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**MICRO-SCULPTURES CREATED IN THE EYE OF A NEEDLE AND
PAINTED WITH THE HAIR OF A FLY ON VIEW AT THE
CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM**

*British-born artist Willard Wigan's artwork described by many as the '8th
Wonder of the World'*

LOS ANGELES – February 15, 2013 - Through the lens of a microscope, museum patrons will be able to see one of the most captivating art creations in the world. The California African American Museum (CAAM) presents the remarkable work a U.K. micro-sculptor, Willard Wigan in "Sampling the Microscopic Artwork of Willard Wigan" on view through March 17, 2013. Entry to CAAM and the exhibitions are free and open to the public.

This new and highly unusual exhibition is a mind-bending, blend of art and science that features unique sculptures that are so small they can fit in the eye of a needle, on a pinhead or on the tip of an eyelash. These sculptures, created by the British-born artist, are the results of a unique process that requires Wigan to enter into a deep meditative state to reduce hand tremors and allow him to sculpt between pulse beats. As a child, Wigan was inspired

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to create artwork that no one could see after being ridiculed by teachers for having dyslexia. He created homes and shoes for ants, which inspired him to develop and produce such miniature sculptures.

The exhibition includes micro-sculptures, placed for viewing under microscopes, which are comprised of Kevlar, nylon, gold, and eyelashes.

Wigan often uses the hair of a fly as a paintbrush and once inhaled one of the minute sculptures while working on it. Some of the micro-sculptures on display at CAAM include "Tango," "Waiting For Life," "Parrot" and "Jealousy."

Wigan's micro-sculptures have captured the imagination of the public, art critics and avid collectors worldwide who include Prince Charles, Queen Elizabeth II, Simon Cowell, Mike Tyson and Elton John.

For more information visit www.caamuseum.org. CAAM is located at 600 State Drive, Exposition Park, Los Angeles. Follow CAAM on twitter @CAAMinLA and "Like" CAAM at www.facebook.com/CAAMinLA.

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS IN THE CAAM GALLERIES:

Common Ground II: Shared Experiences through February 28, 2013

Coloring America: Selections from the California African American Museum's Permanent History Collection through March 24, 2013

African American Military Portraits from the American Civil War: Selected Images from the Library of Congress Collections through April 14, 2013

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Legacy of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company: More Than a Business through June 23, 2013

Go Tell it on the Mountain through April 7, 2013

ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

The California African American Museum (CAAM) researches, collects, preserves and interprets for public enrichment the history, art and culture of African Americans. Chartered by the California State Legislature in 1977, CAAM is a state supported institution and a partner with the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization Friends, the Foundation of the California African American Museum. In addition to its permanent collection of over 3,000 objects of art, artifacts and historical documents, CAAM also houses a research library containing more than 20,000 volumes, employs and trains high school students through its *Young Docents* program, and hosts in-house curated exhibitions and traveling exhibitions on a regular basis. The museum also tours CAAM exhibitions throughout California and the nation.

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