

Press Release
Furniture Masters of New Hampshire
Exhibition of fine furniture

Messler Gallery of the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship
September 17 – November 24, 2010
Opening reception: Friday, September 17, 5-7 p.m.

The Messler Gallery will launch its autumn exhibition, *Furniture Masters of New Hampshire*, September 17th with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m. The exhibition is a joint project of the New Hampshire Furniture Masters Association, headquartered in Manchester, New Hampshire and the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Rockport, Maine. While the primary mission of each institution differs—the former is a professional trade association and the latter is a nonprofit school—their core values are the same: both organizations strive to advance the craft of furniture making at the highest standard of excellence.

The New Hampshire Furniture Masters Association (NHFMA) was founded in 1995 as a means of perpetuating New Hampshire's fine furniture making tradition. Today it counts a membership of more than 20 leading furniture makers, including several from the neighboring states of Vermont, Maine, and Massachusetts. The work selected for the Messler Gallery show reveals the breadth of stylistic interests among the masters, ranging from interpretations of Early American, Shaker, and Neo-Classical periods to original contemporary designs. Participating furniture makers include: Ted Blachly (Warner, New Hampshire), Aurelio Bolognesi (Hardwick, MA), John Cameron (Gloucester, MA), Jeffery Cooper (Portsmouth, NH), Garrett Hack (Thetford Center, VT), Howard Hatch (Brunswick, ME), David Lamb (Canterbury, NH), David S. Leach (Kittery, ME), Tom McLaughlin (Canterbury, NH), Terry Moore (Wilmot, NH), Richard Oedel (Boston, MA), Brian Reid (Rockland, ME), Jeff Roberts (Unity, NH), Brian Sargent (Candia, NH), William Thomas (Rindge, NH), Peter Turner (South Portland), A. Thomas Walsh (West Stockbridge, MA), and Leah Woods (Portsmouth, NH).

The Center for Furniture Craftsmanship is a nationally recognized woodworking school which trains craftspeople for careers and avocations in furniture making. The Messler gallery originates five exhibitions per year that draw roughly 3,500 visitors to campus. It is the only venue in New England dedicated to exhibiting fine woodworking year-round. The Center's Executive Director, Peter Korn, comments, "We are delighted to make this exceptional work from our friends in New Hampshire available to audiences in Maine."

Messler Gallery is admission-free and open to the public. Regular gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information, please call 207-594-5611 or e-mail cfc@woodschooll.org.