

## PREVIEWS

### One of a Kind at the Met BY MAUREEN EGAN

**THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM** of Art is exhibiting fifty examples of handcrafted objects in *One of a Kind: The Studio Craft Movement* (through September 3). Curator



Jane Adlin designed the exhibit to highlight items that hadn't been seen recently and to reflect the breadth and depth of the Met's collection. Both long-established and newly emerging artists are represented, and their works are characterized by creative experimentation, provocative themes and forms, and, sometimes, humor. Objects from the 1970s to 2002 are featured.

The museum regularly acquires works in studio-craft media, including fiber arts. "I'm constantly looking," says Adlin, who attends SOFA (Sculpture Objects & Functional Art) expos in Chicago and New York each year, visits gallery exhibitions, and regularly dialogues with collectors.

Also currently on view at the Met, the exhibition *Poiret: King of Fashion* (through August 5) explores the historical significance and influence of designer Paul Poiret (1879–1944), whose "total lifestyle" clothing and home designs helped to define modernity in fashion.

**The Metropolitan Museum of Art**, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York. (212) 535-7710; [www.metmuseum.org](http://www.metmuseum.org).

*ABOVE: Candace Kling, Candy Sampler: Perpetual Indulgence, 1989; balsa wood, Mylar-backed acetate, rayon acetate, polyester, paint, epoxy, polyester filling, brass, glass; 1 1/4" x 9 1/4" x 7 1/4". Collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art (gift of Camille J. Cook).*

### Dozens of Exhibitions, Conference in Kansas City

**OVER THE LAST THIRTY YEARS**, textile artists from all over the world have come together to be inspired by work, ideas, and techniques at the Surface Design Association conferences. This year's conference, under the theme of *Mind + Body*, explores how the tactile nature of cloth invites artists to reconnect with one another and the environment. It will be held May 31–June 3 at the Kansas City Art Institute in Missouri. For information, call (707) 829-3110 or visit [www surfacedesign.org](http://www surfacedesign.org).



Beyond conference events such as the members' trunk show, fashion show, lectures, demonstrations, workshops, and

vendor fair, exhibitions will be taking place throughout Kansas City into the summer. Visit [www surfacedesign.org/2007ConferenceExhibitions.asp](http://www surfacedesign.org/2007ConferenceExhibitions.asp) for a list. In addition, twelve solo and group fiber art exhibitions will be taking place through June in downtown Columbia, about 125 miles away. For information, visit [www.columbiafate.com](http://www.columbiafate.com).

*ABOVE: Bren Ahearn, Straight Jacket, 2006; found polo and sweatshirt with stitching and iron-ons. From the exhibition Handymen and Girly Boys: Masculinity, Craft, and Culture, curated by Maria Elena Buszek, at Sherry Leedy Contemporary Art in Kansas City through June 23.*

### Rossbachs on View in Boston BY BARBARA RIZZA MELLIN

**OFTEN CALLED THE "DEAN** of contemporary American textiles," Ed

Rossbach (1914–2002) influenced fiber artists for more than half a century. He explored historical approaches to textiles such as Andean



discontinuous warp weaving, Native American coiled basketry, European lace, and Indonesian ikat, and he reinterpreted them in both two- and three-dimensional works. In Ed Rossbach *Fiber Art* from the Daphne Farago Collection, at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, May 22, 2007–March 5, 2008, about three dozen works by Rossbach will be showcased, as well as examples from the museum's historic textile collection that help illustrate the sources of Rossbach's inspiration.

**Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (617) 267-9300; [www.mfa.org](http://www.mfa.org).

*ABOVE: Ed Rossbach, John Travolta, 1978; heat-transfer-printed commercial silk organza, reeds, cotton twine, electrical tape, newspaper; 16" x 9" x 7". Collection of Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (the Daphne Farago Collection). Photo © Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Reproduced with permission.*

### Upcoming Conferences

**INNOVATIONS IN TEXTILES 7**, September 14–16, St. Louis, Missouri. [www.craftalliance.org](http://www.craftalliance.org).

**EUROPEAN TEXTILE NETWORK**, September 14–17, London. [www.etn-net.org](http://www.etn-net.org).