



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2007

OMCA Off-Site Presents

ANN WEBER

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: *OMCA Off-Site Exhibition – Ann Weber*

WHERE: **The Sculpture Court, 1111 Broadway, Oakland, CA**

WHEN: August 10 – November 2, 2007
Monday through Friday 7 am – 7 p.m.; First Friday 7 am – 9pm
Third Thursdays 7 am – 8 pm
Exhibition dates and times are subject to change without notice.

Reception: August 16, 2007, 5 pm - 7 pm

PHOTOS: For photo requests, please email ps@museumca.org

Oakland Museum of California Off-Site Exhibits is proud to present the work of sculptor **Ann Weber** – a local artist well known for her enigmatic sculptures of woven cardboard. In her latest body of work on view at the Sculpture Court, Weber has made a series of gourd shapes in varying sizes – from the monumental to the miniature. Each piece has its own character; the organic forms take on anthropomorphic qualities in relation to one another.

Weber began her artistic career in ceramics and spent fifteen years operating her own pottery studio in New York City. Her graduate work with Viola Frey and Art Nelson at California College of the Arts (formerly the California College of Arts and Crafts) eventually led to a shift in her chosen medium. Inspired by Frank Gehry's cardboard furniture, Weber decided to use the same material to realize her vision of large, abstract sculptures. She was also attracted to the possibility of "making beauty from a common and mundane material."

Several major public art commissions have resulted in an exciting new direction for Weber – casting her cardboard pieces into bronze. Included in this exhibition is an example of her most recent casting. The bronze work has a commanding presence and allows Weber to "explore the idea of creating something from nothing, turning straw into gold."

Ann Weber received a BA from Purdue University and an MFA from California College of Arts (formally the California College of Arts and Crafts). She has created commission pieces in California and in Washington State. Her solo show at Sonoma Valley Museum of Art opens on November 17, 2007.

Ann Weber is presented by the Oakland Museum of California in partnership with Shorenstein Realty Services. The exhibition is part of a changing exhibition series at Oakland City Center and represents an ongoing collaboration between the museum and Shorenstein to showcase contemporary artists. The Sculpture Court is located in the rear atrium lobby of 1111 Broadway.

The Sculpture Court is managed by the Oakland Museum of California's Professional Services Division. Professional Services is a museum department that shares the institution's resources with the community by developing fine art and artifact exhibitions in public venues. For more information, please go to www.museumca.org/off-site.

Oakland City Center is a focal point for commercial and government activity in downtown Oakland. For more information about Oakland City Center, go to www.oaklandcitycenter.com.

Oakland Museum of CA contact:

Carin Adams
(510) 238-6836
www.museumca.org/off-site
ps@museumca.org

City Center contact:

Dianne Newton-Shaw
e-agency, Inc.
(510) 496-2352
dshaw@e-agency.com