5814 Wilshire Blvd / Los Angeles, California 90036 Tel. 323.937.4230 / Fax 323. 937.5576 www.cafam.org

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Sonja Cendak

T. 323.937.4230 x25 / sonja@cafam.org

# Ancient Japanese art reconsidered Contemporary Katagami: Works by JENNIFER FALCK LINSSEN February 10 - April 27, 2008











Introducing the first solo museum exhibition of Jennifer Falck Linssen, an American artist who utilizes the ancient Japanese paper art of *katagami* to create elegant, hand-carved sculptures and baskets. Inspired by the delicacy of nature and the beauty of line, Linssen taps into the 1,200 year-old Japanese tradition of *katagami* to create vessels that shimmer with splendor and light.

Literally translated as "pattern paper," *katagami* are hand carved stencils used in the pattern dyeing of Japanese kimonos. Linssen highlights this artist tool – a stencil – and elevates it to an art form in its own right. The resulting works are completely handmade, hand-cut with meticulous attention, and shaped into forms inspired by the natural world. By delicately "drawing" with a knife, Linssen gracefully replicates the patterns of nature in paper, which are then woven and molded into sculptural forms.

Born in Indiana and based in Colorado, Linssen holds a degree in textile design and spent several years working as a jacquard textile designer, traveling Europe and the U.S. studying color and design trends. Her love of fabric design and patterns, particularly Japanese textiles, led Linssen to discover the ancient art of *katagami*, which has become the basis of her contemporary sculptural works since 2003. Linssen's works have appeared in national and international juried exhibits, including SOFA-Chicago, have won numerous awards in sculpture and craftsmanship, and have

been featured in national publications including American Craft, Fiberarts, Surface Design Journal, and Lark Books' 500 Baskets: A Celebration of the Basketmaker's Art.

An opening reception for the exhibit will take place on **Saturday**, **February 9**, **2008** from **6pm to 8pm** at the Craft and Folk Art Museum. The exhibit opens to the public on Sunday, February 10 and will be on display through April 27, 2008.

#### \*\*\* High-resolution images available \*\*\*

#### About the Craft and Folk Art Museum

CAFAM was founded nearly 40 years ago by the high priestess of folk art, Edith Wyle, who made it her mission to celebrate cultural and intellectual diversity in her native Los Angeles. Today, the museum continues her mission by serving as a cultural bridge to champion cultural understanding and encourage curiosity of our world through the presentation of folk art and contemporary craft. As a non-collecting institution, CAFAM offers a dynamic mix of eclectic exhibitions that bestow a fresh, contemporary view of folk art and craft and lead patrons on a path of discovery. CAFAM programs demonstrate that by exploring art, universal truths are revealed and community is strengthened.

#### Craft and Folk Art Museum

5814 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90036

#### Information

Tel. 323-937-4230 www.cafam.org

#### Museum Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 11 am – 5 pm Thursday 11 am – 7 pm Saturday and Sunday 12 – 6 pm

#### Museum Admission

General \$5.00 / Students and Seniors 3.00 Members and Children under 12 Free / Free 1st Wednesday of month

## Contemporary Katagami: Works by Jennifer Falck Linssen February 10 - April 27, 2008 Craft and Folk Art Museum

### **IMAGE LIST**

(Linssen1)  Jennifer Falck Linssen  Beauty in the Deep, 2006 Sterling silver, cotton paper, indigo, waxed linen Photo by Tim Benko
(Linssen2)  Jennifer Falck Linssen I. to r.: Origin, Tree of Life, Unzipped all 2007  Cotton paper, coated copper wire, waxed linen Photo by the artist
(Linssen3)  Jennifer Falck Linssen  Order and Chaos, 2007  Cotton paper, waxed linen, coated copper wire, reed Photo by the artist
(Linssen4)  Jennifer Falck Linssen  Chasing the Curl, 2007  Cotton paper, aluminum, waxed linen, indigo Photo by the artist
(Linssen5)  Jennifer Falck Linssen  Embrace, 2006  Cotton paper, copper wire, waxed linen, aluminum Photo by Tim Benko