

## WOOD TURNING CENTER

501 Vine St., Philadelphia, PA 19106

Phone: 215-923-8000

[www.woodturningcenter.org](http://www.woodturningcenter.org)

Suzanne Kopko, [Suzanne@woodturningcenter.org](mailto:Suzanne@woodturningcenter.org)

*Additional images available upon request*

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 10, 2007

## ***TRANSFORMING VISION*** ***The Wood Sculpture of William Hunter, 1970-2005***

October 6 – December 8, 2007

### **Special events: November 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>**

November 9, 2007: Reception and Book signing with William Hunter, 5pm-8pm; \$25/person (RSVP by Oct. 15).

November 10, 2007: lecture by William Hunter at the Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show, 4pm; included with Craft Show admission.

(Wood Turning Center, Philadelphia, PA) *Transforming Vision* is the first retrospective exhibition of the work of seminal American artist William Hunter, a native of Long Beach, California. This nationally touring exhibition organized by the Long Beach Museum of Art and curated by Kevin Wallace, features Hunter's work produced over the past three decades.

*Transforming Vision* documents Hunter's artistic development beginning with utilitarian objects such as bowls, clocks and pipes and continues with his exquisite decorative forms in a variety of rare materials such as ivory and exotic woods. The exhibition also explores work produced in collaboration with his wife Marianne Hunter, a nationally prominent enamellist and jeweler.



Bill Hunter is one of the few American artists working today who entered the field of contemporary wood sculpture in its formative stages in the early 1970s. As observed by fellow artists, historians and critics, his early forms exploited the potential of rich materials and advanced a new direction for the entire field of contemporary wood sculpture.

Throughout the 1970s and early 1980s, Hunter's work evolved within his unique aesthetic as wood artists began to work beyond traditional wood turning practice. These decades generated the emergence of artistic invention and experimentation so typical of Hunter's work. Today he is considered one of the foremost figures in the contemporary wood sculpture field, reflected in November 2006 when Hunter received the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the Collectors of Wood Art, a national organization of artists, collectors, scholars and critics.

<MORE>

Accompanying the exhibition is a 128-page, fully illustrated catalogue with an introduction by former Long Beach Museum of Art Director Harold B. Nelson and major essay by curator Kevin Wallace on Hunter's role in advancing contemporary wood sculpture. Catalog available at [www.woodturningcenter.org](http://www.woodturningcenter.org).

## **ADDITIONAL IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

### **THE WOOD TURNING CENTER:**

At its Old City, Philadelphia location the Center features international contemporary wood art in changing exhibits, a permanent collection showing the breadth of wood art, a research library, and an eclectic mix of 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 215-923-800, email [info@woodturningcenter.org](mailto:info@woodturningcenter.org) or visit [www.woodturningcenter.org](http://www.woodturningcenter.org).

The national tour of *Transforming Vision* has been supported by the Windgate Charitable Foundation. Programming at the Center is supported in part by generous funds from the following Foundations and Benefactors: Dr. Cleland Blake, Fleur Bresler, Harvey Fein, Henry Jordan, Bruce Kaiser, Tim and Sheryl Kochman, Alan LeCoff, Albert and Tina LeCoff, Terry Moritz, Judson Randall, Greg and Regina Rhoa, National Endowment for the Arts, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Philadelphia Cultural Fund, Wachovia Foundation and Friends of the Wood Turning Center. Corporate Sponsors include Caviar Assouline, Chase, and Penn State Industries.

### **Wood Turning Center**

The Wood Turning Center is an art and educational organization whose mission is the encouragement and enhancement of individuals creating art from wood and other materials with a primary focus on turned and carved wood objects, and promoting public appreciation of such art.

**Contact:** Suzanne Kopko

**Phone:** 215-923-8000

**Email:** [Suzanne@woodturningcenter.org](mailto:Suzanne@woodturningcenter.org)

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