



PRESS RELEASE

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The Racine Art Museum Publishes Book on Polymer Art

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This fall, the Racine Art Museum (RAM) features a groundbreaking exhibition celebrating the museum's recent commitment of establishing a permanent collection of polymer jewelry, beads and sculptural objects. Organized by RAM, *Terra Nova: Polymer Art at the Crossroads* will open at RAM on October 21, 2011. On display through February 5, 2012, the show emphasizes the development of polymer as an expressive medium for artwork in recent decades. The museum is publishing a book of the same title to support the content of the exhibition as well as function as a singular resource for the historical and philosophical dimensions of the polymer medium.

Accompanying the exhibition *Terra Nova*, the 140-page hardcover book by Rachel Carren, Bruce W. Pepich and Lena Vigna, combines illuminating text and ideas about polymer, both past and present, with images and details on key artists. Beautifully illustrated with more than 130 photographs, this publication offers different frameworks for understanding the innovations of polymer in artistic expression. The hardcover book also features a group of artists who simultaneously have embraced the medium and found recognition in the larger contemporary craft arena—Bonnie Bishoff and J. M. Syron, Jeffrey Lloyd Dever, Kathleen Dustin, Steven Ford and David Forlano, Tory Hughes, Cynthia Toops, Pier Voukos, and Elise Winters. Pre-orders are currently being accepted by calling Racine Art Museum Store at 262.638.8200. Wholesale quantity pricing available to qualified merchants.

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Together, the two campuses of the Racine Art Museum, RAM in downtown Racine at 441 Main Street and the Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts at 2519

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Northwestern Avenue, seek to elevate the stature of contemporary crafts to that of fine art by exhibiting significant works in craft media with painting, sculpture and photography, while providing outstanding educational art programming.

Docent led contemporary craft and architectural tours of the museums are available. Both campuses of the Racine Art Museum, are open Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, and are closed Mondays, Federal holidays and Easter. RAM is open Sunday Noon – 5:00 pm, while Wustum is closed Sundays. An admission fee of \$5 for adults, with reduced fees for students and seniors, applies at RAM. Admission to Wustum is free. Members are always admitted without charge to either campus.