

NEWS RELEASE

Live Demonstrations by Leading Canadian Artisans a Guaranteed Crowd Pleaser at *Signatures Christmas Show*

Toronto, Ontario, August 14, 2006 - - Signatures is Canada's leading show producer for handmade products and for more than 20 years has brought the finest and latest Canadian handmade products to Toronto. The *Signatures Christmas Show* featuring *Handmade Gifts and Holiday Finds* will attract more than 60,000 visitors who will discover thousands of creations by more than 200 of Canada's newest and best artisans, artists and designers. Each year, the organizers introduce new features and exhibitors. To enhance the visitor's experience this year, there's *The Hot Shop* - dramatic glass blowing demonstrations and *The Mud Shop* - a close-up and interactive pottery workshop.

**Signatures Christmas Show
North Building, Metro Toronto Convention Centre
255 Front Street West
Saturday, November 18th to Sunday the 26th**

Show Times

Weekdays 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sundays 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Admission

**Adults: \$6.00, Seniors (65+): \$4.00, Youths (13 - 17): \$4.00
Children (12 and under): Free when accompanied by an adult.**

Visitors pay once and may return every day free of charge.

There are also many dazzling exhibits that are sure to excite visitors as they prepare for the holiday season. Look for the work of Gilbert Dufour of Leather and Design in Toronto. Dufour's custom designed leather clothing accessories are inspired by the master craftsmen in the field. The texture and colour of the hides stimulate Dufour and provides him with unlimited possibilities. Often a simple attachment or buckle can inspire a new style. To Dufour, leather goods are like buildings and are works of art in three dimensions. To exacting specifications, he designs, measures, cuts and sews each individual piece to a customer's unique need.

Another artisan at the Show is Orusia Pushan, a designer of unique jewellery. Sometimes Pushan's designs literally come to her in her sleep, while others are inspired by things she sees and witness in everyday life. The sources of her inspiration are limitless. There is a *rawness* in the freehand style of her pendants that are not perfectly symmetrical. Most of her pieces are created in plated silver that stays fashionable and trendy, yet affordable for everyone. Her designs have formed their own market with the young at heart, to the working woman to fashionable seniors.

The Metro Toronto Convention Centre is situated in the heart of the city and offers easy vehicle access from every direction. There are 1,700 parking spaces on site and more than 17,000 in the area. There is weather-protected access via the Skywalk to public transit and the Centre is steps away from an array of hotels, restaurants and other attractions.

Information on the Signatures Christmas Show is on the website at: www.signatures.ca.

ATTENTION: Editors and Assignment Directors. Media are encouraged to pre-register for the Show and a badge will then be waiting for pickup in the Media Centre / Show Office. A media accreditation form is on the website. Excellent photo opportunities will be available at the Show. Staff will direct photographers and television crews to the appropriate displays and special feature areas.

Please e-mail keichner@ca.inter.net to receive news releases and other media material electronically. E-mail addresses will be kept confidential and will not be released to any third party.

For further information, please contact:

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