

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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

September 23, 2010

Contact: Tanja Baumann, Director of Marketing & PR  
425.519.0759 or [tanjab@bellevuearts.org](mailto:tanjab@bellevuearts.org)

## **SEATTLE ICON GINNY RUFFNER TO BE FEATURED AT BAM**

*Ginny Ruffner: Aesthetic Engineering, The Imagination Cycle*  
**October 5, 2010 through February 6, 2011**

**Bellevue, WA** – Ginny Ruffner is one of the most beloved and inspiring American artists of our time. In her recent series, *Aesthetic Engineering: The Imagination Cycle*, the Seattle artist explores developments in genetic engineering, specifically gene sharing between animals and plants. Explosive flowers, massive leaves, twisted growing vines... Ruffner's large-scale sculptures merge flora and fauna into art. A tour-de-force of creativity, *Ginny Ruffner: Aesthetic Engineering, The Imagination Cycle* will be featured at Bellevue Arts Museum from October 5, 2010 through February 6, 2011. On October 12<sup>th</sup>, a new, major installation, specifically created for the Museum's grand Forum and entitled *T.A.C.G. (tall Artistic Creativity gene)*, will be unveiled to the public.

Born in Atlanta, Ginny Ruffner received her M.F.A. degree from the University of Georgia in 1975. Choosing lamp work as her initial art form, she quickly revolutionized the medium with her imaginative painterly designs. Today, Ruffner's large-scale sculptures and public works incorporate metal and other media. She is the subject of an award-winning documentary film, *A Not So Still Life*, that traces her extraordinary life and miraculous recovery from a near-fatal car accident in 1991. (*A Not So Still Life* will be screened at BAM on December 3 at 6 pm.) Her work can be found in countless national and international public collections, including the Cooper-Hewitt Museum (New York, NY), the Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art (Sapporo, Japan) and the Museum of Design & Contemporary Applied Arts (Lausanne, Switzerland).

*Ginny Ruffner: Aesthetic Engineering, The Imagination Cycle* is organized by Museum of Northwest Art, La Conner, Washington. Artwork is courtesy of the artist. The local presentation of this exhibition is curated by Stefano Catalani and made possible by the Benaroya Foundation and the City of Bellevue Arts Program.

### **About Bellevue Arts Museum**

Bellevue Arts Museum is the Pacific Northwest's center for the exploration of art, craft and design. A leading arts center, BAM celebrates regional, national and international artists working in a broad range of craft media, including ceramics, fiber, metal, wood and glass. The Museum also offers a unique array of free or low-cost educational and community programs such as artist demonstrations, lectures and workshops as well as a variety of engaging and fun hands-on kids activities. The Bellevue Arts Museum artsfair, the largest and most prestigious arts event in the Pacific Northwest attracting an average of 320,000 visitors, is held annually in July. BAM is located in the heart of downtown Bellevue, provides free parking and is wheelchair accessible. [www.bellevuearts.org](http://www.bellevuearts.org)

###