access to press images, please contact Marc Moscato, marketing manager (contact information listed on previous page).

Major support for Craft PDX provided by:



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# CRAFT PDX: A BLOCK PARTY

July 13, 2008



**CAPTIONS** (counter-clockwise, starting at left):  
*All images from Craft PDX 2007 festival by Brian Foulkes*

1. Tents set up on the North Park Blocks
2. Participant embroiders sheet as part of Stich-o-Rama
3. Blowing glass at the Museum of Glass' "Mobile Hot Shop"
4. Marietta Bonaventura of Mood Area 52 performing on the main stage
5. Artist demonstrates pottery throwing
6. Family decorates a raku vessel
7. Man demonstrates raku firing



These images are available as high resolution JPEG files at our online press center:  
[www.MuseumofContemporaryCraft.org/presscenter](http://www.MuseumofContemporaryCraft.org/presscenter)

To receive the passwords to download these images, or to obtain to more information, please contact:  
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