

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ART | CRAFT | DESIGN  
**BELLEVUE ARTS MUSEUM**

### *A Stitch of History*

## **American Quilt Classics, 1800 - 1980: The Bresler Collection**

**On view January 27 - May 31, 2009**

**Bellevue, WA** – With every stitch and pattern, a quilt reveals a glimpse of the past as narrated by its creator. What started out as a personal hobby and interest in quilts by Fleur Bresler, emerged as an extensive, historically significant collection of American quilts within a span of thirty years. Originally organized and presented at the **Mint Museum of Craft + Design** in Charlotte, North Carolina in 2004, this rare showing of 36 American quilts will only be on view again at **Bellevue Arts Museum** from **January 27 through May 31, 2009**.

Between 2000 and 2001, Fleur and Charles Bresler gifted their 36-piece American quilt collection to the Mint Museum of Craft + Design. The Bresler collection of quilts illuminates both the intricacies of pattern and process. Works range from late eighteenth century and early nineteenth century whole cloth, white work, indigo resist dye and black printed chintz quilts to mid-nineteenth century appliqué, stenciled, mosaic-template pieced and album quilts, as well as late nineteenth century log cabin, crazy and charm quilts and several twentieth century examples.

Within their layers, these quilts contain a wealth of information about the people and times in which they were made, and offer a glimpse of the creative human spirit. The quilters, many of whom are anonymous, made extraordinary artistic works out of ordinary materials. Their work has become an enduring legacy and a timeless inspiration to us all.

Local showing of this exhibition will be curated by **Bellevue Arts Museum's Director of Curatorial Affairs, Michael Monroe**.

For more information on this exhibit and other Museum-related programming, please contact Tanja Baumann (see contact information above). To download high resolution images, please go to [http://www.bellevuearts.org/about\\_us/press.htm](http://www.bellevuearts.org/about_us/press.htm) (password required).

*American Quilt Classics, 1800 – 1980: The Bresler Collection* has been organized by the **Mint Museum of Craft + Design**, Charlotte, North Carolina. Local viewing made possible in part by the **Institute of Museum and Library Services**.

**Bellevue Arts Museum is the Pacific Northwest's center for the exploration of art, craft and design through exhibition, educational programs and partnerships, emphasizing the work of regional artists. [www.bellevuearts.org](http://www.bellevuearts.org)**