

Long Beach Museum of Art

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 16, 2010

CONTACT: Megan Ellisor

(562) 439 -2119 x 226

megane@lbma.org

IMAGES AVAILABLE

The Lipton Collection

Long Beach, CA – The Long Beach Museum of Art is pleased to announce its forthcoming exhibition, *The Lipton Collection*, which will be presented from September 17, 2010 through April 3, 2011. *The Lipton Collection* will feature approximately 50 pieces of contemporary wood art from the world-renowned collection of Dr. Irving Lipton. Works in the Long Beach Museum of Art's *The Lipton Collection* were bequeathed to the Museum upon Dr. Lipton's passing in 2001, and this exhibition will be the Museum's first public presentation of this important collection. The four other institutions that received portions of Dr. Lipton's original collection include Yale University Art Museum, Minneapolis Art Institute, Honolulu Art Museum and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. This exhibition will feature works by Frank E. Cummings III (a Long Beach artist), William Hunter, Nikolai Ossipov, Brenda Behrens, and other distinguished artists.

All of the artworks in the exhibition have been crafted in the last twenty years and utilize a variety of common and exotic woods including: oak, maple, birch, walnut, sycamore, ebony and African blackwood. Additionally, many pieces in the collection combine multiple woods or wood with other materials such as metal, glass, ivory, or lacquer to create a distinctly unique aesthetic. A number of object types will be featured in *The Lipton Collection* exhibition, including utilitarian objects such as bowls and containers, free-standing sculptures, wall-mounted pieces, and other decorative objects.

The value of the Lipton Collection lies not only in the breathtaking beauty of the pieces, but also for the historical and cultural significance attached to one of the most well-known collections of turned wood in the world.

In addition to *The Lipton Collection*, the Museum will display works in wood from its permanent collection in *Branching Out*. In this selection of artworks, there are a range of aesthetic expressions, some of which feature the natural grain of the wood. Others use wood for its structural properties or as a support for images like Binh Pho's *Lantern Festival II*. Methods of working with wood are varied from carved, to turned on a lathe, to assembled. *Branching Out* will be on display from September 17, 2010 until April 3, 2011. These exhibitions are made possible by the generous support of the Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation, the Pasadena Art Alliance, the Rudolph J. and Daphne A. Munzer Foundation, and the BCM Foundation.

About the Long Beach Museum of Art Located on a magnificent bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean, the Long Beach Museum of Art features a historic mansion and carriage house, expansive galleries and gardens, oceanfront dining at Claire's at the Museum and a unique Museum Store. The galleries and store are open Tuesday – Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors age 62 and older, free for Members and children under 12, and free for everyone on Friday. Claire's is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday – Friday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call (562) 439-2119 or visit www.lbma.org.

Images (top to bottom)

Frank E. Cummings III, *Vessel*, ca. 1992, Lignum vitae, jade, gold; Bob Womack, *Untitled Vessel*, 1986, Blackjack oak burl; William Hunter, *Retusa Scallops*, 1984, Cocobolo; Howard Lewin, *Laminated Vessel Form #1*, 1992; Binh Pho, *Lantern Festival II*, 2003, Box elder.

###

