

Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority (PDA)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebrate Local Artisans at Pike Place Market

*Kickoff gallery and fashion event on October 3
Select studio tours offered through October and November
October 4-13*

SEATTLE (September 26, 2013) – As technology powers our lives through our phones, cars, homes and gadgets, the experience of holding, touching or wearing a handcrafted item is a powerful one. The skill and craft of an artisan grows more vital as it becomes ever more rare in our daily lives.

Join us as Pike Place Market celebrates the ingenuity and creativity of the more than 225 local and regional craftspeople who create decorative and functional artisan products during American Craft Week, October 4-13.

We invite you to a kickoff event, “Enter through the Gum Wall,” on Thursday, October 3 from 5 pm - 8pm in the Economy Building Atrium located on 1st Ave just south of Pike St.

Organized by members of the crafts market, the first Thursday event will include a fashion show with designs from Im Strang, Rowanica Designs and Lid Wear. The event will also showcase jewelry by Nature’s Twist, ceramics by Symbols in Art and the collage art of Carol Chen Lord among others.

Kim Strang, a key organizer of the event, has found a dedicated following for her line of knitwear that includes asymmetrical sweaters and stockings that feature a unique button detail. Like many other crafters, Ms. Strang both creates and sells her work, giving individual shoppers the opportunity to “meet the producer”—a founding principal of Pike Place Market.

We also invite you to participate in a studio tour. Select studio tours are available throughout the month of October and the first week of November.

For many craftspeople, autumn is a productive time—the busy summer season is over and the holidays are on the horizon. Experience the artistic process and how an item is crafted from scratch—whether a gorgeous cutting board made of recovered hardwoods or a stoneware honey pot created in a soda kiln.

More about the Pike Place Market crafts market:

Located in the covered arcade on the northwest side of Pike Place, the crafts market or “craft line,” features a diverse selection of products made from metal, glass, wood, clay, fabric and other material. All crafts are handmade; all of the artists create their work locally. This concentration of craftspeople

makes the Pike Place Market one of the biggest collectives of its kind in North America and a unique incubator of craft businesses.

For more information about studio tours, contact Emily Crawford at 206.774.5278 or emily.crawford@pikeplacemarket.org

Event Details:

What: First Thursday fashion and gallery show: "Enter through the Gum Wall"
Kick off to American Craft Week: Oct. 4-13

When: Thursday, October 3 from 5 pm - 8pm

Where: Economy Building Atrium located on 1st Ave just south of Pike St. Enter event through the Gum Wall in lower Post Alley

Cost: Free

Details: A first Thursday event to showcase the work of many artisans who display of the crafts market. The event will include a fall/winter fashion show at 7 pm. Featuring the fashion designs of Im Strang, Rowanica Designs and Lid Wear.