



NEWS RELEASE
Media Contact: Nicole Miller
Phone: 503.949.7621
Email: nicole@wordsoutpr.com

Freres Lumber Partners with Portland Art Museum for John Yeon Exhibit
Opening May 13: Quest for Beauty Exhibit

LYONS, ORE. 24 APRIL 2017—Few architects have influenced so many facets of the Pacific Northwest as John Yeon (1910-1994) whose work will be celebrated in a [Portland Art Museum exhibit](#) opening May 13, 2017. The Museum has invited [Freres Lumber Co.](#), among many other regional partners, to contribute to *Quest for Beauty: The Architecture, Landscapes, and Collections of John Yeon*, a retrospective look at an Oregon original.

In the spirit of Yeon’s holistic view of environment, design and materials, the exhibition is infused with, and strengthened by local partnerships and collaborations. Award-winning Portland firm [Lever Architecture](#) conceived of the exhibit design, a complex development around the many facets of John Yeon’s long and varied career. Lever uses innovative building materials, such as Freres Lumber’s cutting-edge [Mass Plywood Panel](#).

“This is an incredible opportunity to introduce our new Mass Plywood Panel to the Northwest. The exhibit will include custom-built tables constructed with our Mass Plywood; the tables will display features of Yeon’s decorative art collection,” says Tyler Freres. [Kaufman Homes](#) and Smalltown Wood will provide the artistic finish carpentry details on the tables and bench.

Yeon is most widely remembered as an architect, in particular for a series of innovative houses—most prominently, the 1937 Aubrey Watzek House—that drew an international spotlight to regional modernism in the Pacific Northwest. Oregon has a long and successful history with plywood, and Yeon’s plywood houses built in the late 1930s to early 1940s remain influential examples of modular, innovative, affordable homes.

Quest for Beauty is accompanied by two books published by the Yeon Center with Monfried Editions, *John Yeon: Architecture* and *John Yeon: Landscape*. The Museum is presenting a variety of public programs and tours with the exhibition, including a plywood housing design event in the courtyard in conjunction with the exhibition and Freres Lumber this summer. This event will feature a pavilion, built in partnership with Freres Lumber, Kaufman Jones and Smalltown Wood.

For more information on the exhibit, please visit www.portlandartmuseum.org. For more information on Freres Lumber, please visit www.frereslumber.com.

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About Freres Lumber Company

Freres Lumber was established in 1922 by T.G Freres on the North Fork of Oregon’s Santiam River. Over the last ninety years, and three generations of family management, the company has evolved from a small sawmill to one of Oregon’s premier wood products manufacturing companies. The company now operates five plants, including a small log plant, large log plant, veneer drying facility, plywood plant and cogeneration facility. Freres is committed to maintaining modern manufacturing facilities, providing high-quality wood products, and providing family wage jobs to the local area. For more information, visit www.frereslumber.com or call 503-859-2121.

About the Portland Art Museum

The seventh oldest museum in the United States, the Portland Art Museum is internationally recognized for its permanent collection and ambitious special exhibitions drawn from the Museum's holdings and the world's finest public and private collections. The Museum's collection of more than 45,000 objects, displayed in 112,000 square feet of galleries, reflects the history of art from ancient times to today. The collection is distinguished for its holdings of arts of the native peoples of North America, English silver, and the graphic arts. An active collecting institution dedicated to preserving great art for the enrichment of future generations, the Museum devotes 90 percent of its galleries to its permanent collection. The Portland Art Museum recognized both Native American art and Photography as fine art years earlier than peer institutions, with a commitment to collection in these areas and the dedication of permanent galleries for displaying the work. This ongoing commitment is demonstrated in the arc of Native American exhibitions in 2016 and 2017 and a new space for showcasing Contemporary Native Art.

The Museum's campus of landmark buildings, a cornerstone of Portland's cultural district, includes the Jubitz Center for Modern and Contemporary Art, the Gilkey Center for Graphic Arts, the Schnitzer Center for Northwest Art, the Northwest Film Center, and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Center for Native American Art. With a membership of more than 22,000 households and serving more than 350,000 visitors annually, the Museum is a premier venue for education in the visual arts. The Portland Art Museum welcomes patrons with disabilities. For information on exhibitions and programs, call 503-226-2811 or visit portlandartmuseum.org.

The Portland Art Museum welcomes all visitors and affirms its commitment to making its programs and collections accessible to everyone. The Museum offers a variety of programs and services to ensure a quality experience and a safe, inclusive environment for every member of our diverse community. Learn more at portlandartmuseum.org/access.

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