

Wood Turning Center
501 Vine St., Philadelphia, PA 19106
Phone: 215-923-8000
www.woodturningcenter.org
Ron Humbertson, Director of Exhibitions
ron@woodturningcenter.org

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2011 Resident Fellow Scholar Announced

(Wood Turning Center, Philadelphia, PA) The Wood Turning Center is pleased to announce that Gerard Brown will be the first Resident Fellow Scholar in a landmark program supporting scholarship, research and writing related to the field of wood.

Brown, Foundation Chair and Assistant Professor at Tyler School of Art, will undertake a major project- to organize an upcoming exhibition documenting the history and programming of the Center. Targeted for October 2011, the as-yet-untitled exhibition and catalog officially mark the Center's 25th year. The roots of the Wood Turning Center stretch back 10 years earlier to 1976 when Albert LeCoff and his brother Alan LeCoff and wood turner/teacher Palmer Sharpless began to organize important wood turning symposia and exhibitions and to form the collection that became the basis of the Center's permanent Museum Collection.

Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Wood Turning Center Albert LeCoff said, "Gerard Brown has an ideal background to maximize the potential of the new Fellowship." Brown, who holds an MFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a BFA from Boston University, has extensive curatorial and art writing experience and has lately been concerned with the role of history in contemporary art making. He has organized a panel on the subject of reenactment and the use of collections, and has contributed a chapter to "Remixing the Civil War: Meditations on the Sesquicentennial", an upcoming anthology which surveys uses of the Civil War in contemporary American art and politics.

The exhibition will run from October 07, 2011 to January 21, 2012. Additional programming details will be forthcoming.

About the Fellow:

Gerard Brown sees this residency as an ideal place to begin an exploration of the world of art associated with wood. The intersection of art's history and the growing critical conversation about craft provide an exciting backdrop for the investigation of the Wood Turning Center's collections, which are rich in Modernist and more recent Post-Modernist and twenty-first century examples. He plans to explore the Center's extensive library and to specifically learn more about the Center itself, its history and programming, seeking links between the objects the Center collected and the dialog it fostered. He has already begun to familiarize himself with the impressive Museum Collection of some 800 objects. One of the major contemporary wood collections in the world, it contains work ranging from functional furniture and vessels to decorative ornamental turnings to large scale sculpture, prints and films. Brown plans to additionally familiarize himself with other collections of wood. From the Museum Collection, he will ultimately put together an exhibition that represents and interprets the Center's history.

About the Residency:

The Wood Turning Center's Research Residency Program was made possible by a generous grant from an anonymous foundation. The mission of the program is to encourage and support original research and writing relating to the wood field.

THE WOOD TURNING CENTER: The Wood Turning Center is an arts and educational institution whose mission is leading the growth, awareness, appreciation and promotion of artists and their creation and design of art in wood and wood in combination with other materials. At its Old City, Philadelphia location, the Center features international contemporary art made from wood in changing exhibits, a museum collection showing the breadth of art created from wood, a research library, and an eclectic mix of handmade 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 programs. For more information, visit www.woodturningcenter.org, email info@woodturningcenter.org or call

215.923.8000.

Programming at the Center is supported in part by generous donations by all Members and Friends of the Wood Turning Center. Included is the **Cambium Circle**: Walter Balliet; Lee Bender & Carol Schilling; Fleur Bresler; Theodore Bunin & Miriam Karash; Harvey & Fiona Fein; Richard & Rita Goldberg; Bruce & Eleanor Heister; Robyn & John Horn; Bruce A. Kaiser; Elizabeth Kalogris; Jerome & Deena Kaplan; Stephen Keeble & Karen Depew; Alan Keiser; Leonard & Norma Klorfine; Tim & Sheryl Kochman; Herbert & Mae Kurtz; Dale Larson; Alan LeCoff; Albert & Tina LeCoff; H.F.(Gerry) & Marquerite Lenfest; Mark & Kathy Lindquist; Judson Randall; Greg & Regina Rhoa; Robin Rice; Norton Rockler; Doyle Scott; Joseph Seltzer; William A. Sticker; Robert & Mary Lou Sutter; Bradford Whitman; and Ronald & Anita Wornick. **Public and Private Foundations**: Samuel Fels Fund; Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance; Pennsylvania Council for the Arts; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; Philadelphia Cultural Fund, William Penn Foundation and anonymous foundations. **Corporate Sponsors**: Penn State Industries; Rockler Woodworking & Hardware.

The Wood Turning Center participates in First Friday Openings in conjunction with the Old City Arts Association.

Contact: Ron Humbertson, Director of Exhibitions **Email:** ron@woodturningcenter.org,
Images available upon request

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