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## Reed College and Museum of Contemporary Craft present influential contemporary textile artist and educator Anne Wilson

### **A lecture with Anne Wilson: “Liminal Networks”**

Thursday, October 8, 7:00pm

Reed College, Vollum Lecture Hall | 3203 SE Woodstock Blvd., Portland

*Co-sponsored by the Reed College Art Department, Cafferio Family Fund and Museum of Contemporary Craft’s CraftPerspectives Series*

### **Open Conversation: Sloppy Craft**

With Anne Wilson, Nan Curtis, Josh Faught, Jessica Jackson Hutchins and Namita Wiggers

Saturday, October 10, 1:00pm

Pacific Northwest College of Art, Swigert Commons | 1241 NW Johnson St., Portland

Both programs are free and open to the public

**PORTLAND, OR—September 16, 2009**—Museum of Contemporary Craft (MoCC) and Reed College proudly present textile-based artist and educator Anne Wilson for her first lecture in Portland. Wilson is professor and chair of the department of fibers and material studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. This lecture, entitled “Liminal Networks,” takes place at Vollum Lecture Hall at Reed College Thursday, October 8, where she will discuss her recent use of pixilation and projection to dematerialize and reanimate tactile work.

A highly influential contemporary artist, Anne Wilson’s work has been described in *Art in America* as “evocative, highly individual practice [which] applies traditional textile processes to other mediums, creating hybrid works that combine elements of sculpture, installation and drawing.” A participant in MoCC’s exhibition *New Embroidery: Not Your Grandma’s Doily* (2006), Wilson is known for her application of domestic fiber art traditions in unexpected and quietly subversive ways. Complex and delicate, her work employs such traditional tech-

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# Museum of Contemporary Craft

niques as embroidery, knitting and lace making and take form as objects, installation and animation. Her practice explores the intersection of familiar, culturally charged objects and political and social systems.

Anne Wilson has also developed a strong educational legacy, having guided several generations of artists who merge textile traditions with conceptual practice. Her students now lead programs across the country at such institutions as Cranbrook Academy of Art, Virginia Commonwealth University and University of Oregon.

“Liminal Networks” is planned in conjunction with an open discussion presented by Museum of Contemporary Craft on Saturday, October 10 at Pacific Northwest College of Art. To discuss the concept of “sloppy craft,” a rising - and controversial - approach to conceptual craft practice, Wilson will be joined by Josh Faught, a former student of Wilson’s and assistant professor and program coordinator of the fibers department at University of Oregon; Nan Curtis, assistant professor at Pacific Northwest College of Art; local artist Jessica Jackson Hutchins; MoCC Curator Namita Gupta Wiggers; as well as the public. A term coined by Wilson, “sloppy craft” refers to intentionally unrefined craft work made by contemporary materials-based artists.

This conversation takes place in preparation for *Sloppy Craft*, an exhibition scheduled for MoCC’s 2010-11 exhibition season. *Sloppy Craft* will be co-curated by Josh Faught and Namita Gupta Wiggers, in collaboration with Wilson, Glenn Adamson and Maria Elena Buszek.

“Liminal Networks” is made possible through a generous gift to the Reed College sculpture program from the Caferio Family and the Cooley/Gray Art Department Lecture Fund. This lecture is part of Museum of Contemporary Craft’s nationally recognized CraftPerspectives series, which has recently featured lectures and programs by Glenn Adamson, Garth Clark, Faythe Levine and Ellen Lupton.

#### **ABOUT ANNE WILSON**

Anne Wilson is a Chicago-based visual artist who creates sculpture, drawings, Internet projects, and stop motion animations that explore themes of time, loss, private and social rituals. She uses found materials (table linen, bed sheets, human hair, lace, thread, and wire) that are familiar and rich with cultural meanings. Wilson’s work has been shown extensively at such locations as the Victoria & Albert Museum, London; the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Japan; the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston; and the 2002 Biennial at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. Wilson’s art is in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; The Art Institute of Chicago; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; and the Museum of Glass, Tacoma; among others. Wilson

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is the recipient of grants from the Driehaus Foundation, Artadia, the Tiffany Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Illinois Arts Council. Her work has been reviewed by such major publications as ArtForum, Art in America, and The New York Times. Wilson is professor and chair of the department of fiber and material studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

#### **ABOUT REED COLLEGE**

Reed College, in Portland, Oregon, is an undergraduate institution of the liberal arts and sciences dedicated to sustaining the highest intellectual standards in the country. With an enrollment of about 1,360 students, Reed ranks third in the undergraduate origins of Ph.D.s in the United States and second in the number of Rhodes Scholars from a liberal arts college (31 since 1915). For more information, visit [www.reed.edu](http://www.reed.edu).

#### **ABOUT MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY CRAFT**

Committed to the advancement of craft since 1937, Museum of Contemporary Craft is one of Oregon's oldest cultural institutions. Centrally located in Portland's Pearl District, the Museum is nationally acclaimed for its curatorial program and is a vibrant center for investigation and dialogue, expanding the definition of craft and the way audiences experience it. Museum of Contemporary Craft is operated under a joint agreement with Pacific Northwest College of Art. Visit the Museum online at [www.MuseumofContemporaryCraft.org](http://www.MuseumofContemporaryCraft.org).

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*For high resolution images, please visit our online press center: [http://www.museumofcontemporarycraft.org/info\\_press.php](http://www.museumofcontemporarycraft.org/info_press.php)*



Images courtesy of the artist

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