

Pew Fellowships in the Arts and Philadelphia Exhibitions Initiative

cordially invite you to

Rethinking “Thinking Through Craft”

a lecture and conversation with **Glenn Adamson**

Deputy Head of Research and Head of Graduate Studies, Victoria and Albert Museum
and author of *Thinking through Craft*.

Tuesday, April 8, 2008 3-5 PM

Philadelphia Center for Arts and Heritage 1608 Walnut Street, 18th Floor



“At a time when technical skill has been widely dismissed or outsourced in the production of art, Glenn Adamson crucially adds an entire spectrum of hand-crafted objects to the creative history of the post-war era. And at a time when theoretical frameworks have stagnated, these objects, in his hands, bring with them a fresh and sophisticated set of interpretive perspectives.”

- Thomas Crow, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University

This book is a timely and engaging introduction to the way that artists working in all media think about craft. Workmanship is key to today’s visual arts, when high ‘production values’ are becoming increasingly commonplace. Yet craft’s centrality to contemporary art has received little serious attention from critics and historians. Dispensing with clichéd arguments that craft is art, Adamson persuasively makes a case for defining craft in a more nuanced fashion. The book consists of an overview of various aspects of this second-class identity. It also provides historical case studies analysing craft’s role in a variety of disciplines.

Space is limited and this invitation is not transferable
RSVP to Ellen Maher, Program Assistant, PFA/PEI
via email at emaher@pcah.us or by
phone at 267-350-4930, by March 28.



Glenn Adamson is Deputy Head of Research and Head of Graduate Studies at the Victoria and Albert Museum, where he leads a graduate program in the History of Design. He holds degrees in Art History from Cornell University and from Yale University (PhD). Dr. Adamson was previously curator at the Chipstone Foundation, and in that capacity prepared exhibitions at the Milwaukee Art Museum and taught Art History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is the co-editor (with Tanya Harrod & Edward S. Cooke, Jr.) of the *Journal of Modern Craft*, the only academic journal in the subject area, which will launch in March 2008.

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