



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Claudia Fiks, Program Director
cfiks@eiotschool.org

Eliot School Faculty & Staff Exhibition at Galatea Fine Art “Shaping the Grain”

Exhibition March 2–29, 2020

Reception Friday, March 6, 6–8pm

Artists’ Talk Sunday, March 15, 3pm

The Eliot School for Fine & Applied Arts is pleased to present the works of five artists from its faculty and staff. Their fascinating functional and sculptural wood forms are elegant, funny, intriguing and artful. The exhibition is on view at Galatea Fine Art, 460 Harrison Avenue #B6, Boston, March 2–20, with a First Fridays reception March 6 from 6–8pm.

In “Shaping the Grain,” Alison Croney Moses, Michael Gleason, Ken Lindgren, Dan Paret and Andrew Riiska share their subjective relationships with wood as they use hand and machine tools to shape, sculpt, carve, turn, bend, assemble and finish their pieces. Their work navigates a dialog between artist and material in which the wood sometimes speaks first, guiding the hand that shapes it.

Each artist brings attention to detail and creative design. Works on display present a mixture of forms including refined tables and chairs, cabinets, vessels, carved panels and other objects from a variety of everyday and unusual woods.

Alison Croney Moses and Andrew Riiska will give an Artists’ Talk Sunday, March 15 at 3pm, about their artistic discoveries, process and motivations for working with wood.

Alison Croney Moses is a sculptor, woodworker, educator, arts administrator, mother and wife. Her sculptures and furniture often combine bent lamination and cooping. *American Craft* magazine published a feature on her work in January 2019. Her sculptural work is currently on view at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, where she will give a talk March 29. Alison focuses her professional career on empowering youth to use their knowledge, skills and experiences to make positive change in the world around them. She is Director of School & Community Partnerships at the Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts.

Dan Paret creates functional and decorative objects using hand woodworking and printmaking tools. His portfolio includes small boxes, cabinets, and furniture, carvings and woodblocks. He does his work primarily in a woodshop in North Cambridge, MA. Dan teaches woodworking at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education and at the Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts, where his next class is Carved & Painted Panels.

Ken Lindgren has been a professional, full-time woodturner and woodturning teacher for 14 years, a woodturner for 24 years, and a woodworker for more than 65 years. As the son of a lifetime artist, he gravitates towards the artistic side of wood turning. Ken shows his work at trade shows and on commission. He teaches turning at the Eliot School for Fine & Applied Arts , where his next classes are Wood Turning: Bowls and Shallow Plates.

Michael Gleason designs and builds elegant hardwood furniture, specializing in solutions designed to fit specific spaces. Michael made custom cabinetry and furniture at his company, Gleason, Hendrick & Devine, from 1981 to 2014. Before that, he made custom furniture and did antique restoration with Nils Johnson at A.G. Johnson & Son from 1972 to 1981. He has taught at the Eliot School for Fine & Applied Arts for over three decades. His next classes there include Furniture Finishing & Restoration, and Intermediate Woodworking: Mantel Clock.

Andrew Riiska, a studio furniture-maker based in Los Angeles and Boston, was introduced to his love of design and craft at a young age in Canton, CT, where he grew up. He opened a wood shop in Brooklyn, then moved to LA, where, at Riiska Design Studio, he has created studio furniture with subjects as diverse as the body, mythical creatures or ephemerality. Using recycled wood, non-petrol-based finishing oils and a whimsical sense of humor, Andrew's work combines a "green" awareness of natural and found materials with his playful sensibility. Andrew is Facilities Coordinator at the Eliot School of Fine & Applied Art, where he also teaches Furniture Design, Woodworking Open Shop, Basic Woodworking: Box, and Intermediate Woodworking: Small Tables classes.

About the Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts, 24 Eliot St., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

The Eliot School inspires lifelong learning in craftsmanship and creativity for all. It sends artists and artisans to teach visual arts and woodworking to young people in schools and community centers throughout Boston, and offers classes for all ages in its two Jamaica Plain locations. Artisans' talks, an annual artist's residency, a multi-year teen program and family events round out its programs. For more information, visit eliotschool.org, follow @eliotschool on Twitter and Facebook and @eliotschoolcraft on Instagram. Schoolhouse location:.

About Galatea Fine Art, 460 Harrison Avenue #B6, Boston, MA 02118

Galatea Fine Art is a contemporary cooperative art gallery located in the heart of Boston's SoWa neighborhood, in the South End. Its members include painters, sculptors, photographers and mixed media artists with both established and emerging careers. The artists' cooperative was founded in 2009 by Marjorie Kaye, with the help of her partner, George Shaw. The gallery's mission continues to mobilize the diverse energies and skills of its artists, enriches its local art community and contributes to contemporary arts discourse.

The Eliot School exhibits work twice a year at Galatea Fine Art, showcasing its Artists in Residence and its faculty and staff.

For image files, please contact Claudia Fiks: cfiks@eliotschool.org.



TOP: Alison Croney Moses BOTTOM (L>R): Ken Lindgren, Michael Gleason, Andrew Riiska

