

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
MAY 2010

Magic Realism: Material Illusions
Gallery Talk with artist Eric Serritella
June 05, 2010 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

(Wood Turning Center, Philadelphia, PA) The Wood Turning Center is pleased to announce a special Gallery Talk on June 05, 2010 from 2:00 – 3:30 PM with exhibiting artist Eric Serritella followed by his rearrangement of his large installation, “Fallen Angel/Birched Whale”. Guest curator Robin Rice, Philadelphia, PA, brings together 18 artists who create three-dimensional illusions characterized by ambiguity and, often, playfulness in the current exhibition ***Magic Realism: Material Illusions*** on view until July 17th, 2010.

Eric Serritella's sculptural work draws upon nature, the craftsmanship of ancient Yixing masters, and Asian art and philosophies. Serritella explains: *“I strive to show how nature maintains its splendors through tenacity and triumph of existence despite the disregard we humans show her. I appreciate how ceramic mirrors the environment's fragility and durability—easily damaged if disrespected and yet invincible in its inherent beauty.”* Serritella's work is expertly composed out of clay to resemble a fallen birch tree and will be rearranged from “Fallen Angel” into “Birched Whale”.



Eric Serritella, *Birched Whale/Fallen Angel*, 2010, Ceramic, approx. 1 x 5 x 9 feet, Courtesy of the Artist

Magic Realism: Material Illusions is in support of the 44th National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts conference, coordinated by The Clay Studio, Philadelphia with support from the William Penn Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The artists in the exhibition include: Ruth Borgenicht, John Cederquist, Tom Eckert, Susan Glasgow, Michelle Holzapfel, Ron Isaacs, Janel Jacobson, Ani Kasten, Greg Nangle, Randall Rosenthal, Dan Saal, Lincoln Seitzman, Eric Serritella, Richard Shaw, Brent Skidmore, Paul Stankard, David Wiseman, and Xuti.

Robin Rice's participation in this project was supported in part by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

THE WOOD TURNING CENTER:

At its Old City, Philadelphia location, the Center features international contemporary wood art in changing exhibits, a museum collection showing the breadth of the wood art field, a research library, and an eclectic mix of unique merchandise in the Museum Store. The Center is open Tuesday – Friday, 10am – 5pm and Saturday 12pm – 5pm. Admission is free. Donations support the Center's educational mission. For more information, please call 215-923-8000, email info@woodturningcenter.org or visit www.woodturningcenter.org.

Programming at the Center is supported in part by generous donations by the Members and Friends of the Wood Turning Center. Included are the **Artists' Cambium Circle:** David M. Bender; Jerome Blanc; Michael Brolly; Philip Brown; Christian Burchard; Gorst du Plessis; David Ellsworth; Peter Exton; Harvey Fein; Satoshi Fujinuma; Dewey Garrett; Dick Gerard; Stephan Goetschius; David Gould; Laurent Guillot; Matthew Harding; Peter Harrison; Doug Haslam; Michelle Holzapfel; Robyn Horn; William Hunter; Stoney Lamar; Hans Lie; Art Liestman; Mark and Kathy Lindquist; Robert Lyon; Thierry Martenon; Rudiger Marquarding; Connie Mississippi; Michael Mocho; Philip Moulthrop; Mark Nantz; Ambrose O'Halloran; George Peterson; Binh Pho; Harry Pollitt; Richard Rand; Marc Ricourt; Frank Salas; Merryll Saylan; Betty Scarpino; Siegfried Schreiber; Lincoln Seitzman; Daniel Silver; Randy and Lisa Stromsoe; David Summers; Marcus Tatton; Holly Tornheim; Leah Woods; Malcolm Zander. **Cambium Circle:** Lee Bender and Carol Schilling; Fleur Bresler; Harvey and Fiona Fein; Richard R. and Rita Goldberg; S. Bruce and Eleanor Heister; John and Robyn Horn; Henry Jordan; Stephen Keeble and Karen Depew; Bruce Kaiser; Jerome and Deena Kaplan; Alan Keiser; Leonard and Norma Klorfine; Tim and Sheryl Kochman; Herbert and Mae Kurtz; Alan LeCoff; Albert and Tina LeCoff; H.F. (Gerry) and Marquerite Lenfest; Ed Levy; Judson Randall; Greg and Regina Rhoa; Norty Rockler; Ronald and Anita Wornick. **Public and Private Foundations:** anonymous foundations; National Endowment for the Arts; Pennsylvania Council on the Arts; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage through the Philadelphia Cultural Management Initiative; and Philadelphia Cultural Fund. **Corporate Sponsors:** Craft Supplies USA; Klingspor Woodworking Supply; Oneway Manufacturing; Packard Woodworks, Inc; Penn State Industries; Rockler Woodworking & Hardware; and Stubby Lathe.

The Wood Turning Center participates in First Friday Openings in conjunction with the Old City Arts Association. The Wood Turning Center is a nonprofit art and educational organization whose goal is to further the growth of artists, exhibition of contemporary wood art, and promoting public appreciation of such art.

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Images available upon request

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